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## 8th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Contest Awards, March 9

**ORANGE, Calif.** Students from more than 60 Southern California high schools and middle schools will visit Chapman University for the 8th Annual Holocaust Art and Writing Awards Ceremony at 11 a.m. Friday, March 9 in the university's Memorial Hall. The students from public, private and parochial schools throughout Orange, Los Angeles, Riverside and San Diego counties submitted essays, poems and artworks to the contest, which were judged by a panel of Holocaust survivors, local businesspeople, professionals, organization leaders and Chapman faculty and students. This year's theme is *Voices from Yesterday, Letters for Tomorrow*. The award winners will be announced at the ceremony. A number of Orange County mayors and other public officials are expected to attend the event.

For the first time in the award ceremonies history, the event's National Honorary Judge is Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, the Holocaust survivor, bestselling author and international human rights advocate, who dedicated Chapman University's Sala and Aron Samuelli Holocaust Memorial Library in April 2005. We are deeply honored that Professor Wiesel, who receives so many requests, has agreed to be an honorary judge, said Dr. Marilyn Harran, Stern Chair in Holocaust Education and director of Chapman's Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education. The letter he wrote the participating students, a copy of which each student will receive, is absolutely beautiful and makes explicit the link between those who experienced the Holocaust and those who will be their witnesses to the future. As Professor Wiesel wrote, *My faith in the future is inspired by young people like you.*

Guest speakers at the awards ceremony will be Leon Weinstein, 96, who fought in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and is today a retired businessman, and Felicia Haberfeld, 95, a retired librarian and a founding member of The 1939 Club, a Los Angeles-based Holocaust survivor organization. Both Mr. Weinstein and Mrs. Haberfeld exemplify the ideals of courage, integrity and humanity, said Dr. Harran.

Following the ceremony, students will have the opportunity to meet with the more than 50 Holocaust survivors who will be in attendance. For the eighth consecutive year, Publications International has donated copies of the hardcover book *The Holocaust Chronicle*, which will be given to each student participant.

A high point of the day is when students meet with the survivors and have them sign their books, said Dr. Harran. There are not many occasions when so many Holocaust survivors are together in one place and able to meet with nearly 200 school representatives one on one. Most of the survivors are now elderly, and therefore an event like this takes on even greater meaning. It's an important day for the survivors, as they pass along their knowledge and experiences to the next generation, and for the students, who have the opportunity to be inspired by the living witnesses to the history they have been studying.

Chapman's Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education presents the contest and award ceremony in partnership with The 1939 Club (a Los Angeles-based Holocaust survivor organization), The Samueli Foundation, Dana and Yossie Hollander, the Orange County Department of Education and the Catholic Schools, Diocese of Orange. The Anti-Defamation League of Orange County/Long Beach and Facing History and Ourselves are also supporters of the contest.

For more information, the public can call (714) 628-7377 or visit [chapman.edu/holocausteducation](http://chapman.edu/holocausteducation).

EDITORS: Attached is a list of the schools participating in this years Holocaust Art and Writing Contest.

Brea Junior High School Brea  
Canyon Hills High School Anaheim Hills  
Corona del Mar High School Newport Beach  
Crescent Intermediate School Anaheim  
Downey High School Downey  
El Toro High School Lake Forest  
Fairmont Private School Santa Ana  
Fulton Middle School Fountain Valley  
Harbor Day School Corona del Mar  
Holy Family Cathedral School Orange  
Katella High School Anaheim  
Kraemer Middle School Placentia  
Ladera Vista Junior High School Fullerton  
Lakeside Middle School Irvine  
MacArthur Fundamental Intermediate School Santa Ana  
Mater Dei High School Santa Ana  
McPherson Magnet School Orange  
Oak Middle School Los Alamitos  
Oasis High School Fallbrook  
Orange High School Orange  
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School San Clemente  
Our Lady of Guadalupe School La Habra  
Polaris High School Anaheim  
Portola Middle School Orange  
Prince of Peace Lutheran School Anaheim  
Ralston Intermediate School Moreno Valley  
Rancho Verde High School Moreno Valley  
Rosary High School Fullerton  
Saddleback Valley Christian High School San Juan Capistrano  
Saint Francis of Assisi School Yorba Linda  
Samuel Talbert Middle School Huntington Beach  
Santa Margarita Catholic High School Rancho Santa Margarita  
Santa Monica High School Santa Monica  
Schweitzer School Anaheim

Serra Catholic School Rancho Santa Margarita  
Serrano Intermediate School Lake Forest  
Servite High School Anaheim  
Shorecliffs Middle School San Clemente  
South Lake Middle School Irvine  
St. Angela Merici School Brea  
St. Anne School Laguna Niguel  
St. Barbara School Santa Ana  
St. Cecilia School Tustin  
St. Columban School Garden Grove  
St. Francis of Assisi School Vista  
St. John's Episcopal School Rancho Santa Margarita  
St. Joseph School Placentia  
St. Paul's Lutheran School Garden Grove  
Stacey/Clegg Middle School Huntington Beach  
Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School Irvine  
Tesoro High School Los Flores  
Thurston Middle School Laguna Beach  
Trabuco Hills High School Mission Viejo  
Trinity Lutheran Christian School Anaheim Hills  
Troy High School Fullerton  
Tuffree Middle School Placentia  
Upland High School Upland  
Valencia High School Placentia  
Villa Park High School Villa Park  
Vista View Middle School Fountain Valley  
Woodbridge High School Irvine