

Remember

No. 36
Fall 2010

Remembrance is Continuing the Resistance

NEWS FROM THE NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

● Memorial Competition

In coordination with the Atlantic City Memorial Project, approximately 40 school districts in New Jersey also designed Holocaust/genocide memorials.

The ACMP received over 700 models from around the world to compete in the design competition. The jury involved in the process of screening the over 700 to 13 finalists has been completed and the jury has now narrowed the decision to two (2) models. The decision will be announced December 2010. The memorial will be established on the Atlantic City boardwalk in a pavilion provided by the city of Atlantic City.

The students created over 100 models which were narrowed down in each county and the final 14 were on display with the thirteen official submittals in the competition. The jury consisted of Michael Berenbaum, Clifford Chanin, Wendy Evans Joseph, Daniel Libeskind, Richard Meier and James Young.

The jury was coordinated by Dr. Paul B. Winkler on September 28, 2010 at the library in Margate, New Jersey where the judges met to deliberate on the models.

The students models were also on display at the library, and a number of students, parents and teachers attended that day and met and spoke with the judges. Both judges and students were impressed with the student artwork.



Samuel E. Shull middle school students meeting renowned jury



Finalists' Art

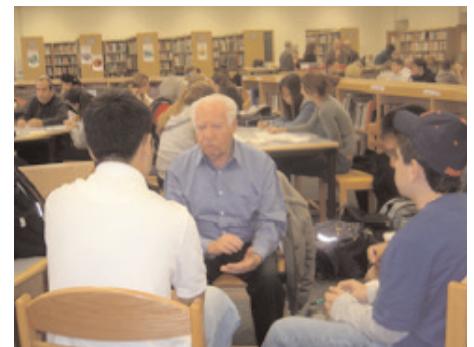
● Student/Survivor Project

Beginning in September 2010, through a generous donation from the Linda and Murray Laulich Foundation, a series of student/survivor luncheon gatherings will take place. This is a cooperative endeavor among the foundation, the Association of

Jewish Federations, the network of Holocaust/Genocide Centers and the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education. These luncheon get togethers have already included 60 survivors and 450 students. This spring, a second round of four (4) programs will take place.

The purpose of the program envisioned by Murray Laulich and Dr. Winkler was to provide a setting where students will learn the stories of the survivors in an informal setting and the survivors will learn about the students' city at their meal table. Students and teachers involved have received educational resources for the classroom. The program concludes with each student being presented a certificate of participation and a request to pledge to tell the story they heard to their family and friends now, and in the future (specifically in the year 2045 – 100 years after liberation) to their new families, work colleagues and friends.

The program usually ends with lots of pictures and small group hugs.



Two students sharing a moment with a survivor

SAVE THE DATE!!

The State of New Jersey will hold its
Annual Yom HaShoah Observance
with the Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County

Commemorating the Holocaust and Heroism:

*"He Who Saves A Life,
It Is As If He Saved An Entire World"*

--Talmud



Sunday - May 1, 2011

3:30 pm

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The Performing Arts Center
Edison, NJ**

For further information:

(609) 292-9274 or e-mail: holocaust@doe.state.nj.us

SPONSORED BY:

**The Office of the Governor
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The Middlesex County College Center for the Study of
Prejudice, Genocide and the Holocaust**

Holocaust Center News

● **Drew University Center for Holocaust Genocide Study**

Benefit Lecture and Reception

A lecture and reception to benefit the Center were held at Drew University on Sunday, April 25, 2010 – also featuring a book signing by Francine Prose - author of several works of fiction and non-fiction and visiting professor at Bard College - of her newly published “Anne Frank, the Book, the Life, the Afterlife”. This book also served as a basis for her lecture. The program was followed by a reception in honor of founding director of the Center, the event’s sponsor and Professor Emerita of English, Jacqueline Berke.



Left to Right: Professor and Director Emerita Jacqueline Berke with Francine Prose

Yom HaShoah Commemoration

On April 14, 2010, Drew University Center marked the commemoration with a guest appearance of Roberta Grossman, director of “Blessed is the Match”, produced by Emmy Award Winner Marta Kaufmann and narrated by Academy Award nominee Joan Allen, the first-ever documentary feature on the Holocaust-era poet and diarist turned paratrooper and resistance fighter. The film recounted Hannah Senesh’s 1944 mission to rescue Jews in her native Hungary. As

documented in her diary, after parachuting behind enemy lines, she was captured, tortured and executed by the Nazis. Hedy Brasch, a Hungarian Holocaust survivor of Auschwitz and Bergen Belsen gave brief remarks following the screening. 350 high school students from eight northern New Jersey schools were in attendance, along with adults from the community. Each school received a copy of the new biography of Hannah Senesh, as well as a DVD of the film and a guide for their media centers. Each school also received a bus stipend made possible by donations to the Center in memory of Peter Fried and by the Kushner Family Foundation.

