

HOLOCAUST & HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

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Coexist Events Leaves Students Feeling "Rejuvenated"



Rwandan Genocide Survivors

Documentary filmmaker Adam Mazo joined CHHRE staff on Tuesday, September 6 for two events aimed at raising awareness of the aftermath of the 1994 Rwanda Genocide and inspiring students and adults to consider alternatives to violence as a response to harm.

In the morning, 65 Palm Beach Lakes High School students

participated in the Coexist Student Awareness Day. After watching *Coexist*, students participated in restorative circles to discuss their response to the film and how the violence in Rwanda might relate to their lives as students. Circle Keepers included Keith Wright and Elliot Crowder, both staff at Palm Beach Lakes; Rick Lewis, Kim Mazauskas and John Hadley from Palm Beach Safe Schools; Dr. Mara Schiff, Dr. Rose Gatens and Martha Brown from FAU; and Pam Grunow, a community volunteer. Students discussed concepts of forgiveness and reconciliation as well as how they might become involved in preventing violence at their school and in their community. At the end of the event, students created an Action Plan to address ways better to prevent violence at their school. Additionally, over 50 students expressed a desire to continue working on the issue. CHHRE staff will provide a summary of the Action Plan to district personnel and Palm Beach Lakes Administration, and will support future efforts to increase communication

and facilitate creating processes for peaceful conflict resolution at Palm Beach Lakes.

In the evening, 43 students and community members watched *Coexist* at FAU High School. Mr. Mazo facilitated a lively discussion which focused on a number of questions including,

- Are teachers and schools doing enough to teach peaceful conflict resolution skills?
- As Americans, are we immune to being persuaded by our government to kill under certain circumstances?
- Do social factors encourage "good" people to do horrible things?
- How can we counter the current political discourse, which is polarizing, demonizing and divisive, and discuss issues of mercy, justice and reconciliation?
- What would it look like to reward UPSTANDER behavior and honor the courage it takes to intervene to prevent and/or to stop a conflict?



Adam Mazo discussing *Coexist*

Mazo suggested that one of the reasons *Coexist* is successful in getting people to discuss these issues is because the film uses an unfamiliar conflict (Rwanda Genocide) to open a conversation so that people do not feel the need to choose sides. Once people are talking about conflict and reconciliation, it is easier to bridge the discussion to events closer to home, such as those in our schools and communities.

Based on the positive student response at Lakes, and requests from other schools host the program, the CHHRE will design a training program so that 10 additional schools can be trained to utilize the *Coexist* film and Viewers Guide. More information will be available within the next several months. In the meantime, to learn more about *Coexist*, visit www.coexistdocumentary.org.

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Summer Institute 2011: Children and the Holocaust



Dr. Walter Renn and Teachers discussing Hitler's Rise to Power at the Summer Institute, 2011 at FAU Boca Campus



Survivor Leon Ginsberg talking with teachers

From June 13th through June 17th, 2011 teachers from Broward, Orange and Palm Beach counties participated in the Center's annual Summer Institute for Holocaust Educators. In keeping with the Institute's theme, "The Holocaust through the Experiences of Children," teachers spent a day with Dr. Marian Dolan, Founding Artistic Director at The Choir Project, Naples, Florida. Dr. Dolan demonstrated how to use music of the Holocaust, including the Terezin children's opera *Brundibar*, to educate children about the Holocaust experience. Her workshop focused on art and music as forms of resistance against the Nazi degradation of the Jews. Dr. Rose Gatens explored the impact of separation and loss on Jewish children who survived the Holocaust, focusing on the British Child Rescue Mission which operated the *Kindertransport* that brought Jewish children from German speaking Europe to England after the November 1938 Pogrom (also known as *Kristallnacht*). *Kindertransport* survivors Rella Adler and Anita Hoffer shared their personal experiences, as did several of members of the local Child Survivor/Hidden Children Organization who often speak in area schools.

The Center's Graduate Assistant, Martha Brown, presented a newly developed curriculum for using the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's online exhibition, "Give Me Your Children: Voices of the Lodz Ghetto." Linda Medvin, Chair of the Commissioner's Task Force on Holocaust Education, shared a curriculum designed to accompany the book, *The Girls of Room 28*, about several girls who survived their roles in *Brundibar* at Terezin. Julie Wachtel, the

first recipient of the Center's Outstanding Elementary Holocaust Educator Award, demonstrated writing and reading strategies using *Daniel's Story* and *Twenty and Ten*, to introduce fourth grade students to Holocaust study.

