

2002 MAY FAMILY
ART & WRITING
CONTEST
Entries must be postmarked
by March 15, 2002

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United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

2002 MAY FAMILY ART & WRITING CONTEST



Thousands of shoes confiscated from arriving prisoners at the Majdanek concentration camp. USHMM

DURING THE HOLOCAUST the Nazis and their allies carried out not only systematic murder, they also systematically plundered their victims' assets. For example, before victims were gassed at Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Chelmno, Majdanek, and Auschwitz-Birkenau, the SS confiscated all their belongings. First to go were money and other valuables; clothes were next. This mass pillage yielded mountains of clothing. Auschwitz-Birkenau and Majdanek together generated nearly 300,000 pairs of shoes, which were distributed among German settlers in Poland and among the inmates of other concentration camps.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Permanent Exhibition *The Holocaust* tells the story of the Holocaust through the use of artifacts, photographs, films, and eyewitness testimonies. These shoes are an example of the artifacts that help the Museum teach about the history of the Holocaust and illustrate the victims' experiences.

If you were going to teach others about the importance of studying the Holocaust, what would you show or tell them? Use the Museum's Web site for your research. 

2002 MAY FAMILY ART & WRITING CONTEST

Dear Student and Teacher:

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is pleased to announce the 2002 May Family Art and Writing Contest. This year, we ask you to use our Web site (www.ushmm.org) to research the topic of the question. There are many areas on our Web site that can assist you in answering the contest question.

First, you can explore the "For Students" section under "Education." This section of the Web site contains previous contest questions and images of winning entries. There is also a section entitled "The Holocaust: A Learning Site for Students," which contains historical information, photographs, maps, and audio clips of survivor testimony.

After you look in the "For Students" section, take a look at the online exhibitions under "History." Some of these are online versions of exhibitions that have been in our Museum, and some were created especially for the Web site. Not only will you find interesting historical information and images of artifacts, but you will also see how the Museum uses artifacts and photographs to teach about the Holocaust.

There are also other areas to browse and gather information that will help you answer the contest question and create your entry. Look in the "Holocaust Learning Center" for more historical information, photographs, and oral histories. Under the "Research" section, you can search the Museum's document and photographic archives, and the "Library" section has an online search tool that allows you to search its holdings.

Contest entries are judged for content, originality, creativity, presentation, and historical accuracy.

Once you gather the needed information and complete your entry, please review the requirements and guidelines for entering the contest below or in the "For Students" section of the Web site. Make sure to include a completed entry form in your package.

Good luck! We look forward to receiving your entry!

Education Division Staff
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum



All photos: USHMM. Top to bottom: A collection of toothbrushes confiscated from Auschwitz prisoners; A pile of Hebrew prayerbooks and other Jewish religious texts damaged by fire at the synagogue in Bobenhausen, during Kristallnacht; A painted butterfly toy with movable parts made secretly by an unknown prisoner in the Theresienstadt ghetto; A collection of cutlery confiscated from prisoners at Auschwitz.

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C O N T E S T G U I D E L I N E S

However you choose to express yourself through art or writing, it is important to remember that an emotional response alone is not an expression of knowledge. Be sure to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of historical events to make your creative expressions more substantive and convincing. You should use the Museum's Web site as a primary resource in researching and preparing your entry. A completed entry form (provided below and on the Museum's Web site) must accompany each entry. All entries must represent your own independent effort.

ELIGIBILITY

All students in middle school and high school may participate. Entries will be disqualified for any of the following reasons:

- Plagiarism
- Incomplete entry form or use of a different form than the one provided (entry forms may be photocopied)
- Entry does not adhere to guidelines as stated for art and writing entries
- Entry is postmarked after the March 15, 2002, deadline

All entries remain the property of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and cannot be returned. By your participation in the contest, you grant the Museum permission to publish the winning entries in brochures, flyers, other Museum publications, and exhibitions. Photo reproductions of the winning entries may also be made available to the news media.

ART ENTRIES

Feel free to choose from the full range of techniques and materials including paint, charcoal, pencil, and photography.

Guidelines

Only two-dimensional, unframed, unmatted works will be accepted (no barbed wire please).

No lined paper or paper torn from spiral notebooks.

No items larger than 24" x 24".

Chalk, charcoal, or pastels must include fixatives.

Do not staple the entry form or any other piece of paper to the artwork.

May submit entries as a JPEG file on computer disk or as a slide.

Include a brief explanation of the piece and how it relates to or answers the contest question.

WRITING ENTRIES

Feel free to choose from the full range of genres including prose, poetry, plays, and short stories.

Guidelines

No lined paper or paper torn from spiral notebooks.

Print or type, and double-space each page.

Print or type on only one side of each page.

Number each page.

Limit of 1,500 words or less.

JUDGING

There are two judging divisions for the contest.

Division I: Middle school

Division II: High school

The judges for this contest include historians, educators, artists, writers, and Holocaust survivors. For both divisions, judges evaluate each entry based on the following categories:

Content

Does the entry attempt to answer the contest question?

Historical Accuracy and Interpretation

Is the entry historically accurate?

Does the entry provide analysis and interpretation rather than a retelling of historical events?

Originality, Creativity, and Presentation

Is the entry organized and well presented?

Is the written material clear, and grammatically correct?

Is the visual material well drawn or constructed?

Does the entry reflect the student's imagination in dealing with the subject matter?

PRIZES

Winners receive a gift certificate from the Museum Shop, a certificate of achievement, and a cash award. Teachers of winners receive a selection of books. Winning schools are eligible for an on-site award ceremony with a member of the Museum's Education Division.

The Museum reserves the right not to award prizes in either division. All entrants receive a certificate of accomplishment.

C O N T E S T E N T R Y F O R M

All entries must be postmarked by March 15, 2002.

Please type or print. Make sure entry form is complete before mailing.

Mail this form with your contest entry to:

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
Attn: May Family Art & Writing Contest
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126

Category (circle one): Art Writing

Division (circle one): Division I: Middle school Division II: High school

Contestant name/grade _____

Title of entry _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip code _____

Phone number _____

Name of school _____

Teacher's name _____

School address _____

City/State/Zip code _____

I have read and understand the rules and regulations of this contest and understand that the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will not return my entry. I certify that the entry submitted is the student's original effort, and all information provided above is correct. I further understand the Museum reserves the right to reproduce, publish, and exhibit any winning entry, at its sole discretion.

Contestant signature

Date

Parent/guardian signature

Date