Annual Lecture on Gender and Genocide

The program was held on March 23, 2010 in Drew’s Learning Center. Guest lecturer Prof. Cathy Schlund-Vials of English and Asian American Studies at the University of Connecticut spoke about “Battling the Khmer Rouge through Lyric: Cambodian American Hip Hop and Genocide Justice”. Prof. Schlund-Vials is currently finishing a book examining genocidal remembrance and contemporary American cultural production entitled “Cambodian American Memory Work”. The lecture was free and open to the public.

On November 11, 2010, The Drew University Center for Holocaust Genocide Study will hold its 18th annual conference commemorating Kristallnacht entitled “Responses to the Holocaust and its Aftermath by American Presidents: Realpolitik or Real Justice”. The conference will focus on responses to the Holocaust, post-Holocaust issues, (conditions in the Displaced Persons Camps created a need for an International Military Tribunal) and the genocides of the late 20th century. Historical, political

and moral questions will be raised by our country’s response to the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. Dr. Douglas Simon of Drew University will give the orienting talk on “Realpolitik or Real Justice: What’s the Difference?” Dr. Ralph Medoff of the David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies in Washington D.C. will address the question “Did F.D.R. Abandon the Jews?” and Professor Harry Reicher of the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania will speak on “President Truman’s Historic Role in the Nuremberg Trials and in the Holocaust-Era Refugee Policy”. The program will allow for ample Q and A period after each talk. A series of four workshops, with a choice of two for each attendee, will enable them to engage in debate and dialogue about “President Eisenhower and the Politics of Writing the Historical Record”; “Reagan at Bitburg”; “Politics Behind the United States Holocaust Memorial Council/Museum and Presidential Politics and the Genocides of the Late 20th Century”. For more information and complete schedule of events, contact Carol Brodsky at Drew’s Center for Holocaust Genocide Study at (973)408-3600 or email ctrholst@drew.edu.



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**NEW JERSEY COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST
EDUCATION**

Chairperson: Phil Kirschner, ESQ.

Vice-Chairperson: Rabbi Norman R. Patz

Executive Director: Dr. Paul B. Winkler
Phone: 609-292-9274
Fax: 609-292-1211
E-mail: holocaust@doe.state.nj.us
Web site: www.state.nj.us/njded/holocaust

Editor: Dr. Vera Goodkin
Staff, New Jersey Commission on
Holocaust Education

Holocaust Center News

● Raritan Valley Community College Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies

On April 27, 2010, the Center offered a workshop titled “Teaching with Defiance”, featuring the film “Defiance”. The resistance of the Bielski Partisans depicted in the film served as an excellent hands-on Educator Institute teaching tool. Three teacher credits were awarded to all participants.



“Teaching with Defiance” Workshop

Teachers also took the following valuable teaching aids back to their classrooms: “Defiance” DVD with director’s comments; interviews with Bielski partisans and 16 excerpts from key scenes for classroom use; a Defiance/Bielski Partisans Curriculum, (Teachers’ Guide) and DVD of 9 short films on the Jewish Partisans.

On April 12, 2010, Amy Fagin presented an artist’s talk, “Beyond Genocide”, featuring a display of her illuminations. She explained that the paintings were created to provide an historical overview depicting many of the world’s most destructive genocides and enable viewers to experience a rich perspective of cultures and civilizations around the world victimized by mass atrocity.

On April 13-14, Ms. Fagin continued her appearance as keynote speaker at the Institute’s 29th annual Learning Through Experience Program for area middle

schools, co-hosted by the Jewish Federation of Hunterdon and Warren counties.

● Seton Hall University

On March 10, 2010, the Department of Jewish-Christian Studies sponsored a day featuring Music and Art in Holocaust Education with guest scholars Dr. Tamara Freeman of Bergen County Community College and Dr. Susan Leshnoff of Seton Hall University. Dr. Freeman gave the keynote address, “Musical Humanity amidst Holocaust Atrocities”, as well as a musical recital, “Music Rising from the Ashes: Songs of Longing and Resistance from Holocaust Ghettos and Concentration Camps”. She also offered a workshop on “Using Music from the Holocaust Ghettos and Concentration Camps to Encourage Racial Respect”. Dr. Leshnoff offered a workshop on “Friedl Dicker-Brandeis and her Art Lessons for Children in Theresienstadt: What the Pictures Reveal.”