Teachers also had the opportunity to learn about specific topics through a series of thought-provoking lectures from area Holocaust specialists. Dr. Walter Renn discussed the post World War I crises that fostered public support for the National Socialist Party and its radical antisemitism. Dr. Henry Abramson explained the nature of Jewish life and culture in Eastern Europe before 1939 and Dr. Frederick Greenspahn analyzed hatred of Jews from the anti-Judaism of ancient times to modern antisemitism. Many teachers were impressed by Dr. Traci Baxley's workshop on Afro-Germans during the 1920s and 1930 which introduced them to an aspect of the Holocaust "which [we] didn't know about before."

The 2012 Summer Institute for Holocaust Educators will focus on the aftermath of the Holocaust, emphasizing what happened to survivors from the day they were released from concentration camps and death marches through their experiences as displaced persons to their ultimate settlement in Western Europe, the United States and Israel. The 2012 Institute will take place on FAU's Jupiter campus, June 11-15, 2012. You will be able to register on the Center's website beginning on January 30, 2012.

Education is our best hope against hatred.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS *GUTTERMAN FAMILY HOLOCAUST EDUCATOR*

Each year the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education at FAU recognizes an elementary, a middle school, and a high school teacher in Broward, Palm Beach, and St. Lucie counties who have demonstrated positive impact on their schools and the wider community in the field of Holocaust, genocide, and human rights education.

The award enables recipients to participate in a three week, all expenses paid, study tour to Holocaust related sites in **Poland and Germany** as well as to **Yad Vashem in Israel and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.**

The awardees will be recognized at the **Center's Third Annual Teacher Appreciation Dinner on January 25, 2012** at Lakeside Terrace, Boca Raton.

Deadline for Nominations is November 22, 2011.

To nominate, contact Dr. Rose Gatens at rgatens@fau.edu for complete details, application, and submission requirements.

NEW GUIDELINES FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR SPEAKER'S BUREAU

Unfortunately, the time we all knew would eventually come has arrived. The number of Holocaust Survivors available to speak to schools has dwindled as our speakers have aged, become ill or in some cases have passed on. As a result, we need to make some changes for the 2011-2012 school year, and we need your help, flexibility and understanding.

No longer will we be able to accommodate requests for multiple speakers. For some of you who have been doing school-wide programs involving many speakers over a period of several days, this means you will have to re-vamp your plans for the upcoming year.

What we are asking of our teachers is that you coordinate and consolidate classes together into media centers, cafeterias or auditoriums, so that as many people as possible can hear your

hear your speaker.

Please limit the time to one hour; speakers usually present for 30-40 minutes and allow the remaining time for questions from students.

If you obtain the speaker's permission, you may be able to video the session to share with other students.

We appreciate the incredible programs many of you have organized for your school, and we wish to support your efforts as best as we can, for as long as we can, by allowing your students to experience meeting and listening to a Holocaust Survivor. We appreciate your understanding. Please do not hesitate to call the CHHRE for ideas and assistance with the Speaker's Bureau.

TIPS ON USING ATHENA: OUR ONLINE LENDING LIBRARY

We've added LOTS of DVDs, videos, books and class sets to our lending library, and made some items easier for you to find. Please check out our new materials, and remember this is the place to go not just for materials on the Holocaust and genocide, but on civil rights, human rights, social justice and character development! Here are some hints to help you with the ATHENA online lending library.

Easiest Way to Find us Online: GOOGLE search "FAU Holocaust Center". Click the link to the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education. On the left side, click the link to "Lending Library." Bookmark that page for the next time.

Our Collections: *Class Sets:* For age-appropriate book sets of 5-30. Smaller sets of 5-15 books are great for literature circles. (See "Search" section to find these titles.)
Research Library: 1-4 copies of books, including some children's books
Media: DVD and VHS movies and documentaries
Teacher Guides: Teachers guides to class sets and some media
Poster Sets: No active online collection at the moment (Contact us via email.)

To View an Entire Collection: Choose "Change Collection" on the upper right side. When the dialogue box opens, click the "dot" next to the collection you want. Select. Then, click the Icon. You may peruse the listing. Use "Sort" option to sort by title, author, subject word, etc.

To Search: Use Quick Search, Advanced, or Visual. Choose the collection you want to search. (See above.) Follow prompts.

Search Hint: To find those books catalogued as "Class Set – Literary Circle," click the "Advanced Search" icon in the upper right corner. Where it says "Enter a word or phrase..." enter "CS LC" (you need the space). In the box that defaults to "All Indexes", choose "CALL NUMBER". Your search results will produce only those items in the Class Sets collection that have less than 25 copies.

To Order Materials Online: On the bottom half of your screen, see the "Click here to order online" link. Fill in all of the information requested, including the titles and number of copies you'd like. Then click submit. We'll fulfill your order or contact you if what you've requested is not in stock.

"Copies on Shelf": We have a problem in our software that does not show you when books are checked out. When you request a class set, Athena may say there are copies on the shelf when in fact, they may be checked out. We are working on a way to fix this if possible. Please understand if you make a request and we tell you the books are not available, that we are going by what is actually on our shelves vs. what the website is telling us. We will always recommend another book or DVD that is similar and appropriate.

