



The Holocaust Center, Boston North Inc.
 Peabody Institute Library
 82 Main Street
 Peabody, MA 01960

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**The Holocaust Center
 Boston North Inc.**
For the study of The Holocaust, Genocides, and Human Rights
 Peabody Institute Library's Center for the Study of Human Rights
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 holocaustctrbn@yahoo.com (978) 531-8288 www.holocaustcenterbn.org

Fall/Winter

N E W S L E T T E R

2011 - 2012

The Holocaust Center Keeps Sonia's Dream Alive

Sonia Schreiber Weitz was a poet, author, and spokesperson for her generation who put a face on Holocaust history. A remarkable woman who became a role model for the generations after, she was beloved by everyone who had the privilege of hearing her share the personal account of her teenage years during the Holocaust. Her mission was to encourage others to apply the lessons of the past to the present. Sonia had a vision of how our world should be...

"I dream of a world without victims and victimizers, and even more, without bystanders."

Fulfilling this dream has been one of the main goals of The Holocaust Center. It is an overwhelming task and we count our successes one at a time. Judge for yourself from recent accolades...

"The work of The Holocaust Center is more important now than ever. It must remain a strong voice and faithful beacon to those who would seek to defame others, to deny, distort or radically revise history. With the passing of our precious survivors, we must ensure that their personal testimonies never become just history."

"From the speakers last night, my students gained insights into internalized racism as well as the obvious societal scape-goating. They were able to openly discuss the parallels of the baseness of human behavior towards innocents and most importantly, how it must change. Thank you for challenging us all and for making sure that we all understand and do not forget."

"The Evening with Two Survivors of Genocide last night extended education beyond the classroom and into reality. My students' ability to connect the survivors' stories of brutality to their own lives was most evident. Hopefully, we will all participate in change."

"We stand today in our generation when no one must believe that somehow evil hearts have been purged out of existence or that we are now somehow shielded from their re-emergence. The fact is that unless we listen and learn from those who experienced the past evil and watchfully guard against them, we will repeat them in our own generation. You are doing a great job."

"I believe that partnering Holocaust survivors is the *most important thing in the preservation* of our history."

"I am in awe of the work you have done at the Holocaust Center for the past 32 years. I feel honored and privileged to become part of the Holocaust Legacy Partners project."

"I want to thank you for the video "Present Memories" that you sent me, gratis, to show my 6th grade religious school class and for the advice you gave me on materials to use in teaching the Holocaust unit. Yesterday we watched the DVD that had quite an impact on the students. The DVD will be the educational centerpiece of this unit. We will keep it in our library for future classes to use."

"You made me realize that I could stop discrimination by not telling racist jokes."

"You inspired me to work harder at not judging people."

"If you allow a wrong to go unanswered long enough, it could very well become the norm."

"I will try to never be a by-stander."

(The HCBN invites students in grades 7-12 to apply for the Sonia Schreiber Weitz Upstander Award. See page 3 for details)

The Goals of The Holocaust Center, Boston North are:

To reduce hatred, prejudice, ignorance
 and indifference through education.

To prevent future tragedies
 through the universal lessons of this period.

**AS LONG AS ANY PEOPLE ARE DEPRIVED OF
 THEIR DIGNITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS,
 NO ONE CAN BE FREE.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Holocaust Center, Boston North, Inc. is a beneficiary of the Friends of the Holocaust Center, The Jewish Federation of the NS Inc., and the Trustees of the Peabody Institute Library.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY RENEWED YOUR 2011 – 2012 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FROM JULY 1—JUNE 30,
 PLEASE CONSIDER INCREASING YOUR DONATION OR DISREGARD THE ENCLOSED REMITTANCE ENVELOPE.

Newsletter Edited by Harriet Tarnor Wacks

Thank you for your Support.

We must remember the past, to understand the present, so that there will be a future.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Memorial Fund: The Marcel Finder Memorial Fund has been established. It will be used for the annual community commemoration of the Holocaust and to perpetuate the personal memories of Holocaust survivors.

Present Memories, Six Survivors of the Holocaust: Due to a generous donation, The Holocaust Center is distributing this 55 minute DVD at no charge to educators and organizations. To receive a copy, please call The Holocaust Center.

All-Occasion Cards: To send a card in honor of a special occasion, as a memorial, or to purchase cards in packages of ten, please call the Center. Thank you to **Audrey Weinstein**.

For the future: The Holocaust Center continues to record ½ hour DVDs of area Holocaust Survivors. Future generations can bring them into the classroom to retell the personal histories. Survivors interested in recording their testimonies, please call the Center.

The HCBN web site continues to grow with the help of our web master, **Sumner Feinstein**. Included among the many highlights are sections on survivors with short videos of testimonies, our gallery of student art, and links to other web sites. www.holocaustcenterbn.org

Wish List: The Holocaust Center is in need of a volunteer to assist with media technology and a volunteer to help with our web site.

Special Thanks: **The City of Peabody, The Trustees of the Peabody Institute Library & Martha Holden** for our wonderful home, **the Jewish Federation of the North Shore**, and **The HCBN members**.

