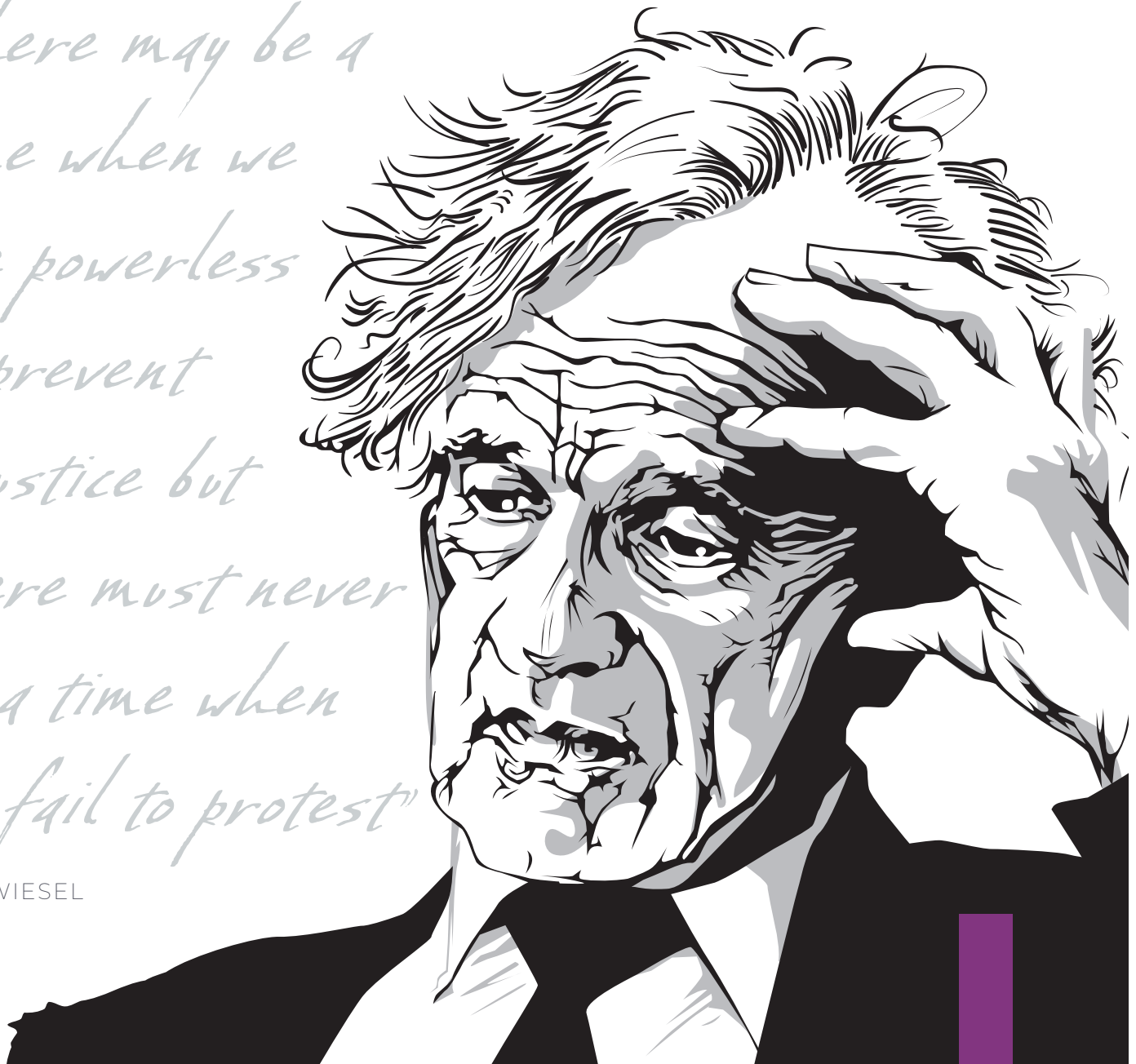


*"There may be a
time when we
are powerless
to prevent
injustice but
there must never
be a time when
we fail to protest"*

-ELIE WIESEL



THE TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL

2026 ELIE WIESEL WRITING & VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS



THE HOLOCAUST COMMISSION OF THE UNITED
JEWISH FEDERATION OF TIDEWATER

Additional information can be found at JewishVA.org/Wiesel



Shoes on the Danube Bank Memorial, Budapest.

