

2nd place Junior Poetry
Rachael Buchanan
Norfolk Academy, Jennifer Rodgers

Learn to Listen to the Past

Elie said

The opposite of love is not hate

It's indifference

To disregard the horrors

From the Holocaust

To deny all that happened

As if you could change history

Just because you say it is so

Elie said

Peace is our gift to each other

It's not a gift to start a war

Or to commit a crime

Those who survived the Holocaust

Have witnessed unspeakable truths and atrocities

But still, they speak

Some doubt

Rather than believe

They prefer to erase history

Rather than learn from it

We must believe

We must learn the lesson

We must listen

To the testimonies,

The witnesses,

The survivors,

Each memory,

A drop of rain

Dripping into a puddle of history

No, not lost and forgotten,

But rippling the water,

Stirring up the minds of people today