

Fourteenth Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest



Cheryl Smith, 2009



Christina Trinh, 2009



Petr Ginz (1928-1944), *Ghetto*, 1943



Bayli Anderson, 2006



Colette Cosyn, 2012

The Courage to Create

MESSAGE TO THE FUTURE

Presented by Chapman University and The "1939" Club

We invite you to participate in the 14th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest, presented by Chapman University and The "1939" Club, one of the largest and most active Holocaust survivor organizations in the United States.

This contest is supported by a grant from the Samueli Foundation and a gift from Yossie and Dana Hollander. Please examine the contest information that follows to learn more about this significant student learning experience. We hope you will involve as many of your students as possible.

ENTRY DUE DATE

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

AWARDS CEREMONY

Friday, March 8, 2013

The first prize recipient in each category, the recipient's parent/guardian, and the recipient's teacher are invited to participate in an expense-paid study trip June 23-27, 2013, to visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and other sites in Washington, D.C.

*“The seed of a
creative idea
does not die in
mud and scum.
Even there it
will germinate
and spread its
blossom like a
star shining in
darkness.”*

—Petr Ginz—



Petr Ginz (1928-1944), *Night Blossoms*, 1942-1944. Linocut.

Each school is invited to submit the work of three students, a total of three entries, consisting of either prose, poetry, works of art or a combination thereof. These school representatives will be eligible to win the first prize of \$500 and the second prize of \$250 in each category in the middle and high school competitions.

The first prize recipient in each category, the recipient's parent/guardian, and recipient's teacher are invited to participate in an expense-paid study trip June 23 - 27, 2013, to visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and other sites in Washington, D.C. *Students must be in attendance at the awards ceremony to be eligible for these prizes.*

First and second prize winners will receive their cash prizes at the ceremony. Prizes to schools, school representatives, and finalists will be distributed at the reception following the awards ceremony. All school representatives in attendance will receive certificates and a copy of *The Holocaust Chronicle: A History in Words and Pictures*, a unique one-volume history of the Holocaust.

The three student representatives from each school, with their teacher and/or principal (depending on seat availability), are invited to the awards ceremony:

**Friday, March 8, 2013 at 11 a.m. in
Chapman Auditorium, Memorial Hall at
Chapman University, One University Drive,
Orange, CA 92866.**

The highlights of the event will include:

- the announcement of the winners of the prose contest and the reading of the two winning prose entries (one middle school and one high school)
- the announcement of the winners of the poetry contest and the reading of the two winning poems (one middle school and one high school)
- the announcement of the winning works of art and their display during the reception (one middle school and one high school)
- a reception to honor our guests
- the opportunity to meet and talk with Holocaust survivors, many of whose video testimonies are posted on The "1939" Club and USC Shoah Foundation Institute's Web sites

Background

*“Just as man cannot
live without dreams, he
cannot live without hope.
If dreams reflect the
past, hope summons
the future.”*

—Elie Wiesel—

The ghettos and camps of the Holocaust were bleak landscapes of horror. They were the unlikeliest of sites for creativity, imagination, and hope.

In the ghettos, people secretly painted and wrote of what they witnessed, hiding these records in the hope that they would one day be discovered. The camps offered almost no such possibilities. Yet, here too, prisoners refused to allow creativity to be obliterated by “mud and scum.” At night in crowded bunks, exhausted prisoners shared their stories, some anchored in memory; some soaring flights of imagination. Each story became a “star shining in darkness,” an affirmation of humanity and a beacon of hope.

At the age of 14, Petr Ginz was already an author and artist. In the Terezin ghetto/concentration camp, Petr remained amazingly creative. He edited a secret newspaper *Vedem (We Lead)* and continued to write, paint, and draw. He refused to allow his imagination to be confined by the walls of the ghetto, stifled by hunger and disease, or silenced by fear. In his mind, he even journeyed to the moon and portrayed his vision in the drawing *Moon Landscape*.

Petr was deported to Auschwitz where he died in 1944 at the age of 16. Yet, his creativity did not die with him. His work so inspired Israel’s first astronaut, Ilan Ramon, the son and grandson of Holocaust survivors, that he took Petr’s drawing of the moon with him into space. The space shuttle *Columbia*’s mission ended tragically, but the worldwide attention led to the unexpected discovery of six of Petr’s notebooks filled with his writings and drawings. Memory had come full circle, from earth to space and back.