Image used under license from konoplizkaya - stock.adobe.com

OUR GOAL

The Holocaust Commission is dedicated to encouraging students to learn about the Holocaust and apply its many lessons to their own lives. The Commission wants students to understand the importance and true nature of moral courage, as the dangers of all types of prejudice, peer pressure, unthinking obedience

to authority, and indifference to the suffering of others are still widespread in our world. It is essential that young people develop the moral courage necessary to fight against these dangers, for their own sakes and for the protection of our democratic values.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR GOAL	2
CONTENT	3
DIVISIONS / PRIZES	3
DIRECTIONS FOR TEACHERS	4
COMPETITION SPECIFICS	5
SOL SKILLS CORRELATION	6
RECOMMENDED RESOURCES	7
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	8
WRITING COMPETITION ENTRY + DIRECTIONS	9/10
VIDEO COMPETITION ENTRY + DIRECTIONS	11/12
VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION ENTRY + DIRECTIONS	13/14
REWARDS FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS	15



DIVISIONS

JUNIOR DIVISION
Grades 6-8

SENIOR DIVISION
Grades 9-12

PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in each
category and division

First Place: \$225
Second Place: \$150
Third Place: \$100

COMPETITION SPECIFICS

DIRECTIONS FOR TEACHERS

- Note that the entry forms and questions vary by division and category. Combined with the Background Information, these pages contain everything pertinent for entry.
- Please distribute the Background Information on page 8 and the appropriate Entry Form to your students. Entry forms and the PDF guidelines are available JewishVA.org/Wiesel.
- Student entries should NOT be teacher edited before being submitted for judging.
- All identifying information should be placed ONLY on the online entry form.
- Students must upload all parts of their entries and their completed entry forms by the deadlines stated on the entry forms.
- Students will receive a confirmation email once their entry is uploaded to verify their submission.
- By participating in this competition, students will examine how they understand prejudice, intolerance, and peer pressure, and look at how they have reacted to it in the past. Their thoughtful responses to the questions posed here will help them internalize the concepts of justice and moral courage and, we hope, lead them toward lives of purpose, in which they become active, thoughtful citizens.
- Winning written entries will be reproduced and distributed at the annual Yom Hashoah commemoration, Holocaust Day of Remembrance, to be held April 13, 2026 at 6:45pm, at Congregation Beth El, Norfolk.
- Winning entries in all categories and divisions will be posted on the Holocaust Commission website, HolocaustCommission.org.
- Winning and selected art pieces will be on display at the Simon Family JCC on the Reba and Sam Sandler Family Campus from April 28 – May 15.



Kragujevac, Serbia, Šumarice Memorial Park, *Pain & Defiance* by Ante Gržetić.
Image used under license from Blazenka - stock.adobe.com



Mural of Anne Frank at the NDSM-werf in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
Image used under license from bert - stock.adobe.com

COMPETITION SPECIFICS

COMPETITION DEADLINES



WRITING & VIDEO ENTRIES

Must be uploaded by 4:00 pm, Tuesday, January 27, 2026.



VISUAL ARTS ENTRIES

Must be uploaded and pieces delivered between Monday, February 9, and Monday, February 16, 2026.

The correct entry form for the category and division must be submitted with each entry uploaded. Submission implies acceptance of the statement that each entry is original work created by that entrant for this competition.

JUDGING CRITERIA



Judging will be based on creativity, craftsmanship, presentation, composition, originality, and how well your work addresses the task. Do not put your name or any other identifying information (school, grade, teacher, etc.) on your work.

NOTIFICATIONS OF WINNERS



All writing and video competition winners will be notified by email no later than Friday, March 13, 2026.

All visual arts competition winners will be notified by email no later than Monday, March 16, 2026.

POLICIES FOR ARTWORK



In addition to the digital submission of photos, entry forms, and statements, student art should be delivered to the Holocaust Commission offices (on the Reba and Sam Sandler Family Campus, 5000 Corporate Woods Drive, Suite 200, Virginia Beach, 23462) between **February 9 and February 16, 2026**. All art pieces should be mailed or delivered with an entry form attached.

Please contact the Holocaust Commission if you need special arrangements.

While we use the utmost care in handling art entries, neither the Holocaust Commission nor the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater can be held responsible for damage to artwork.

SOL SKILLS CORRELATION

This competition can assist you in preparing your students for the SOL by addressing the following SOL skills for Social Studies, Language Arts/English, and Visual Arts.

SOCIAL STUDIES SOL SKILLS

CE.c, CE.h, USII.a, USII.b, USII.c, USII.h, VUS.h, USII.6h, WG.b, WG.h, WHI.b, WHI.h, WHII.b, WHII.j

- Synthesizing evidence from sources including, but not limited to artifacts, primary/secondary sources, charts, graphs, and diagrams to understand events in United States history
- Contextualizing and corroborating sources for credibility, propaganda, and bias to determine patterns and trends to understand the modern world
- Developing questions, enhancing curiosity, and engaging in critical thinking and analysis
- Engaging and communicating as a civil and informed individual with persons with different perspectives
- Examining the causes and consequences of the Holocaust including, but not limited to Jewish life before the Holocaust, antisemitism, the rise of the Nazi Party, Nuremberg Laws, persecution of Jews and other targeted groups, resistance efforts, the United States' response, and the Nuremberg Trials
- Applying geographic skills to determine and predict patterns and trends of people, places, or events

