

Teaching and Learning About the Holocaust:

The Capital District Council for the Social Studies and Holocaust Survivors & Friends Education Center invite teachers to this unique opportunity to be a part of a presentation by Steven Hess, a Holocaust survivor, and develop lessons related to the Holocaust.

BEYOND CONSTANT FEAR with Twin Holocaust Survivor Steven Hess

Thursday, March 19, 2020 | 4:00 – 7:00 PM

5-year-old Steven Hess
and twin sister, Marion



Steven Hess and his twin, Marion, were born in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1938 to German Jewish parents who had fled Nazi Germany in 1936. After the Nazi occupation of Holland, the family was eventually sent first to the Dutch Transit Camp of Westerbork and then deported to the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, the camp where Anne Frank died. As the war was ending, his family survived two weeks on the infamous “Lost Transport,” a cattle train with two thousand sick and starving Jews destined for extermination. About 750 of them did not survive the journey.

Freed by the Russian army, the family was one of a handful to have survived intact. Of the approximately 110,000 Jews from Holland sent to Nazi camps and killing centers, fewer than 5% returned. Mr. Hess and his twin sister are also among the very few children younger than 15 to survive any concentration camp, and—some 75 years later—no doubt one of the very last still living, camp twins of the very few that had survived.



Mr. Hess has taught and lectured widely on the Holocaust. He holds a B.A. from Columbia and served four years as a U.S. Naval Officer. Mr. Hess spent his career principally in the photographic equipment manufacturing business. He resides in Rochester, New York.

Shelly Shapiro, Director, Holocaust Survivors & Friends Education Center, will work with teachers on lesson development and sharing.

© Michael J. Lutch: Marion Ein Lewin and Steven Hess hold a professional photograph of themselves, dressed in traditional Dutch costumes, from about a year before they were deported to the Westerbork and Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camps.

LOCATION: Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York, Community Services Building
184 Washington Avenue Ext., Albany, NY 12203 / Phone (518) 783-7800

DATE & TIME: Thursday, March 19, 2020 | 4:00 – 7:00 PM

NOTE: There is no fee, but registration is required. Please register by Thursday, March 12.

A light supper, including a vegetarian choice, will be provided. A Certificate of Participation will be issued. For more information and to register, please contact Diane Freer at the Holocaust Education Center, (518) 694-9984 or email survivors@crisny.org, or contact Mary Miller at Capital District Council for the Social Studies, theliaisoneditor@gmail.com.

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