INSTITUTE FOR
HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

Dear Teacher,

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the *Tribute to the Rescuers Essay Contest*!

Since 2002, the Institute for Holocaust Education has had an essay contest for high school students in two categories: Grades 9 -10 and Grades 11-12. Our hope is that through the writing process students will come to better understand the importance of **moral courage** in connection to the Holocaust and how they can apply this to their own lives, communities, and even conflicts a world away. Each student can work to make a positive change in the world.

In order to build knowledge of the Holocaust and the role that moral courage had during that period of history, we strongly encourage teachers to reserve time to teach about the Holocaust and the examples of moral courage as seen with the citizens of Denmark, who organized a national effort to send 7,2000 Jews by fishing boats to neutral Sweden while threatened by their Nazi occupiers. Their efforts resulted in the highest Jewish survival rate of any European country during World War II and their moral courage inspired the creation of this program. Lesson plans have been provided by the IHE that you can choose from that best suits the needs of your students.

Lastly, the *Tribute to the Rescuers Essay Contest* culminates each year with an Awards Ceremony at the Jewish Community Center for the essay writer finalists, their parents, and their teachers with 8 prizes valuing up to $3,000. 3 teacher awards and prizes will also be given at this time.

Thank you again for agreeing to participate in the *Tribute to the Rescuers Essay Contest* - we could not do this without you!

333 South 132nd Street ● Omaha, NE 68154 ● t (402) 334-6576 ● f (402) 333-5497 ● www.ihene.org ● info@ihene.org