LANGUAGE ARTS/ENGLISH SOL SKILLS

6.3, 6.5, 6.7, 6.9; 7.2, 7.3, 7.5, 7.7, 7.9; 8.3, 8.5, 8.7, 8.9; 9.2, 9.4, 9.6, 9.8; 10.2, 10.4, 10.6, 10.8; 11.2, 11.4, 11.6, 11.8; 12.2, 12.4, 12.6, 12.8

- Read and understand information from varied sources
- Apply knowledge of resources in preparing written (and oral) presentations
- Credit the sources of both quoted and paraphrased ideas
- Use writing to interpret, analyze, and evaluate ideas
- Develop narrative, literary, expository, and technical writings to inform, explain, analyze, or entertain
- Edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, and paragraphing
- Collect, evaluate, and organize information
- Use print, electronic databases, and online resources to access information

VISUAL ARTS SOL SKILLS

- Create works of art that are original and represent personal expression
- Define and practice ethical procedures when producing works of art
- Demonstrate skill in preparing and displaying works of art
- Art can have diverse values and meanings
- Art can have symbolic and metaphorical meanings
- Art is a reflection of time, place, and culture
- Art making needs a well-developed knowledge base which benefits from art, other subject areas, and personal and real world experience

VIDEO SOL SKILLS

- Demonstrate knowledge of technology's ethical, cultural, and societal procedures
- Demonstrate knowledge of technologies that support collaboration, personal pursuits, and productivity
- Use technology tools to create and communicate for individual and/or collaborative projects
- Display responsible use of technology systems, information, and software, including fair use and copyright regulations

RECOMMENDED SOURCES

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

[JEWISHVA.ORG/ HOLOCAUST-RESOURCES](http://JEWISHVA.ORG/HOLOCAUST-RESOURCES)

Holocaust Resources compiled by the Holocaust Commission

HOLOCAUST-TRC.ORG

Holocaust Teacher Resource Center

FACINGHISTORY.ORG

Facing History and Ourselves

USHMM.ORG

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

WIESENTHAL.ORG

Simon Wiesenthal Center has information regarding statements on current events

YADVASHEM.ORG

The World Holocaust Remembrance Center

IWITNESS.USC.EDU

I Witness, sponsored by the USC Shoah Foundation, has media resources for students. For full access students must have their teachers join, and then send an invitation to the students.

THEHOLOCAUSTEXPLAINED.ORG

The Holocaust Explained - Great site for students

[JEWISHVA.ORG/ STARSAMONGUS](http://JEWISHVA.ORG/STARSAMONGUS)

- Esther Wondolowicz Goldman - "Episode 2: The Signal", *Stars Among Us* podcast
- Kitty Friedenbach Saks - "Episode 3: The Weight of Secrets", *Stars Among Us* podcast

STORIES

To help you think about your personal response, we encourage you to explore the stories contained in the Holocaust Commission's *What We Carry* program (JewishVA.org/WhatWeCarry) for inspiration, as well as those of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies).



The Holocaust Memorial in Miami Beach.

Image used under license from Joseph Hendrickson - stock.adobe.com

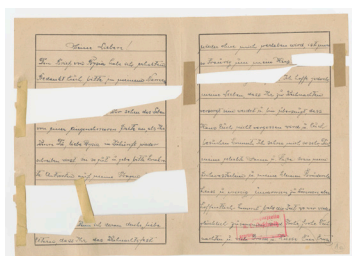
"Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented. Sometimes we must interfere. When human lives are endangered, when human dignity is in jeopardy, national borders and sensitivities become irrelevant".

— ELIE WIESEL, 1986 NOBEL PRIZE ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SPEAKING TRUTH, PRESERVING MEMORY: THE LEGACIES OF ESTHER GOLDMAN AND KITTY SAKS

An informed public is a necessity for a thriving society. Without the free flow and sharing of ideas, citizens of the world, a country, a neighborhood, or even a school can't function at their best. The founders of the United States of America held those ideals in high regard. They understood that to create a more perfect union, freedom of the press and, by extension, all people, is extremely important to protect.



CENSORED LETTER FROM AUSCHWITZ, WRITTEN BY ERWIN OLSZÓWKA, 1942.
By Theresa Xu - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=136016118>

Nazi Germany had an official policy of censorship. News stories were not simply reported on by newspapers or radio newscasters. Instead of a reporter sharing the facts of an event, in the Third Reich, the government controlled the press. It was illegal to have a newspaper that was not approved by the government. This made it possible for the government to keep basic facts away from the public.