Popular Titles: Some books, such as Anne Frank and Daniel's Story are extremely popular. We are asking you to order the books when you need them, and return them as soon as you are done, so the next teacher has access to the books.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



FAU Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education Events, Programs, and Training Opportunities for K—12 Teachers, 2011-12

September 6, 2011

**Holocaust Educator
Summer Institute
Aftermath of the
Holocaust, '45-'57**
June 11-15, 2012
Jupiter, FL

Lending Library
<http://www.coe.fau.edu/main/holocaust/athena.htm>

**Holocaust Survivors
Speakers Bureau**
To Schedule a speaker call
561-297-2929

**Programs for Classrooms or
Assemblies**
Film/speaker featuring Survivor
Peter Feigl and the MTV film:
"I'm Still Here"

Human Rights
Awareness Workshop

NEXT GENERATIONS After
the Holocaust
DVD/Speaker

**Teacher Field Experience
US Holocaust Memorial
Museum, Palm Beach/
St. Lucie Teachers**
January 3-5, 2012

**For more information:
Dr. Rose Gatens,
FAU Center for Holocaust/
Human Rights Education**
561-297-2929

Student Awareness Day

8:30 am - 2:00 pm, Palm Beach Lakes High School, West Palm Beach, Florida

Based on the 2010 film, *Coexist*, this program will explore the challenges faced by victims, perpetrators and survivors of the Rwanda genocide as they attempt to end the cycle of violence that caused the catastrophic loss, suffering and fear that continues to affect Rwanda today. Film director Adam Mazo will lead students through discussions designed to foster students' examination of their own beliefs and feelings about violence, forgiveness, revenge, reconciliation and dialogue with the goal of developing and practicing skills for speaking truthfully, listening compassionately and acting to deter violence. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education at FAU.

Film: *Coexist: Restoring Justice after Genocide in Rwanda*

6.30 p.m.—8.30 p.m. FAU High School, Boca Campus

Screening of the documentary film, *Coexist*, and discussion with film maker Adam Mazo about the challenges faced by victims, perpetrators and survivors of the Rwanda Genocide as they search for ways to live together with each other in the aftermath of mass murder. The film explores the government-sponsored reconciliation workshops, Rwandans struggling with issues of forgiveness, revenge, reconciliation and dialogue with the goal of fostering and practicing skills for speaking truthfully, listening compassionately and acting to deter violence. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education at FAU.

October 13, 2011

Teacher Workshop: *Freedom Riders: New Materials for Exploring Citizen Action During the Civil Rights Movement*

4:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m., FAU Boca Raton Campus

Based on the new PBS documentary *Freedom Riders*, this workshop will prepare teachers to use the film to explore the way that racism was reinforced by law and custom and the challenges faced by people who sought to create a more just society. Focusing on the 436 people who participated in the effort to end segregated interstate travel in the U.S., the workshop will address the following questions:

- Who were the Freedom Riders and why did they join the Movement?
- What can be done to create a more just society in the face of prejudice and racism embedded in law and custom?
- How does nonviolent direct action expose injustice? Why was it such an effective strategy for bring about change during the Civil Rights Movement?
- What does the story of the Freedom Riders suggest about the role of citizens in shaping democracy?

Dr. Mary Johnson from Facing History and Ourselves will lead the workshop which is sponsored by the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education and funded by the Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians and Jews.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS, CONTINUED

November 7, 2011

Thirteenth Annual Broward Teachers' Workshop

3:30 p.m.– 9:00 p.m., David Posnack Jewish Community Center, Sunrise, Florida

The workshop will explore the Holocaust in Hungary through the experiences of three brothers who are the protagonists of the novel, *The Invisible Bridge*, by Julie Orringer. The author will speak during the workshop. Workshop participants will receive a copy of the book. Snacks and a light dinner will be provided. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education at FAU.

November 7, 2011

Public Lecture

***The Invisible Bridge*: author Julie Orringer discusses the Holocaust in Hungary**

7:30 p.m., David Posnack Jewish Community Center, Sunrise, Florida

Forward magazine observes that “in a field as crowded with artistic representations as the Holocaust, it’s easy to assume that there is nothing new to say. Julie Orringer reminds us that there always is, so long as there are individual stories to tell. . . . Brilliant. . . . Orringer covers the darkest matters with a tender authority while imbuing her characters with the subtle, endless dimensions of love and suffering. . . . Gripping, fresh, and worth remembering . . . this novel will endure.” Orringer is the author of the award-winning short-story collection *How to Breathe Underwater*, which was a *New York Times* Notable Book. She is the winner of *The Paris Review’s* Discovery Prize and the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, Stanford University, and the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library.