HCBN: During the course of the past year, programming has been provided for the following: Amesbury MS, BC, Brandeis U, Champlain HS VT, Coolidge MS Reading, Danvers MS, East Boston HS, Eastern Nazarene C, Endicott C, Evans Assisted Living, Everett HS, Fellowship Christian Acad, Georgetown HS, HamiltonWenham MS, HigginsMS, Hudson HS, Ipswich MS, Kemwood Book Club, Joseph P. Keefe Technical HS, Framingham, Lynnfield HS, Lowell Catholic HS, Malden Catholic HS, Malden HS, Marblehead Rotary, Merrimac Educ. Collab, Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, NashobaValley Tech HS, N S Hebrew School, NECC, NSCC, Peabody HS, Peabody Rotary, Pentucket HS, Proctor Acad. NH, River S, Roslindale Cong. Church, Salem HS, SSU, Shore Country Day, Somersworth HS NH, St. Albans Church VA, St. John's Prep, Scottsdale, AZ, Stonehill C, Swampscott MS, Temple B'Nai Abraham, Wakefield HS, Weil Law Firm, Wilmington HS

Book of Remembrance: A copy is available for display at area churches, temples, and other public buildings. This book contains Holocaust survivors' testimonies beautifully created in calligraphy. A gift of \$1,500 or more will sponsor a page with a personal inscription. Please call The Holocaust Center.

Payment by Credit Card: To support the HCBN using a credit card, please go to our web site www.holocaustcenterbn.org

Sonia Weitz Memorials: A tree has been planted by the City of Peabody at the Peabody Institute Library outside the Children's Room entrance. The Holocaust Center has purchased and installed a bench at Brooksby Farm. Dedication of both memorials will take place this spring.



Human Rights Awareness Program Claude Kaitare(Rwanda),
Marika Barnett (The Holocaust), Franco Majok(Lost Boys of Sudan)



Yom HaShoah Generations Ceremony

It is estimated that in the course of a school year, The Holocaust Center's Programming reaches upwards of 50,000 people directly and countless others through the media.

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS AN INNOCENT BYSTANDER.

SAVE THE DATES....

An Evening with Two Survivors of Genocide
Stephen Lewy, Holocaust Survivor and Liberator
And Genocide Survivor (TBA)
Monday, March 12, 2011 (snow date March 19) 6:30–8:00 P.M.
Temple Ner Tamid, Lowell St., Peabody, MA
Students in grades 7-12 are encouraged to attend with their parents.
Open to the public at no charge.

Reservations suggested. Please call 978-531-8288 or email: holocaustctrbn@yahoo.com
Sponsored by The Holocaust Center, Boston North Inc.
Hosted by Temple Ner Tamid and The Men's Club

YOM HASHOAH

Interfaith Commemoration of the Holocaust

Monday, **April 23, 2012**, 7 P.M.

Peabody Veterans Memorial High School, 483 Lowell Street, Peabody
Presentation of the Sonia Schreiber Weitz **Upstander Award**
Presentation of The Holocaust Center Service Award to **Margot Stern Strom**

Keynote Presentation

The Challenge of Memory

MARGOT STERN STROM

President and Executive Director, Facing History

Survivors and Generations Candle-lighting Ceremony

26th Yankee Division Posting of the Colors

The Gordon College Women's Choir

Interfaith Memorial Service

Event Chaired by **Mary Kiley** and **Sandy Weitz**.

For further information, please call the Center.

Temples, churches, colleges etc. are invited to co-sponsor this evening.

To place a greeting in the Yom HaShoah Commemorative Book, please call The HCBN.

Sonia Schreiber Weitz Upstander Award

The Holocaust Center, Boston North is now accepting applications for the Sonia Schreiber Weitz Upstander Award. Two students in grades 7 – 12 will be recognized at the awards' ceremony at Yom HaShoah, the Interfaith Commemoration of the Holocaust on April 23, 2012 at Peabody Veterans Memorial High.

The award is named for Holocaust survivor, Sonia Schreiber Weitz, who passed away on June 23, 2010. Sonia was a poet, author, and spokesperson for her generation who put a face on Holocaust history. A remarkable woman who became a role model for the generations after, she was beloved by everyone who had the privilege of hearing her retell about her years during the Holocaust. Her mission was to encourage others to apply the lessons of the past to the present.

"I dream of a world without victims and victimizers, and even more, without bystanders."

The award recipients must emulate Sonia's commitment to making our world a better place by demonstrating that they are not bystanders but upstanders who have taken **action** on behalf of another against prejudice, hatred, or indifference. There are unlimited opportunities to be an upstander. Two examples of an upstander include but are not limited to an individual who has helped someone being bullied or has stopped untrue or harmful messages from spreading.

March 1, 2012 application deadline. Students are requested to email their completed application to The Holocaust Center at holocaustctrbn@yahoo.com or mail to The Holocaust Center, Boston North, 82 Main Street, Peabody, MA 01960. To receive an application go to www.holocaustcenterbn.org or email request to the center holocaustctrbn@yahoo.com