Policy changes that dictated how and what stories were shared with the public impacted everyone's lives. No longer was there accurate reporting on the discriminatory practices of the Nazis. Instead, stories were written to justify the removal of people and their inability to work, go to school, and live where they want. The negative impacts were sometimes minor, such as a person not knowing what time a public event was

to start, and sometimes it was a major impact, such as the deportation of Jews.

Esther Wondolowicz Goldman was a young girl from a large Jewish family who was deported from her home to several concentration camps, including Auschwitz. After the Holocaust ended, she married a fellow survivor Charles Goldman, and together they resettled in France where they raised two sons, before immigrating to the United States in the 1950s.

She made it her life's mission to share her story of survival in a truthful and uncensored manner. Esther spent a great deal of her time visiting schools and speaking with journalists throughout Hampton Roads, sharing her experiences so others might understand the importance of respect, compassion, and truth in learning what occurred during the Holocaust.

Esther's dedication to the mission of truth was epitomized in 1986 when a group of Holocaust deniers picketed outside of the Jewish Community Center (JCC). Disturbed by the lies being spread on the news in real time, Esther drove the ten minutes to the JCC determined to confront the misinformation and set the record straight. To challenge their words, she used her voice, defending historical truths. She shared her firsthand knowledge and the scars left by the Holocaust, including her Auschwitz tattoo.

Kitty Friedenbach Saks was another Holocaust survivor who made her home in

Norfolk, Virginia. Kitty spent the Holocaust as a hidden child in a Catholic orphanage, where her true identity was concealed. It was a place where she had to carefully monitor all her actions and words. Once the Holocaust ended, Kitty was reunited with her parents, and together they immigrated to the United States.

Kitty first shared her experiences during the Holocaust with her 8th grade class in Norfolk, and from then on never shied away from speaking again. She spent much of her adult life speaking proudly about the dangers of antisemitism and all forms of hatred. These talks included visits to schools, community centers, and military bases. Kitty was propelled by a mission to ensure acceptance and respect are values extended to all people.

Read more about Esther Wondolowicz Goldman's story in *To Life: The Past is Present* at JewishVA.org/Goldman. Listen to the podcast at Episode 2 of [The Stars Among Us](#) podcast.



Esther Goldman, courtesy of the Goldman family.



Kitty Friedenbach Saks speaks at Joint Base Langley-Eustis Holocaust Remembrance Commemoration, April 23, 2012.

Read more about Kitty Friedenbach Saks's story in *To Life: The Past is Present* at JewishVA.org/Saks. Listen to the podcast at Episode 3 of [The Stars Among Us](#) podcast.

THE 2026 ELIE WIESEL WRITING COMPETITION

PRESENTED BY THE HOLOCAUST COMMISSION OF THE UNITED JEWISH
FEDERATION OF TIDEWATER

STUDENT ENTRY FORM

All 2026 entries to the Elie Wiesel Competitions should **be made online**. Please have the information below prepared when you begin the entry process at JewishVA.org/EW2026Submit. Additional copies of these guidelines can be found online at JewishVA.org/Wiesel. Divisions will be judged separately, with prizes in each group. For more information, contact Elka Mednick at info@holocaustcommission.org or by phone at 757-965-6100.

<input type="checkbox"/>	DIVISION (CHECK ONE)	<input type="checkbox"/> JUNIOR (GRADES 6-8)	<input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR (GRADES 9-12)
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Student Name _____ Gender ☐ M ☐ F ☐ NB Grade _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Student's Phone _____ email _____

School Name _____ School Phone _____

Teacher Name _____ Teacher email _____

Category (check one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Essay	<input type="checkbox"/> Poetry		
Choose one	<input type="checkbox"/> Question 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Question 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Question 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Question 4

PLEASE MARK EACH
PAGE OF YOUR ENTRY
WITH THE QUESTION
NUMBER.

Title of Entry _____

*I understand the guidelines of the 2026 Elie Wiesel Competitions. Submitting my entry online affirms that **this work is my original effort, created for this competition**. I understand that the Holocaust Commission reserves the right to reproduce, publish, exhibit, and/or use any/all entries for publicity.*

Student Signature _____ Date _____

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION WRITING COMPETITION DEADLINE • 4:00 PM, TUESDAY JANUARY 27, 2026

STUDENT DIRECTIONS

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION **WRITING** COMPETITION

Select one of the following questions to answer.

QUESTION #1

Maintaining memories with friends and family is valuable and important for understanding history. Without sharing the stories of the past, it's harder to properly value the past.

Is there a memory keeper in your family? Who are the memory keepers in your life? How do they inspire you to remember the past? What aspects of the past do they inspire you to keep today? Describe someone in your life or history whose memory you want to preserve.