On May 6, 2010, the Center celebrated the publication of “The Wartime Diary of Edmund Kessler, Lwow, Poland, 1942-44, edited by Renate Kessler, a recent graduate of the Seton Hall University M.A. program. The book publication program included a lecture by Dr. Anthony Polonsky on the history of Lwow.

On October 8, 2010, Dr. Susan Leshnoff presented the work of Dr. Friedl Dicker-Brandeis at a professional development day for the South Bergen Jointure Commission, Lodi Campus. For further information, please contact Ms. Antoinette Yobia at ARTISTE110@aol.com.

The Sister Rose Thering Fund for Education in Jewish Christian Studies planned an Annual Orientation Program for New Jersey teachers in the Jewish-Christian Studies Program for Sunday, October 17, 2010 presented by Mary Vazquez, retired social studies teacher at Millburn Middle School entitled

“Changing Lives: Holocaust Education Today” to an audience of fifty teachers and members of the Fund’s Board of Trustees.

Sunday, November 14, 2010, the Annual Colloquium Program will feature a panel consisting of Rabbi Jack Bemporad of the Center for Religious Understanding in Carlstadt, New Jersey; Professor Marshall Breger, Professor of Law at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and Imam Abdul Antepli, Chaplain at Duke University. They will speak about their recent trip to Auschwitz and Dachau arranged by Professor Breger and led by Rabbi Bemporad. A group of eight imams and other guests were invited to attend this life-changing trip. Holocaust deniers learned about this event first-hand from a program entitled “Sharing the Message: Muslims Bear Witness to the Holocaust.

Tuesday, April 12, 1011, at the 18th Annual Evening of Roses and the 5th anniversary of the passing of Sister Rose Thering, was a staging of the children’s opera “Brundibar”, originally presented by young inmates of Theresienstadt, Hitler’s “show camp”. This fund-raising event for the Scholarship Program of the Sister Rose Thering Fund took place at the South Orange Performing Arts Center at 7:00 P.M. and included an ad journal.

Holocaust Center News

● Goodwin Holocaust Museum and Education Center

From January 1 – June 30, 2010, the Center focused in on the following:

1. A day of learning for schools and organizations in a workshop entitled “Working Together to Combat Hate”, providing, valuable resources and opportunities for all participants.

2. Collaboration with the Jewish Partisans Educational Network (JPEF) to offer students, who had watched “Defiance” in their classrooms, a video conference, as well as an opportunity to meet with the Educational Director of JPEF who had worked on the movie and a survivor who had been in the woods with the Bielski brothers. That evening, in collaboration with Camden County College, the Center presented a free screening of “Defiance” to the community.

3. In spring 2010, joining forces, with “Haddonfield Play and Players” which performed the play “Number the Stars”. Following each of the 7 student performances, a survivor from the Education Center briefly shared his/her testimony and answered questions. After one of the performances, students from Haddonfield Elementary and Leap Academy in Camden visited the Goodwin Museum in preparation for an art project about the story.

4. Presenting the first annual conference to promote scholarship, encourage remembrance and inspire prevention of human rights violations, titled “The Holocaust, Genocide and 21st Century Human Rights Violations”, was held in Sterling High School. Due to the impact of the conference on the students, it will be offered again, in an expanded form, next year.

5. Celebrating the 4th year the Center’s “Lessons in Tolerance” program for students in grades K-5. Guest readers read to PreK-5 students from a variety of books about tolerance, prejudice and bullying. In October 2010, this program was at the Zane North and Garfield Elementary Schools in Collingswood.



Guest Speaker reading to children.

6. Sharing already recorded community survivor and liberator testimonies with Yad Vashem. The generosity of WHYY and the World War II Museum in New Orleans made possible the videotaping of the testimony of all survivors and camp liberators who speak for the Center for future use by students and educators. The liberators’ testimonies will become a part of the World War II Museum, and all the recordings will be part of its permanent collection.

7. The exhibit “The Holocaust and Genocide: the Betrayal of Humanity” featured from October 4th to November 30th, 2010 at the Little Egg Harbor Township Library. Survivor Dr. Robert Fischl spoke at the library on October 28th at 6:00 P.M. For more information, please contact the Center at (856)751-9500, x 24

8. Center representatives have worked with the Garden State Long Distance Learning Consortium as presenters at a conference entitled “Your Classroom and Mine”, encouraging teachers to use video conferencing programs to enhance their curriculum.

