

2019 Holocaust Memorial Service High School Writing Competition

Attention all Northwest Louisiana High School Students!

To remember the lives that were lost during one of humanity's worst periods, our community remembers the Holocaust with an annual memorial service. Through our remembering and active cooperation, we strive to obliterate injustice. Because our future is only as strong as our youth, we are continuing our annual writing competition to encourage students to voice their understandings of the tragedy of the past and their hopes for the future.

SHREVEPORT - BOSSIER HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

MAY 5, 2019

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**BROADMOOR UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH 3715 Youree Drive 71105**

www.HolocaustRemembranceService.org

HIGH SCHOOL PROMPTS

Background for Essays and Creative Prompts

Since 1945, Holocaust survivors and their families continue to search for news of family and friends who might have survived this horrific, tragic event. They are also looking for closure—something that documents the death of their loved ones. Despite the intervening years, a void remains in the lives of the survivors and many never give up the search. In most cases, this is a lengthy and complex procedure—often yielding no results. However, there are documented cases of emotional reunions between siblings, friends, descendant family members, and even between liberator and a concentration camp survivor.

Essay Prompts – Choose One

*Based on research, write an essay describing several ways families attempted to reunite. Include names of organizations and facilities that helped in the searches.

*Based on research, write an essay about a reunion between a liberator and a concentration camp survivor.

Essay Directions

Entries must include facts to support feelings and viewpoint and should be a maximum of 500 words, double-spaced, and in 12- point Arial font. Internal documentation and works cited is required (not included in word count). Submissions must represent the independent work of the student, but teachers may provide grammatical or spelling recommendations. For essay prompt, use internal documentation and place works cited at the end.

Creative Prompts – Choose One

* Based on research, create a story about a family whose members are separated during the Holocaust and try to find each other. Your research will include describing several ways families attempted or succeeded in reuniting. Include dialogue and names of organizations and facilities that helped in the searches.

*Based on research, write a story or a poem about a reunion between a liberator and a concentration camp survivor. Include dialogue.

Creative Writing Directions

Entries must use facts to support feelings and viewpoints, and the story should be between 350 to 500 words, double-spaced, and in 12-point Arial font. The poem may be 250 – 450 words, double-spaced, and in 12-point Arial font. Submissions must represent the independent work of the student, but teachers may provide grammatical or spelling recommendations. Students must include a bibliography at the end. (This is not part of the word count).

Holocaust Related Web Sites

to help with research

www.holocaust-trc.org www.ushmm.org
www.holocaust-history.org www.jfr.org

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Judging

JUDGING CRITERIA - The decision of the judges is final.

1. Originality and creativity
2. Historical accuracy
3. Addresses the contest theme
4. Correct grammar and writing mechanics
5. Acknowledgement of sources within the essay and location of sources at the end of the paper

Contest judges review submissions with no knowledge of the writer's identity, school, or residence. In order to provide anonymous papers for judging, the body of the paper should not contain any information identifying the writer. The entry must be the original work of the student. Judges request that teachers review students' work and submit only entries worthy of being considered for judging. By submitting an entry, you are agreeing to all the judging criteria. The decision of the judges is final.

REQUIRED: Cover Page & Header

Cover Page:

- Student's name and home/cell number
- Student's grade level
- Teacher's name and contact information
- School name or "home schooled"

*NOTE: Do NOT include any cover page information on any other page

Header:

- Include a header on each page (including Cover Page) with only title of entry and page number.

Deadline

Entries must be submitted to either of the following no later than 12:00 noon on March 1:

- Hard copy: North Louisiana Jewish Federation, 245-A Southfield Road, Shreveport, LA 71105
- Electronically:
HolocaustLiteraryCompetition@gmail.com

Prizes

Prizes are awarded at the discretion of the Shoah Remembrance Committee. Some rewards may not be given, depending on the number of entries received and evaluation of merit by a panel of judges.

High School Awards

For Essays and Creative Prompts

1st Place: \$200 Amazon Gift Card

2nd Place: \$100 Amazon Gift Card

3rd Place: \$50 Amazon Gift Card

Literary winners will be expected to attend the Holocaust Memorial Service.

Teacher Awards

- Teachers with students who submit qualifying entries in the writing competition will each receive a **\$25** Amazon gift certificate.
 - Teachers who attend the Holocaust Remembrance Service with at least three of their students will receive an additional **\$25** Amazon gift certificate. (Teachers who attend the service with students need not have students submit entries to receive an award.)
- * In addition to the winning students, contributing students, institutions, and award-winning teachers will be recognized during the Holocaust Remembrance Service.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines, that are submitted late, or come from students outside the Northwest Louisiana area (Caddo, Bossier, Webster, and DeSoto Parishes). Submissions will be retained by the Northwest Louisiana Jewish Federation, who will have the right to reprint winning entries in publications including local media/newspapers or posted online: www.HolocaustRemembranceService.org.