QUESTION #2

Today, there are many recordings of Holocaust survivors sharing their experiences, including Kitty Saks, who spent years sharing her story in schools and on military bases around Hampton Roads. In 2025, documentation of her presentations has been deleted from certain military websites, leading to questions about how easily facts can be altered or simply disappear from the official record. After the Holocaust ended in 1945, the Allied powers took steps to ensure that the actions taken by the Nazis were remembered through accounts from survivors, photos, and video footage for the public to access. The proof assembled via those accounts was meant to ensure the crimes of the Nazis were never forgotten or questioned.

Have you ever encountered anything online that makes you question its truth? If so, how did you respond, and how might misinformation impact the way people understand history and current events?

QUESTION #3

The protection of facts and truth is imperative for any equitable society. Authoritarian governments, such as the Third Reich, distort or hide the truth from their citizens to force national unity with a singular message. The control enabled the Nazi government to invade other countries, deport people, incarcerate, and commit mass murder in and out of concentration camps. This message of unity erases the complex past and present of a nation, putting people in danger by compromising citizens who cannot learn from the lessons of the past.

Provide some examples of how this manifested in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945.

QUESTION #4

Though Jewish people accounted for approximately 1 percent of the German population in 1933, long-standing antisemitism enabled Hitler to blame the Jewish community for Germany's economic struggles, political instability, and more following World War I. This othering and dehumanizing of the Jewish community was key to developing Hitler's Final Solution to exterminate all Jews within reach. Similar occurrences of blaming and dehumanizing marginalized groups have occurred throughout history and today. World War II and the Holocaust could have been different if antisemitism had not been such a powerful force.

What does this tell us about the dangers of scapegoating and the consequences of unchecked hatred?

HOW DO I SUBMIT MY ENTRY?

- Write your essay or poem. All entries must be double spaced and in 12 point font. Limit: THREE pages.
- DO NOT place your name on your entry, but DO put the question number you choose on the top of all entry pages.
- Go to the entry form at JewishVA.org/EW2026Submit and fill it out COMPLETELY.
- Upload your entry, following instructions on the online form.

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION WRITING COMPETITION DEADLINE • 4:00 PM, TUESDAY JANUARY 27, 2026

THE 2026 ELIE WIESEL VIDEO COMPETITION

PRESENTED BY THE HOLOCAUST COMMISSION OF THE UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF TIDEWATER

STUDENT ENTRY FORM

All 2026 entries to the Elie Wiesel Competitions should **be made online**. Please have the information below prepared when you begin the entry process at JewishVA.org/EW2026Submit. Additional copies of these guidelines can be found online at JewishVA.org/Wiesel. Divisions will be judged separately, with prizes in each group. For more information, contact Elka Mednick at info@holocaustcommission.org or by phone at 757-965-6100.

<input type="checkbox"/>	DIVISION (CHECK ONE)	<input type="checkbox"/>	JUNIOR (GRADES 6-8)	<input type="checkbox"/>	SENIOR (GRADES 9-12)
--------------------------	----------------------	--------------------------	---------------------	--------------------------	----------------------

Student Name _____ Gender ☐ M ☐ F ☐ NB Grade _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Student's Phone _____ email _____

School Name _____ School Phone _____

Teacher Name _____ Teacher email _____

Activity (check one) ☐ Question 1 ☐ Question 2 ☐ Question 3 ☐

Co-entrants: ☐ No ☐ Yes Name _____ Name _____

Title of Entry _____ Entry format (eg .mp4, iMovie) _____

*I understand the guidelines of the 2026 Elie Wiesel Competitions. Submitting my entry online affirms that **this work is my original effort, created for this competition**. I understand that the Holocaust Commission reserves the right to reproduce, publish, exhibit, and/or use any/all entries for publicity.*

Student Signature _____ Date _____

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION VIDEO COMPETITION DEADLINE • 4:00 PM, TUESDAY JANUARY 27, 2026

STUDENT DIRECTIONS

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION VIDEO COMPETITION

Select one of the following questions to answer.

QUESTION #1

Personal and family memories are important to understanding history and valuing and understanding the past.

Create an art piece that honors a person from your family or history whose memory you want to honor.