9. On December 5, 2010, the Center will sponsor its annual day trip for educators to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Accompanied by survivors who act selflessly as tour guides and help the teachers gain a genuine insight into the history of the Holocaust, enabling them to return to their classrooms newly motivated and inspired to teach the lessons of the Holocaust.

10. On December 8, 2010, the Center and the Anti-Defamation League will co-sponsor a workshop to assist teachers in the use of ADL’s multimedia Holocaust curriculum, “Echoes and Reflections”, developed in cooperation with the Shoah

Visual History Foundation and Yad Vashem. Its multi-part lessons provide teachers with connections to contemporary issues of diversity, prejudice, bigotry and modern-day genocide. With the aid of ADL’s grant, the participants will be able to take a free copy of the DVD and curriculum guide back to their schools.

● Ocean County College Center for Peace, Genocide and Holocaust Studies

Annual Film Festival

Following a candle lighting service and short readings entitled “And They Shall Have an Everlasting Name” by students and a welcome to survivors, the audience listened to survivor Helena Flaum who avoided her entire family’s horrendous fate at the hands of the Nazis by escaping to Germany, living under a Christian identity and working in a munitions factory for three years before coming to the U.S. Also sharing their stories were Ocean County College Professor Rose Leiter and Mr. Fred Buff. Films were shown all that week, followed by Q and A. Dr. Ali Botein-Furrevig, Professor of English and Academic Advisor to the Center, gave a presentation on Holocaust Art and Dr. Gert Niers spoke about his research and writings about the poetry of Margarete Kollisch, Ilse Blumental Weiss and Vera Lachman. Professor of History Richard Trimble, gave a short overview of the Holocaust.

The 2011 program is in the initial planning stages. It will focus on the Jews of Italy during the Holocaust, with more films and Q and A periods. It will include a short program on “Degenerate Art: The Nazi Vilification of the Avant-Garde and Their Attack on Modern Culture”, along with “Music of Composers Imprisoned at Terezin Concentration Camp” offered by Dr. Ali Botein. In addition, the program will include first-hand survivor accounts and a performance.

Holocaust Center News

● The College of St. Elizabeth Holocaust Education Resource Center

On April 20-21, 2010, more than 1,100 public and Catholic school students from grades 6-12, and their teachers, attended the Yom HaShoah Program to view the film about the Bielski Brothers' rescue of Jews during the Holocaust. The students were awed by the words of guest speakers Ariel and Rosalyn Lippa, grandson and daughter of Ann Monka who was saved by the Bielski Brothers and Ursula Pawel, a survivor of Auschwitz.

On July 6-8, 2010, the CSE Center Bearing Witness-Advanced, eighteen educators from across the United States gathered for the beginning of the seminar on Holocaust education which was concluded in Israel. The Bearing Witness for Catholic educators was developed and jointly sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the National Catholic Education Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. To date, the program has trained more than 1,000 Catholic educators across North America and more than 100 have taken part in the Advanced Bearing Witness Program.

CSE Film Festival featured two Holocaust-related films:

October 21, 2010, the Festival showed *The Rape of Europa* about the seizing of European art by Nazi Germany and the attempt of the United States and its Monument Men to return it after World War II. It was followed by a question and answer period with Dr. Virginia Butera, Director of the CSE Art Gallery and one of the Monument Men featured in the film, Harry Ettlinger.

On October 21, 2010, in conjunction with the film, the Art Gallery opened the exhibit *Shards: Documenting Genocide*, curated by Dr. Butera, with a reception for the artists from 4:30-7:00 P.M. The art exhibition, the film and the reception were free and open to the public.

On November 3, 2010, the Festival will feature *Defiance*, the story of the Bielski Brothers, Jewish partisans who saved 1,200 Jews during the Holocaust by hiding in the forests of Belorussia and waging guerrilla warfare against the Nazis. Ann Monka, who owes her life to the Bielski Brothers, will speak.



St. Elizabeth Defiance Program from left-Anne Monka (Bielski Survivor), Dr. Harriet Sepinwall (Center, Director), Rosalyn Lippa (Anne Monka's daughter)

On November 8, 2010, the 21st annual Kristallnacht Commemoration will feature the Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company, CSE music faculty will perform Holocaust-related works.

November 8-13, 2010 marks the annual Week of Holocaust Remembrance, with CSE faculty offering "Faculty Sessions" on Holocaust topics related to their discipline. The public is invited to sit in on classes.

