

Holocaust Education Center

Fellow Educators,

The Holocaust Education Center of the Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation, is pleased to announce a series of workshops designed to enhance the knowledge of area teachers in the teaching of the Holocaust and other 20th Century Genocides. Because of your previous interest in the teaching of the Holocaust and interaction with the Holocaust Education Center or a member of the HEC, you have been identified and selected to participate in this opportunity.

The objectives of these workshops are three-fold:

- 1) To enhance or introduce area teachers to content knowledge and materials in an effort to better prepare them for the development of a curriculum, unit plan, or specific lesson plans on the teaching of Holocaust and Genocide as described within the Illinois State mandate for the teaching of Holocaust and Genocide. This includes the following genocides (close to chronological order): the Armenian Genocide (1915-1916), the Holodomor (starvation campaign of the Kulaks in the Soviet Union 1930's), the Japanese genocide of the Chinese (1930s), the Holocaust (1933-1945), Cambodian Genocide (1970s), Guatemala/Central America (1970s/1980s), Bosnia (1990s), Rwanda (1990s), Sudan (2000s), Myanmar (2010s). Not all of these genocides will be covered but informational resources will be provided on most of them.
- 2) To develop a program in which teachers can serve as sources of information to other teachers, in other words, to mentor others in addressing the teaching of the Holocaust and genocide. The nature and specifics of this mentoring will be discussed and outlined further at the time of the August session.
- 3) To participate in the development of a library/collection of lesson plans both in the area of social studies and language arts to be collected on the HEC's website as models for other area teachers to use.

The tentative format of the program is as follows (dates and format to be determined - in-person or virtual - dependent on ISBE guidelines and current COVID-19 situation):

August: A 6-7-hour virtual conference session conducted via Zoom in which participants will be introduced to materials and information on teaching the Holocaust

and other examples of genocides. There will be several guest speakers, professors and educators in this area that will provide information. (Currently planning with the ROE to provide a workable date and physical space for delivery of Zoom sessions.

October: A 3-hour after school/early evening Zoom workshop to serve as a continuation of information from the August conference based on feedback of participants. (This exact date is still being decided.)

January: A 3-hour after school/early Zoom evening workshop in which participants present/share their lesson or curriculum ideas for inclusion on the HEC's website. (This exact date is still being decided.)

Expectations/Requirements of Participants

Participants will be expected to: a) "attend" all three sessions; b) develop an individual unit or set of learning activities to be used in the classroom at their grade level, share this project with other participants, and post on the CUJF website for us by others; c) agree to serve as a mentor for others in their building or district who desire guided assistance in terms of teaching these topics. In exchange, participants will earn **professional development hours PLUS a stipend** following each workshop (August - \$100, Oct/Jan - \$50 for each), for a total of \$200

Please let the Holocaust Education Center know by Friday, July 17th if you are interested in participating in this program.

Respectfully,

Brian B. Kahn

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