QUESTION #2

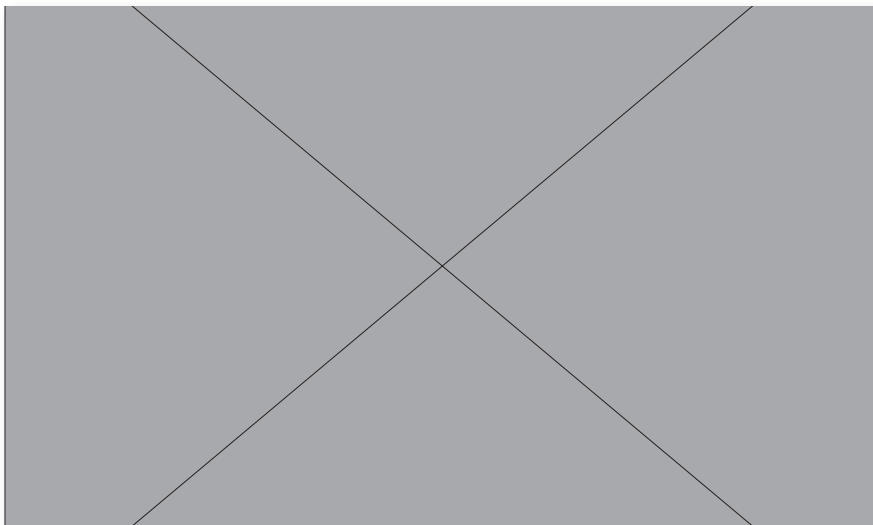
Protection of facts and truth is imperative for an equitable society. Authoritarian governments, such as the Third Reich, distort or hide the truth from their citizens to force national unity with a singular message. This erases the complex past and present of a nation and prevents its citizens from learning the lessons of the past.

Create an art piece which reflects examples of how this manifested in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945.

QUESTION #3

Though Jewish people accounted for only a small fraction of the German population, long-standing antisemitism enabled Hitler to blame the Jewish community for Germany's economic struggles and political instability following World War I. This othering of the Jewish community was key to developing the Final Solution. Similar occurrences of blaming and dehumanizing marginalized groups has occurred throughout history and today.

Design an art piece that illustrates the impact of scapegoating and the peril of hatred left unchecked.



Unity, 1982 by Peruko Ccopacatty. Virginia Beach, USA.
Terea Knecht. Image used with permission.

HOW DO I SUBMIT MY ENTRY?

A video entry is an artistic submission that is viewed or listened to in a maximum of five (5) minutes. It can include the use of media, such as movies, music, lighting, shorts, or animation. Text and/or other forms of artistic expression/communication, such as dance, may be incorporated into an audio/visual presentation. PowerPoint entries are highly discouraged.

- Each entrant must submit a typed artist's statement (not to exceed 150 words) to be uploaded in the entry form. **DO NOT put your name on the artist statement.**
- Only one entry per student will be accepted, and no more than three participants may work together on an entry. Each student in a group must upload his/her own entry form and artist's statement.
- Entries should be uploaded within the entry form at JewishVA.org/EW2026Submit. Be sure to limit your file size to be **no more than 1 GB**.
- If your entry is an original song, you must incorporate its lyrics into the visual portion of your entry or upload them with your artist's statement.
- Copyright-protected sources must be cited, including books, magazines, websites, and works of art, among others.
- Entries must be original and created solely for this competition.

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION VIDEO COMPETITION DEADLINE • 4:00 PM, TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

THE 2026 ELIE WIESEL VISUAL ARTS, 2+3 DIMENSION COMPETITION

PRESENTED BY THE HOLOCAUST COMMISSION OF THE UNITED JEWISH
FEDERATION OF TIDEWATER

STUDENT ENTRY FORM

All 2026 entries to the Elie Wiesel Competitions should **be made online and delivered** to the JCC. Please have the information below prepared when you begin the entry process at JewishVA.org/EW2026Submit. Additional copies of these guidelines can be found online at JewishVA.org/Wiesel. Divisions will be judged separately, with prizes in each group. For more information, contact Elka Mednick at info@holocaustcommission.org or by phone at 757-965-6100.

	DIVISION (CHECK ONE)	JUNIOR (GRADES 6-8)	SENIOR (GRADES 9-12)
--	----------------------	---------------------	----------------------

Student Name _____ Gender M F NB Grade _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Student's Phone _____ email _____

School Name _____ School Phone _____

Teacher Name _____ Teacher email _____

Question Chosen _____ Medium Used _____

Height _____ Width _____ Depth _____ Weight (for 3D) _____

Title of Entry _____

*I understand the guidelines of the 2026 Elie Wiesel Competitions. Submitting my entry online affirms that **this work is my original effort, created for this competition**. I understand that the Holocaust Commission reserves the right to reproduce, publish, exhibit, and/or use any/all entries for publicity.*

Student Signature _____ Date _____

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION VISUAL ART COMPETITION ENTRIES ACCEPTED FROM FEBRUARY 9-16.

STUDENT DIRECTIONS

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION

Select one of the following questions to answer.

QUESTION #1

Personal and family memories are important to understanding history and valuing and understanding the past.

Create an art piece that honors a person from your family or history whose memory you want to honor.