This year’s Holocaust Art and Writing Contest begins as you listen to a survivor’s full-length testimony and discover a specific memory of the Holocaust that inspires your creativity. Your courage to create an original work of prose, poetry, or art will both honor and add to memory of the Holocaust.

Prompt

The “1939” Club is an Organization of Holocaust Survivors and Descendants. It takes its name from the year that Germany invaded Poland, changing forever the lives of those who would later join together in Los Angeles to form the Club in 1952.

The “1939” Club has available on its Web site nearly 100 full-length oral testimonies. Some of these oral histories were recorded in the early 1980s at the University of California, Los Angeles; others were recorded in the mid-1990s in Orange County by the Anti-Defamation League.

The USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education has an archive of more than 50,000 videotaped testimonies from Holocaust survivors and other witnesses. The Shoah Foundation Institute is part of the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California.

■ **View and listen** to at least one full-length video testimony of a survivor from any of the following:

- The “1939” Club website at www.1939club.com
- The USC Shoah Foundation Institute’s website, which contains testimonies from the Institute’s archive at <http://dornsife.usc.edu/vhi/chapman>
- The USC Shoah Foundation Institute’s YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/uscshoahfoundation (in the “Full-Length Testimonies” playlist)

■ **Choose** a specific Holocaust memory from the survivor’s full-length testimony that inspires your creativity;

■ **Reflect** upon this specific memory within its historical context;

■ **Contribute** to Holocaust memory through the creation of your original work in prose, poetry, or art.

If an internet connection is not available, students may view these testimonies in the Sala and Aron Samuelli Holocaust Memorial Library at Chapman University from Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please contact Jessica MyLymuk, Assistant Director, at (714) 628-7377 regarding access to video testimony and scheduling a visit.

We encourage teachers to consult www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest for lesson plans and other information.

For those interested in learning more about the life of Petr Ginz as a prologue to the contest, we encourage you to consult http://www.un.org/en/holocaustremembrance/2012/UN_Petr_Study-Guide.pdf and <http://www.petrginz.com> to learn more about the documentary *the Last Flight of Petr Ginz*.

Criteria: Art

- Must be submitted with cover sheet (available at www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest)
- Must **not** be matted or framed.
- May only be two-dimensional and must not exceed 12" by 18".
- Must include fixatives so that works will not smudge or be altered by handling.
- Must include an artist's statement: title of the work, name of the survivor to whose testimony this work is a response, and a statement of how this work addresses the prompt. Statement must **not** include student or school name and must not exceed **100 words**. Entries that include such references will be disqualified.
- May include photography, computer generated images, or may be in charcoal, pencil, watercolors, acrylics or oils. Please note that all images, whether computer, artist or photo generated, are considered property of the original artist. Renderings of another's work will be disqualified.
- Entries must reflect genuine engagement with the survivor's testimony in its historical context and constitute a thoughtful and creative response.

Criteria: Prose/Poetry

- Must be submitted with cover sheet (available www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest)
- Must be typed or word processed and must **not** include reference to student or school name. Entries that include such references will be disqualified.
- Prose entries must be no more than **500 words** in length. Word count **must** be noted.
- Poems must be no more than **30 lines**. Line count **must** be included.
- Entries must reflect genuine engagement with the survivor's testimony in its historical context and constitute a thoughtful and creative response.



Submissions

Your school's three entries may be submitted beginning December 5, 2012 and **must be postmarked by February 6, 2013**. Prose and poetry entries may be mailed or **submitted electronically** to cioffi@chapman.edu. Art work must be mailed to:

Ms. Jessica MyLymuk
Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education
Chapman University
One University Drive
Orange, CA 92866

Each participating school will receive:

- 5 seats (availability permitting) at the awards ceremony on Friday, March 8, 2013 at Chapman University
- a copy of *The Holocaust Chronicle: A History in Words and Pictures* for every student representative in attendance
- certificates for the three student representatives from each school
- the opportunity to meet and talk with members of The "1939" Club
- additional prizes to schools, school representatives and finalists in attendance at awards ceremony

All entries become the property of the Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library at Chapman University. All artists are encouraged to retain a color copy of their work since the original may not be returned. The Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library shall own all the rights to the entries, including copyrights and may display and publish the entries, in whole, or in part.