January 3-5, 2012

Field Experience to US Holocaust Memorial Museum

For 10 teachers from Palm Beach and St. Lucie Counties. This professional development opportunity includes two pre-trip meetings, three days study at the Museum in Washington, D.C., and evidence of using the experience in your class room. Airfare and lodging are paid for through a grant to the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education. For information contact Dr. Rose Gatens, 561-297-2929. In Palm Beach County contact Maureen Marullo at 561-434-8133 to apply. In St. Lucie County contact Tim Norfleet at 772-429-3941.

January 25, 2012

Annual Teacher Appreciation Dinner

6:00 p.m.— 9:00 p.m., Lakeside Terrace, Boca Raton, FL

Dinner honoring K12 teachers for their work implementing Florida’s mandate for Holocaust education. The Gutterman Family Outstanding Holocaust Educator awards will be presented at this event. Call 561-297-2929 for reservations.

February 23, 2012

Public Lecture

Europe Between Stalin and Hitler: Understanding the Holocaust in Light of Recent Research.

7:00 p.m. FAU Boca Campus.

Yale University Historian Timothy Snyder author of *Bloodlands, Europe between Hitler and Stalin*, will talk about the place of the Holocaust in the nature and development of the policies of deliberate mass murder practiced by both Hitler and Stalin.

The Wall Street Journal observes that “the story of World War II, like that of most wars, usually gets told by the victors. Diplomatic and military accounts are set largely in the West and star the morally upright Allies—the U.S., Britain and Soviet Union—in battles against fascism. The Holocaust gets its own separate history, as a case apart in its genocidal intent and human tragedy. Timothy Snyder’s *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin* forces a dramatic shift in these perceptions. . . . Among his other goals in *Bloodlands*, Mr. Snyder attempts to put the Holocaust in context—to restore it, in a sense, to the history of the wider European conflict. This is a task that no historian can attempt without risking controversy.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS, CONTINUED

Yet far from minimizing Jewish suffering, *Bloodlands* gives a fuller picture of the Nazi killing machine." **Timothy Snyder** is the author of *The Reconstruction of Nations*, *Sketches from a Secret War*, and *The Red Prince*. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education at FAU. For more information/reservations Email rgatens@fau.edu or telephone 561-297-2929.

March 26, 2012

Teacher Workshop: Eleanor Roosevelt and the UDHR

4.30 p.m. –7.30 p.m. FAU, Boca Raton, FL

This workshop explores the role of Eleanor Roosevelt in the development of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for the United Nations in the aftermath of World War II. Teaching strategies and resources from the Facing History guide, *Fundamental Freedoms*, will form the basis of the workshop. Workshop leader is Dr. Mary Johnson, Senior Historian, Facing History and Ourselves. The program is sponsored by the Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education at FAU and funded by the Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians and Jews. To register contact Dr. Rose Gatens, 561-297-2929 or email rgatens@fau.edu.

May 7-May 27, 2011

Living Voices

Each year CHHRE sponsors two multi-media programs for elementary and middle school students in Broward, Palm Beach and St. Lucie Counties. In *Islands of Hope*, elementary school students learn about immigrants' experience of Ellis Island at the beginning of the Twentieth Century. *Through the Eyes of a Friend*, connects middle school students to the life of Anne Frank, a young Jewish girl in hiding from the Nazis during World War II. To schedule in Broward County, contact Dr. Louise Ball at 754-321-1873, ext. 1317. To schedule in Palm Beach County, contact Maureen Marullo, 561-434-8933. To schedule in St. Lucie County, contact Tim Norfleet at 772-429-3941.



Resource Center and Lending Library

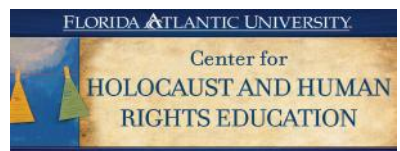
The center's extensive resource center and lending library provide teachers access to an extensive text and poster library of 7,000 items, including an impressive video and CD-ROM collection and teaching guides pertaining to the study of the Holocaust, genocide, and human rights.

Items may be reserved at: <http://www.coe.fau.edu/main/holocaust/athena.htm>

Supporting Holocaust Survivors and their Families

The center serves as an important liaison between community organizations and Holocaust survivors and their families. Activities include providing training for volunteers in the Yad VaShem Pages of Testimony Project and a more recent project of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum to provide Holocaust survivors access to the International Tracing Service. The center routinely fields requests from Holocaust survivors for all kinds of assistance, including help with memoirs, translations of Claims Conference documents and connections to social services.

The Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education was established in 1996 to prepare teachers to implement the Florida mandate for Holocaust and Human education. Serving all schools in the counties of Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, Indian River, Glades, and Okeechobee, the center is a valuable resource providing age appropriate material, lessons, and consultations to teachers and other community organizations.



We're on the Web!
www.coe.fau.edu/main/holocaust

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