QUESTION #2

Protection of facts and truth is imperative for an equitable society. Authoritarian governments, such as the Third Reich, distort or hide the truth from their citizens to force national unity with a singular message. This erases the complex past and present of a nation and prevents its citizens from learning the lessons of the past.

Create an art piece which reflects examples of how this manifested in Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945.

QUESTION #3

Though Jewish people accounted for only a small fraction of the German population, long-standing antisemitism enabled Hitler to blame the Jewish community for Germany's economic struggles and political instability following World War I. This othering of the Jewish community was key to developing the Final Solution. Similar occurrences of blaming and dehumanizing marginalized groups has occurred throughout history and today.

Design an art piece that illustrates the impact of scapegoating and the peril of hatred left unchecked.

HOW DO I DELIVER MY ENTRY?

In addition to the required submission online, all art pieces should be mailed or delivered with an entry form attached during February 9-16, 2026.

The memorial in Römerberg Square commemorates one of the horrifying acts committed under the Third Reich.

Bird Bones / Atlas Obscura User



HOW DO I SUBMIT MY ENTRY?

- Two-dimensional artwork should be matted but not framed, or mounted on a firm support such as foam core or wood, making sure that the piece is rigid.
- Mounted work will be hung with Velcro or bank pins, so work, front and back, must be well attached.
- Charcoal, pencil, or pastel submissions need to be sprayed with a fixative to prevent transfer and smudges.
- Image size, including mat, must be a minimum of 8" x 10" and not exceed 36" x 36".
- Three-dimensional artwork cannot exceed a maximum weight of 40 pounds and total exterior dimensions of 80 inches.
- Sculptures with bases must be attached and supported securely.
- Entrants MUST include a typed artist's statement (not to exceed 150 words).
- You must submit the entry form at: holocaustcommission.jewishva.org/wiesel. Your artist statement and at least two photographs of your work should be uploaded when entering.
- Entries should be submitted to the Holocaust Commission with an entry form in addition to uploaded materials.
- Winning entries in the Visual Arts category will be moved from the judging site to display sites. Please consider the sturdiness of your entry and how well it will travel.
- All entries must be original and created solely for this competition.

JUNIOR & SENIOR DIVISION VISUAL ART COMPETITION ENTRIES ACCEPTED FROM FEBRUARY 9-16.

REWARDS FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

EARN BOOKS OR ART SUPPLIES FOR YOUR CLASSROOM SIMPLY BY SUBMITTING YOUR STUDENTS' WORK!

All teachers who submit at least 20 student entries will receive a classroom set of books (limit one set per teacher) or a \$100 gift certificate for classroom art supplies. For the classroom book set, choose a title from the options listed below, or name another book relating to teaching the Holocaust or its lessons, and your request will be considered. For the art supplies gift certificate, select from among the choices listed below or enter another name for consideration.

If you teach smaller classes, please contact the Holocaust Commission regarding the number of entries needed to qualify. All entries must meet competition guidelines. We will deliver or mail the books or gift certificate to you at your school at the end of the school year.

All submitting teachers may apply for the Esther Goldman and Ruthi Kroskin Excellence in Holocaust Education Awards, by sharing 300-400 words about your experiences teaching the Holocaust in the classroom, or submitting a lesson plan of your creation, and sharing how it has been effective. You could win a cash prize, valuable professional education, and a bus for a student trip to the Virginia Holocaust Museum. See holocaustcommission.jewishva.org/educator-awards for more details

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOKS OPTIONS

1. *Word Smugglers: A Story of Resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto*, Amy McDonald
2. *Black Radishes*, Susan Lynn Meyer
3. *Parallel Journeys*, Eleanor Ayer
4. *Hana's Suitcase*, Karen Levine
5. *The Secret of Gabi's Dresser*, Kathy Kacer
6. *Sevek and The Holocaust: The Boy Who Refused To Die*, Sidney Finkel
7. *Linked*, Gordon Korman
8. *Refugee*, Alan Gratz
9. *March*, John Lewis
10. *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson
11. *Not Nothing*, Gayle Forman

ART SUPPLY OPTIONS

1. Barnes & Noble
2. Michael's
3. Jerry's Artarama
4. Request to receive \$100 gift certificate elsewhere

HIGH SCHOOL BOOK OPTIONS

1. *Night*, Elie Wiesel
2. *I Have Lived A Thousand Years*, Livia Bitton Jackson
3. *In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer*, Irene Gut Opdyke
4. *Train*, Danny M. Cohen
5. *All But My Life*, Gerda Weissmann Klein
6. *The Children of Willesden Lane*, Mona Golabek and Lee Cohen
7. *Games of Deception: The True Story of the First U.S. Olympic Basketball Team at the 1936 Olympics in Hitler's Germany*, Andrew Maraniss
8. *March*, John Lewis
9. *How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child*, Sandra Uwiringiyimana
10. *Dreamland Burning*, Jennifer Latham
11. *Finding Home (Hungary, 1945)*, Dean Cycon

HOW DO I RECEIVE MY REWARDS?