November 10, 2010 features an Interfaith Dialogue in Dolan Performance Hall at 7:30 P.M.

● Holocaust Council of MetroWest

In addition to planning and facilitating three Interfaith Holocaust Commemorations, the Council's Speakers Bureau provided members to speak at commemorations in area synagogues, churches, museums and schools. Two of the Bureau's popular "Survivor Speaks" programs were evening events. The schools invited the community to attend. The response was overwhelming, with standing room only.

"Reel to Real" and "Lunch and Learn" programs also saw a considerable increase in attendance. At one of the "Bagels and Books", Leslie Cohen, the Israeli author of *Trapped Inside the Story* spoke about the story of the Polish survivor, Sonya Hebenstreit. The "Reel to Real" and the "Lunch and Learn" programs are ongoing throughout the year. For more information, please contact: azaccardo@ujcnj.org or call (973)929-3194.

The Holocaust Council has not only remounted a revised version of its signature exhibit "From Memory to History", but also created "Normandy Beach", an exhibit based on drawings and paintings of Normandy Invasion veteran and professional artist Ugo Giannini. His are the only extant drawings actually done on D-Day. Maxine Yellen Giannini, his widow, a musician and "accidental historian" gave a talk at the opening of the exhibit, with interesting background information about the artist, his life in the military and the invasion, as well as personal anecdotes and reflections about the man and the work. There were also amazing postwar drawings and paintings that drew on Giannini's World War II experiences. The exhibit included artifacts, letters and documents that reflected America's role in the war. The Council created teaching materials for the training of docents who led school and community groups through visits to the exhibit.

Echoes and Reflections was the major source used for the annual Educator's Workshop to honor the memory of survivor Cecile Seiden. Etzion Neuer, the New Jersey Executive Director of the Anti-Defamation League was the featured speaker at the annual Sister Rose Thering Memorial.

The Council concluded its academic year with the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner – at which the granddaughter of a Bielski Partisan survivor sang.

Special programs presented by the Holocaust Council of MetroWest include:

Kristallnacht, Wilf Memorial, on Monday, November 8, 2010, at 12:30 P.M. and *The Music of World War II* on Sunday, November 14, 2010 at 2:00 P.M.

Barbara Wind has just celebrated the 10th anniversary of having assumed her position with the Holocaust Council of MetroWest. Our congratulations and best wishes on this auspicious occasion.

Holocaust Center News

● Ramapo College Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies

On Monday, February 8, 2010, the Center sponsored a lecture by Dr. Elissa Bemporad of the Department of History of Queens College, CUNY on “Nazi Germany and Anti-Semitic Poland through the Eyes of Soviet Jews.”

On February 23, 2010, Cipora Schwartz, author, spoke on “Nathan Barnert and Religious Freedom in America.”

On March 11, 2010, Ambassador George Staples (ret.), currently of the University of Kentucky, discussed “Genocide and Civil War in Africa.”

On April 7, 2010, Aram Arkun, writer and scholar, spoke on the subject of Zeytun and the Armenian Genocides.

On April 20, 2010, Zvi Bielski, son of Zus Bielski, hero of the movie Defiance, told the “True Story of the Bielski Partisans.”

On May 17, 2010, the Center sponsored the Emil Gumpert Teachers’ Workshop, where Dr. Mordecai Paldiel delivered the keynote address, “Rescue and Resistance in Genocide”

The Center planned the following programs for this fall:

On October 1, 2010, the program featured the CASE Conference “Engaging Students in the Social Studies: A Conference for Pre-Service Teacher”. Designed for both elementary and secondary education programs. Students and their social studies methods professors from colleges and universities all over New Jersey attended. Dr. Harriet Sepinwall, Professor of Holocaust Studies presented two workshops. In the first, students learned about the 1994 mandate for Holocaust Genocide Education, along with its goals, strategies and resources. The second workshop focused on the use of survivor testimony in the classroom. Participants had an opportunity to hear the testimony of Gina Lanceter and address their questions to her, as well as to her daughter, Dina Cohen.

On October 6, 2010, from 4:00- 7:30 P.M., CSE and the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education cosponsored “Echoes and Reflections”, a special workshops for New Jersey educators on how this multimedia curriculum identifies ways to meet the New Jersey mandate. Educators learned strategies and discovered resources for teaching about the Holocaust, combining the pedagogical experience and resources of the Anti-Defamation League; USC Shoah Foundation Institute and Yad Vashem. Professional development hours were available, and each registered participant received a complimentary copy of “Echoes and Reflections” curriculum with DVD. There was no charge.

● Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center of Richard Stockton College

The Center continues expanding its activities. A twenty-five minute documentary entitled “Rails of the Holocaust: a Journey to Stockton College” includes footage of the journey of the railroad tracks from Bialystok to Stockton, interviews with Holocaust survivors as well as others associated with the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center. During the past academic year, the Center has sponsored a total of 86 workshops, seminars and presentations with high attendance records. Many organizations, clubs and educators had guided tours supplemented by the film.



Teachers Workshop

In July 2010, middle and high school educators attended a Center workshop titled “Teaching American History: Using Documents of the Holocaust to Understand Immigration Policies”.



Survivor’s Brunch

The Center and the Jewish Family Service of Atlantic and Cape May Counties co-hosted an annual summer brunch for survivors and their families – with 150 survivors, their children and grandchildren attending the event highlighted by a magic show presented by a Stockton student.

In May 2010, The Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center sponsored a 2-week study tour for 34 Stockton students and graduates to Germany and the Netherlands.

They were accompanied by three Holocaust survivors who shared their life stories with the students. The group also explored the historical sites relating to the accompanying survivors’ experiences.

The Center’s “Writing as Witness” project for the creation of Holocaust survivors’ memoirs has recently published 5 memoirs: Ernest Paul’s “Ernest Triumphant” about the life of a teenage resistance fighter in Budapest; Donald Berkman’s “Two Voices” highlighting the survival of a child in the woods of Poland; Fred Buff’s “The St. Louis Diary of Fritz Buff”; Philip Goldfarb’s translation of “The Diary of Julius Goldfarb” and second generation Bethanie Gorny’s memoir about caring for and learning from a survivor, “Fridays with Eva”.

Holocaust Center News

● Brookdale Community College Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Center

2010 has brought to fruition the establishment of archives that now house materials donated by 200 area survivors for the purpose of preserving 600 + items in perpetuity specifically for their community. With a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, the process of preservation and accessioning began under the direction of Suzanne Scott, a professional archivist and historian who had volunteered to work with art work, books correspondence, diaries, governmental documents, maps, memoirs, oral histories, photographs and textiles. The Center welcomes the opportunity and considers it an honor to expand the archives through the collection of archival materials from Holocaust and genocide survivors in the Brookdale community.

The Exhibit: a Journey to Life, which opened in March 2009 on the Brookdale campus, traveled to the Museum of Jewish Heritage of Monmouth County in Freehold, New Jersey and shown from November 7, 2009 – January 2010. This exhibit uses the lives of local Holocaust survivors as the focus of Holocaust/genocide studies. Having been seen by 400 students, on March 31, 2010, one section of the exhibit, the 1930s, along with four of the survivor suitcases, traveled to the Sam Azeez Museum in Woodbine, New Jersey where it was seen by 1600 students and their teachers, as well as community members and survivors until June 14.

In the fall of 2010, the survivor suitcases become available as curriculum suitcases to enable middle and high school teachers to teach the Holocaust through the life stories of local survivors by using the personal narratives in family scrapbooks, their photographs, artifacts and memorabilia; comprehensive lesson plans for each story; Echoes and Reflections, a

multi-media curriculum; historical and survivor timelines; sharing moments, etc.

Creation of the film “We Were There” came about as a result of Director Dale Daniels’ video interviews with three gentleman living at Seabrook Village who had been liberators of concentration camps, eyewitnesses – thus creating an excellent resource for high school and college classes.

The Center’s Wednesday Morning Film Series: Anti-Nazi Films of the 1930s and 1940s, Part Two, featured “Confessions of a Nazi Spy”; “The Mortal Storm” and “To Be or Not To Be.” Center founders Dr. Seymour Siegler and Professor Jack Needle led the discussion following each film.

Etty, the Center’s three-part program including a play with interactive discussion and student activities; a student master class; a professional workshop for teachers; and a Teachers’ Curriculum Guide were being offered as high school programming.

The Yom HaShoah Community Commemoration at the Hyman Jewish Community Center in Deal, New Jersey featured an excerpt from Etty and the Center’s multi-media presentation, “Faces of Courage”. In observance of American Jewish Heritage Month, two survivor suitcases traveled to Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan, New Jersey.

