



Ideas for Entries and Potential Sources for Through Their Eyes: A Holocaust Art and Writing Contest

So, you are interested in entering the contest. Now what?

First, identify your strengths. To pick a category to compete in, ask yourself these questions.

Are you a writer? If yes, then write poetry or prose (think of it as a cross between an essay and a speech).

Are you an artist? If yes, create something that uses one of these or fits one of these art types:

pencil, pen, chalk, watercolor, oil paint, digital, sculpture, textile, pottery, jewelry, wood, metal, etc.

Are you a filmmaker? If yes, make a film.

Now either decide who to focus on or do some research to find someone who you connect with. Remember these are your basic topics:

- Holocaust victims (Jewish and non-Jewish and who died or survived)
- Resisters (people who were not in the military who resisted)
- Rescuers (Righteous Among Nations)
- Liberators (people who liberated concentration and death camps, etc.)

If you feel connected with a particular group or person, research that topic. If you are not sure who you want to do your project on, here are some links.

- Holocaust victims:
 - Personal histories:
<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/gallery/the-aftermath-of-the-holocaust-personal-histories>
 - Oral histories:
https://collections.ushmm.org/search/?f%5Brecord_type_facet%5D%5B%5D=Oral+History
 - Survivor reflections and stories:
<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies/writing-workshop>

- Echoes of Memory
<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies/echoes-of-memory>
- Eyewitness to History
<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies/eyewitness-to-history>
- Behind Every Name A Story
<https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies/behind-every-name-a-story>
- ID cards
<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/landing/en/id-cards>
- Survivor testimonies <https://www.yadvashem.org/holocaust/video-testimonies.html>
- Resisters:
 - Resistance fighters
<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/search?query=resistance+fighters&languages%5B%5D=>
 - Resistance
<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/search?perPage=10&query=resistance&languages%5B%5D=>
 - What Is a Jewish Partisan? <https://www.jewishpartisans.org/what-is-a-jewish-partisan>
 - Bielski Partisans
<https://www.jewishpartisans.org/bielski-partisans>
 - Jewish Women in the Partisans
<https://www.jewishpartisans.org/content/jewish-women-partisans>
 - Survival in the Forest <https://www.jewishpartisans.org/content/survival-in-the-forest>
 - The Holocaust: Resistance
<https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/resistance-to-the-holocaust>
 - Female Leadership During the Holocaust
https://libraryguides.mdc.edu/Female_Leadership_during_the_Holocaust/Female_Resistance_Fighters
- Righteous Among Nations:
 - Righteous
<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/search?perPage=10&query=righteous&languages%5B%5D=>
 - Featured stories
<https://www.yadvashem.org/righteous/stories.html>
 - Names of Righteous by Country (pick a country, find a name, research the name)
<https://www.yadvashem.org/righteous/statistics.html>
- Liberators:
 - Liberators
<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/search?perPage=10&query=liberators&languages%5B%5D=>
 - Liberating units
<https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/tags/en/tag/liberating-units>

- World War II Veterans and Liberators
<https://sfi.usc.edu/playlist/world-war-ii-veterans-and-liberators>
- Texas Liberator Project
<https://app.texasliberators.org/builds/24/>
- Liberators
<https://www.nationalww2museum.org/search?keys=liberators>
- Liberators
<https://www.armyheritage.org/soldier-stories/liberators/>
- Liberators
<https://holocaustcenter.jfcs.org/stories-exhibits/oral-histories/>
<https://holocaustcenter.jfcs.org/oral-histories/liberators-2/>

There are many museums and organizations, etc.that are great sources. Here are some museum sites you might want to visit:

- The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: www.ushmm.org
- Yad Vashem: <https://www.yadvashem.org/>
- The Illinois Holocaust Museum: <https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/>
- The Simon Wiesenthal Center: <https://www.wiesenthal.com/>
- Holocaust Center for Humanity:
https://holocaustcenterseattle.org/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwqL-3BhDnARIsAL6KZ6-woCp_s9TrQxdSilu1H6YIFgDiFovbP_NGRBoyfhDzXBABsqadOIBcaAqUpEALw_wcB
- Remember.org: <https://remember.org/>
- Facing History and Ourselves:
<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/survivors-witnesses-video-testimony>

Here are some video testimony resource sites:

- Chapman University:
<https://www.chapman.edu/research/institutes-and-centers/holocaust-education/holocaust-art-and-writing-contest/testimonies.aspx>
- The 1939 Society: <https://www.the1939society.org/projects/?survivor>
- USC Shoah Foundation: <https://www.youtube.com/user/USCSHoahFoundation>

Now work on your piece. I recommend:

- Be sure you follow the contest directions
- Know the difference between the poetry and prose categories
- Understand the difference between “researched” and “non-researched” entries
- Write a great “Creator’s Statement”
- Be historically accurate
- Make sure you use facts - don’t fictionalize
- Meet the submission deadline
- Submit your source with your project
- Contact hec@cujf.org if you have questions