Complete the form at JewishVA.org/EWTeacherRewards to request rewards and/or to apply for Esther Goldman and Ruthi Kroskin Excellence in Holocaust Education Award.

*"We must always take sides.
Neutrality helps the oppressor,
never the victim."*

-ELIE WIESEL

WEBSITE

HolocaustCommission.org

ADDRESS

Reba and Sam Sandler Family Campus
5000 Corporate Woods Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

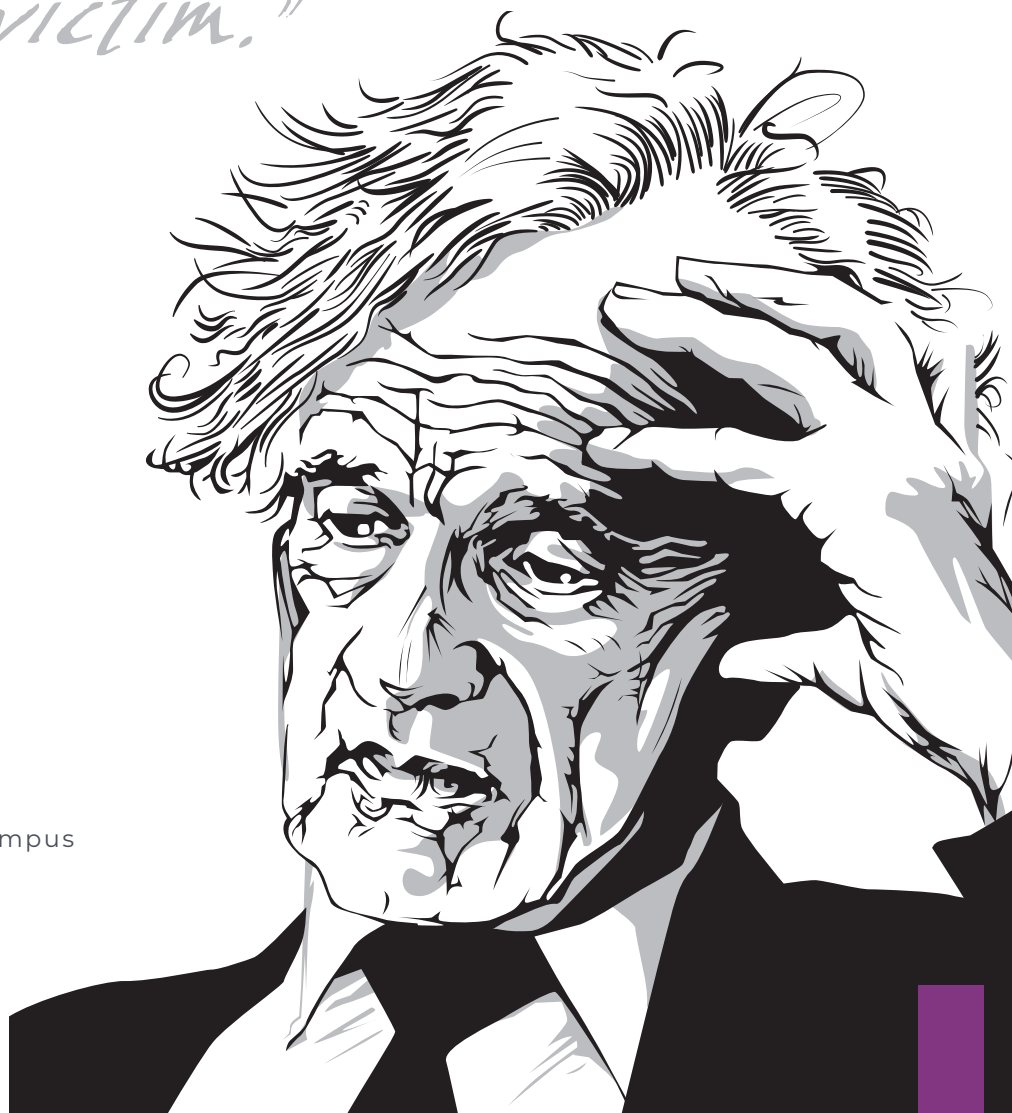
PHONE

757-965-6100

The 2026 Elie Wiesel
Writing & Visual Arts
Competition for students
is sponsored by

THE SIMON FAMILY
FOUNDATION

TOWNE BANK
The Best Bankers. Hometown Banking.



THE HOLOCAUST COMMISSION OF THE UNITED
JEWISH FEDERATION OF TIDEWATER

Additional information can be found at JewishVA.org/Wiesel

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