The Center’s 29th Annual Colloquium “Sixty-five Years of Bearing Witness: Our Commitment to Human Rights” featured keynote speakers Dr. Leon Bass, Abe Chapnick and Robbie Waisman. As the unforgettable story of their reunion unfolded, the audience found out that it was Dr. Bass, an African-American soldier from a segregated unit returned the two men their freedom as he entered Buchenwald. 1800 students, teachers, survivors and community members were given an opportunity to attend one of 30 workshops on prejudice, genocide, human rights and activism.- The Annual Luna Kaufman Writing and Art Contest winners in grades 5-12 were announced at the Colloquium.

In April 2010, “Defying Genocide: Rescue in Rwanda” featured Carl Wilkins, humanitarian aid worker who saved the lives of hundreds of children during the genocide in Rwanda. His powerful words

communicated clearly that each of us can make a difference, even save lives of others.

The Center also hosted the New Jersey Premiere of “The River Ran Red” for its Armenian Genocide Remembrance Program. The film tells a compelling story of the search for survivors in detailed survivor testimony. Director Jane Denny led a spirited discussion following the film which focused on the continuous denial of this genocide.

E. Ben Skinner presented on his book, “A Crime So Monstrous: Face to Face with Modern Day Slavery” in collaboration with the College’s Visiting Writers Series, in sharing slave survivor stories and ethical dilemmas. As a result of this moving program, Students for Global Peace and the Writing Club created a Valentine’s Day Campaign to abolish slavery, reaching 15,000 + students on campus and 1,500 teachers, area clergy and others.

“Reflections on Dr. Martin Luther King” featured Brookdale Dean Frank Rother and Brookdale V.P. Dr. James Sulltan giving personal recollections about experiences on the civil rights movement and with Dr. King. Artist and human rights activist Barbara Bickart presented her video art “When” – documentary pieces based upon visitors’ reactions to the old Lorraine Motel, site of Dr. King’s murder.

In its mission to educate our children, the Center presented “Moral Courage: a Workshop for Educators” by Isaac Dostis and Diana Sunrise – designed for all grade levels. The presenters shared their expertise and materials, enabling teachers to bring this powerful program into their classrooms.

On March 18 – 19, 2010, at the Annual Katherine Woolf Student Leadership Conference, 129 students from 14 different middle schools learned the skills needed to reduce prejudice and hatred in their school community. Under the skillful tutelage of Director of Education Jane Denny, they also watched and learned from the film “Soulsaving: Common Threads of Kindness”, as well as the presentation of “Moral Courage” by Isaac Dostic and Diana Sunrise.

Holocaust Center News

● Mercer County Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center

2010 has been an active and exciting year. In January and February, the Center featured the “Holocaust and Genocide: Betrayal of Humanity” exhibit with photographs and text.

January 27, 2010 marked the reopening and rededication of new Center quarters – with speakers, music and displays.

April 21-22, 2010 featured the showing of and seminar on the film “Defiance”

On April 28, 2010, the Center hosted and presented its mission statement to the Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce

May 28, 2010 the Center presented a uniquely successful Annual Teachers’ Workshop on Philosophy of Education and Prejudice Reduction, discussing leading educational philosophers including John Dewey, Paolo Freire and Janusz Korczak, the Polish pediatrician who ran a democratically student-governed orphanage even in the Warsaw Ghetto, ultimately accompanying his young charges into the crematorium at Auschwitz- Birkenau.

On June 13, 2010, the Center hosted the Annual Axelrod Awards Ceremony, with prizes awarded for excellence in Holocaust/Genocide education. Center Director, Professor Saul Goldwasser, was one of the recipients.

July 14, 2010 marked the completion of the Center’s exhibit panels of the Susice Czech Holocaust Torah which is now available for travel on loan and currently is on display at the Jewish Center, Princeton, New Jersey.

October 13, 2010 marked the opening of a photography exhibit, “From the Warsaw Ghetto to Darfur: Photos, Text and Commentaries”, with speakers, a film and a book exhibit. The exhibit features a series of powerful photographs taken in the Warsaw Ghetto during World War II, as well as Jerry Casciano’s post-

war photographs of concentration camps and survivors. Another group of photographs was taken in the refugee camps of Darfur during Princeton pediatrician Dr. Jerry Ehrlich’s service there (as a member of Doctors Without Borders). Both Dr. Ehrlich and Mr. Casciano spoke about their experiences and photo projects at the opening. The exhibit is open to the public from October 12 – November 5, 2010 at the Mercer County Community College Gallery, with Gallery hours Wednesdays 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. and additional hours available by special arrangements by calling

