



Dear Educator,

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the *Art and the Holocaust* program! The Institute for Holocaust Education is always looking for new ways to involve students in the study of the Holocaust. In 2014, we believed that through the lens of art, middle school students could approach learning about the Holocaust. We hope that through this project, students are able to make a personal connection with the Holocaust and to move past the incomprehensible number of the murdered and displaced people; and instead see these victims as individual people.

In order to build knowledge of the Holocaust and the role of art during that period of history, participating teachers will need to plan on teaching at least one Holocaust lesson to give context to the project. Lesson plans have been provided by the IHE that you can choose from that best suits the needs of your students. Afterwards, teachers may commence with the visual art portion of the project. Suggested projects are literature-inspired murals, an artifact collage, or a charcoal portrait of a victim of the Holocaust or of someone who has a shared life experience. Upon completion, students will need to prepare a written reflection on the project. The IHE provides curriculum resources for each project and a stipend to be used for art supplies.

Lastly, the *Art and the Holocaust* project culminates each year in an exhibit of art work in the gallery at the Jewish Community Center along with a reception for the artists, their parents, and their teachers.

Thank you again for agreeing to participate in the *Art and the Holocaust* program - we could not do this without you!