Bailey Smith, 2010



FOURTEENTH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST ART & WRITING CONTEST

- ☐ **Yes, we plan to submit a maximum of three entries from our school for the Holocaust Art and Writing Contest by Wednesday, February 6, 2013.**

Please return reply card or register electronically at www.chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest by Monday, October 29, 2012



The teacher and principal listed below plan to escort our school's finalists to the Awards Ceremony on March 8, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at Chapman University (*Please Print*)

Principal's name _____

Teacher's name _____

Teacher's school telephone _____

Teacher's email address _____

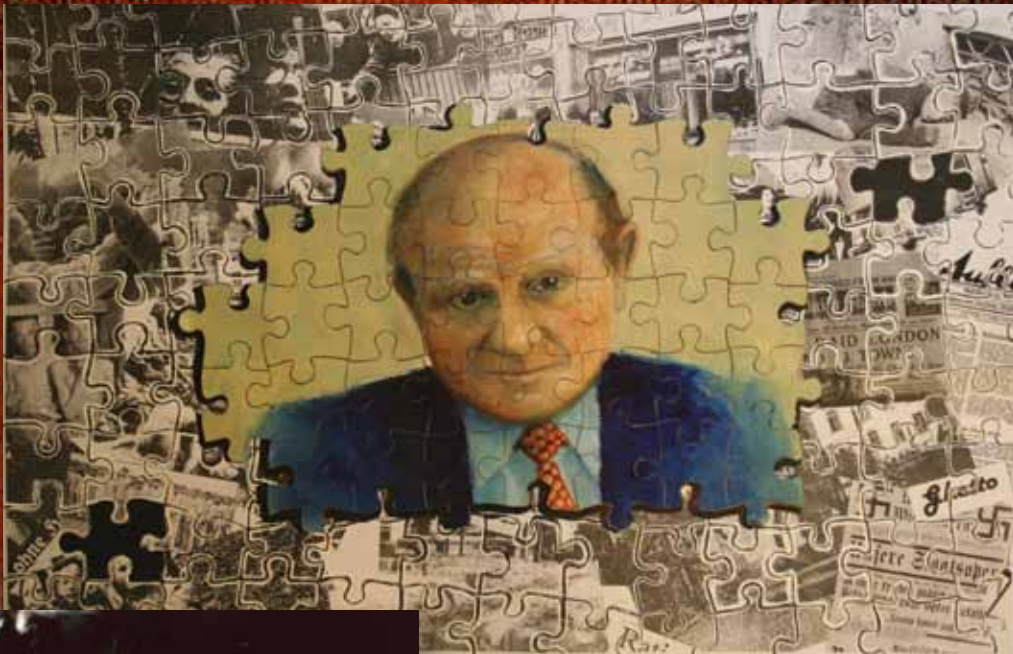
Superintendent's name _____

School name _____

Street address _____

City _____ Zip _____

School district _____



Lisa Cho, 2011



Tracy Nguyen, 2008



Paulina Phan, 2004



ONE UNIVERSITY DRIVE
ORANGE, CALIFORNIA 92866



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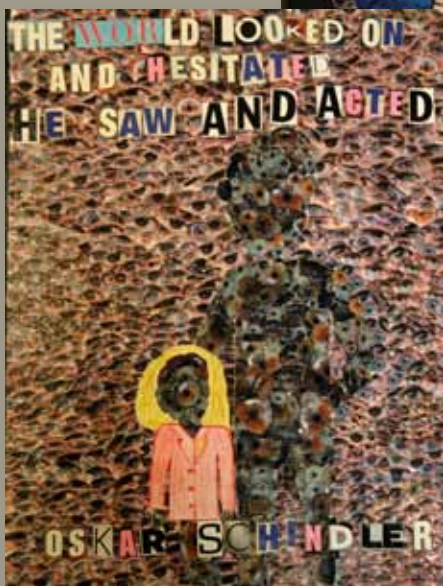


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Monique Becker, 2005

*"I opened up the
book of time, a blank
page lay before me
Remembering the
destruction of hate,
I began my chapter
with love."*

—Elaine Inoue, 2003—



Katy Brannigan, 2011

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The "1939" Club

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*“Hope is never lost... People only misplace it...
Heroes are those who bring it back to us...
I know of one who chose to sing when she was told
to be silent, who danced so that others would not fall;
a woman – and angel –
Head nearly bald, body long broken, with the
devil’s calling card etched upon her arm
‘Silvie, you were never more beautiful than you are in
this moment... This is your crowning glory’”*

—Natalie Beisner, 2006—

Petr Ginz works reprinted with permission of Chava Ginz Pressburger.



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The Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education
The Stern Chair in Holocaust Education
The Sala and Aron Samueli Holocaust Memorial Library