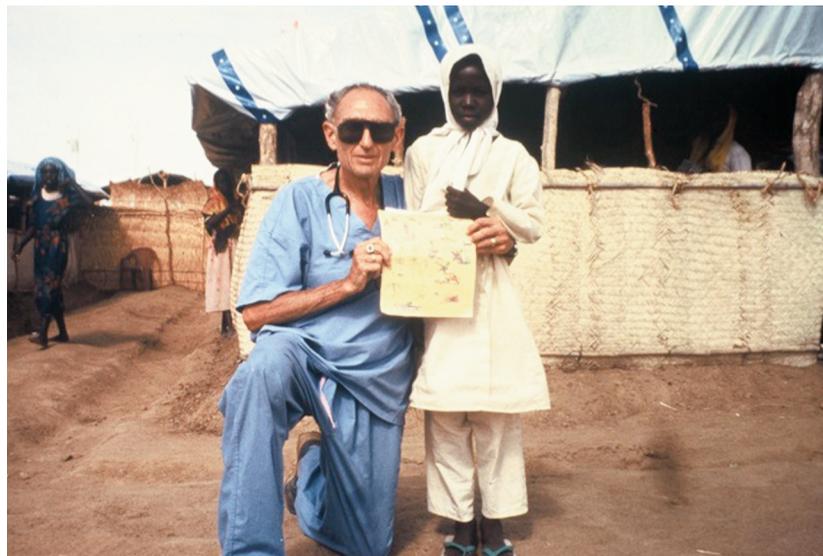
(609)570-3355.

On October 26, 2010, at 1 P.M., Center featured the Oscar-winning film, “The Pianist”, in the Mercer County Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center, on the second floor of the Library Building. Regular Center hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. and Wednesday 12:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

November 17, 2010 the Center will feature a Round Table discussion of the book “Focus” by Arthur Miller, portraying anti-semitism in America, 1945.



Warsaw Ghetto



Dr. Ehrlich and young patient in Darfur

Holocaust Center News

● Kean University Holocaust Resource Center and Human Rights Institute

2010 began with an exciting program in conjunction with the Kean University Human Rights Institute Annual Conference. On January 29th, Morris Dees, founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center, led a group discussion for educators from the Diversity Council on “Combating Hatred”. His strong commitment to the work he has been doing for many years at great risk to his personal life became evident to all participants. Rosemarie Wilkinson, an expert teacher from the Diversity Council courses, served as moderator.

On May 26, 2010, the Center participated in the formal dedication of the new Human Rights Institute, officially opening alongside the Holocaust Resource Center.

The Institute’s tuition waiver courses for graduate teachers continued for the Spring semester in the New Providence, the

Perth Amboy, Mountain Lakes, and Holmdel School Districts, as well as at Kean University. Other school districts continue to be on the waiting list for the courses.

During the summer of 2010, the Center bid a fond farewell to its director of ten years, Dr. Gerry Melnick. One and all wished Gerry good health and happiness in his retirement. At the same time, the Center was happy to welcome a new Acting Director, Stacy Schiller, a veteran social studies teacher in New Jersey, active in Jewish education for several years. With a BA and MT from the University of Virginia and an MEd in Social Justice from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Stacy had attended the 2005 Summer Seminar with the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education. She is a member of the Holocaust Education Network affiliated with the Memorial Library in New York City and an Alfred Lerner Fellow with the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous. In 2007, Stacy became the recipient of the Maurice Axelrod Award for Excellence in Holocaust Education. She is looking forward to working with both Kean University and the New Jersey Holocaust education community.

An “Echoes and Reflections”

workshop presented by veteran Holocaust educator Deborah Batiste scheduled for Thursday, October 7, 2010, was limited to 30 educators.

During the Murray Pantirer Memorial Lecture Series on November 29, 2010, Omer Bartov will be the annual Distinguished Lecturer. His presentation on “Genocide in a Multi-Ethnic Town: Mass Murder in Galicia” is free and open to the public.

On Tuesday, November 30, 2010, Dr. Leon Bass will speak about his experiences as an African American liberator in a lecture entitled “A Liberator Remembers Buchenwald”. This program taking place in the Wilkins Theatre for the Performing Arts between 10:00 and 11:30 A.M. is intended for student groups. However, all are welcome.

On March 31, 2011, the Institute will host an educator seminar with Michael Berenbaum limited to 30 participants. The \$30 registration fee will include lunch.

The annual Yom Hashoah Commemoration, cosponsored by the Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey, will be held at 6:45 P.M. on May 2, 2010 at the Wilkins Theatre.