

# ELIE WIESEL







# CINCINNATI CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND HUMANITY EDUCATION

The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education (CHHE) educates about the Holocaust, remembers its victims and acts on its lessons. Through innovative programs and partnerships, CHHE challenges injustice, inhumanity and prejudice, and fosters understanding, inclusion and engaged citizenship. CHHE's resources and programs include:

Mapping Our Tears – This permanent exhibit is an innovative educational experience that showcases the strength and the courage of the human spirit. A multimedia theatre set in a 1930's European attic takes visitors back in time by sharing the testimonials of survivors, refugees, rescuers and liberators of the Holocaust. The attic is complimented by artifacts and panels that highlight and inform the visitors about different aspects of the Holocaust. The exhibit also houses the Cincinnati Judaica Collection.

**Holocaust Awareness Programs** – "Remembering, informing and transforming" through community programs including lectures, films, performances and exhibits in collaboration with more than 30 area organizations, universities, synagogues and churches.

The Roma and Sam Kaltman Holocaust Studies for Educators – A graduate level course designed to equip educators with the tools and techniques to effectively teach about the Holocaust. The course is co-sponsored by Xavier University. To learn more, turn to page 9.

**Speakers' Bureau** – Holocaust survivors, WWII liberators, Holocaust scholars and Holocaust educators are trained and scheduled by CHHE to speak to schools and community groups.

Out of the Attic – An educational exhibit accompanied by a trained educator that travels to area schools featuring artifact facsimiles and testimonies from eyewitnesses to the Holocaust.

**Resource** Center - A library containing books/journals, DVDs and curriculum resources.

Office Hours – Monday through Thursday 8:30 am–5:00 pm and Friday 8:30 am–4:00 pm.

Exhibit Hours – Monday through Friday 10:00 am–4:00 pm and Sunday 11:00 am–3:00 pm.

To learn more about the initiatives of The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, visit www.holocaustandhumanity.org or call 513-487-3055.

#### Sunday, May 6, 2012

#### Welcome

Father Michael Graham, S.J., President, Xavier University

### **Opening Remarks**

John E. Neyer, President, The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education

#### **Greetings**

Michael R. Oestreicher, President, The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati

#### **Video Presentation:**

The Life and Accomplishments of Professor Elie Wiesel Introduced by Ben Swann, Fox 19

#### **Special Address**

Professor Elie Wiesel, Holocaust Survivor and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate

# **Closing Remarks**

Sarah L. Weiss, Executive Director, The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education

An Evening with

ELIE WIESEL

# PROFESSOR ELIE WIESEL

Nobel Peace Prize winner and Boston University Professor Elie Wiesel has worked on behalf of oppressed people for much of his adult life. His personal experience of the Holocaust has led him to use his talents as an author, teacher and storyteller to defend human rights and peace throughout the world.

Wiesel's work has earned him the United States Congressional Gold Medal; the Medal of Liberty Award; the Presidential Medal of Freedom; the rank of Grand-Croix in the French Legion of Honor; an honorary Knighthood of the British Empire awarded by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and the National Humanities Medal. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter appointed him chairman of the President's Commission on the Holocaust. In 1980, he became founding chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, which created the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Wiesel was born in Sighet, Romania, (Hungary 1940–45). He was fifteen when he and his family were deported to Auschwitz. His mother and younger sister perished there. He and his father were later transported to Buchenwald, where his father died shortly before the camp was liberated in 1945.

After the war, Wiesel studied in Paris and eventually became a journalist in that city, yet he remained silent about his time in the death camps. During an interview with the French writer François Mauriac, he was persuaded to end that silence and wrote his memoir *Night*. Since its publication in 1956 in Yiddish and in 1958 in French, *Night* has been translated into over thirty languages and millions of copies have been sold. Wiesel's more than fifty books have won numerous awards.

An ardent supporter of Israel, Wiesel was also among the first to defend the causes of Soviet Jews, Nicaragua's Miskito Indians, Argentina's "Disappeared," Cambodia's refugees, the Kurds, South African apartheid victims, famine victims in Africa, the prisoners in the former Yugoslavia and most recently the victims of genocide in Darfur. Soon after he received the Nobel Peace Prize, Wiesel and his wife Marion established The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity. Its mission, rooted in the memory of the Holocaust, is to combat indifference, intolerance and injustice through international dialogue and youth-focused programs that promote acceptance, understanding and equality. The Foundation runs multiple programs both domestically and internationally.

Since 1976, Wiesel has been the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University. In 2002, Boston University created The Elie Wiesel Center of Jewish Studies in his honor.

Wiesel has been an American citizen since 1963.

### A Message from Our Presenting Sponsor

The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati is honored to join the Center for Holocaust & Humanity Education, Xavier University and the many other co-sponsors of tonight's program in welcoming Professor Elie Wiesel to our community.

When the Trustees of our Foundation were asked to support this event, we understood that we were being given a unique opportunity to contribute to the sacred work of preserving memory, and to the critical task of transmitting to a new generation the lessons of the Holocaust and how they relate to the genocides still occurring today. There is no greater voice in these efforts than Professor Wiesel's, and it is a credit to the success of this event that over 5,000 of our neighbors, including 2,500 students and teachers from 80 Cincinnati-area schools will hear his message.

We are proud to partner with the Center for Holocaust & Humanity Education and Xavier University. Both have provided exemplary leadership in our community. CHHE has educated, inspired and touched the lives of tens of thousands through its mission to promote tolerance, inclusion and social justice based on lessons from the Holocaust. Xavier University has incorporated Holocaust and humanity education into its work, offering courses on Holocaust and genocide, contributing time and resources to the CHHE board, and developing the internationally recognized "Blessings" exhibit, a portion of which describes the contributions Pope John Paul II made to Holocaust memory.

As The Jewish Foundation continues to invest in the future of our community, we re-dedicate ourselves to the enduring commitment to "Never Forget," and we offer our hope that tonight's event will serve as a link in an unbroken conversation between the survivors of the *Shoah* and the generations that learn from them and will continue their work.

With sincere thanks,

Michael R. Oestreicher, President



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"An Evening With Elie Wiesel" has been made possible through the generous support of the following organizations and individuals.

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Jewish Family Service

Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Rockdale Temple

The Strive Partnership, KnowledgeWorks

Temple Sholom

University of Cincinnati – Judaic Studies Department

Valley Temple

We are grateful for the following schools and organizations in attendance this evening:

Anne Strauss Religious School Arlington Heights Academy Ashland High School

Beechwood Independent Schools

**Bethany School** Boone County High School

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Cincinnati Boys Hope Girls Hope of Cincinnati

**Brookwood Elementary School** Campbell County High School Cardinal Pacelli

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Indianapolis Cincinnati Christian Schools Cincinnati Country Day School Cincinnati Hebrew Day School

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Norwood Middle School Norwood High School Notre Dame Academy Pendleton County High School

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St. Joseph School

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Xavier University Jewish Student Union As of April 23, 2012

# THE GARY AND LORETTA RABINER FUND: TOURS FOR TOLERANCE PROGRAM

The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education is deeply appreciative of the generous perpetual gift from the Gary and Loretta Rabiner family establishing the unique "Tours for Tolerance" program. By providing grants to assist with the cost of transportation, the "Tours for Tolerance" program ensures that each year thousands of students from the greater Cincinnati area experience the powerful stories and lessons in the permanent exhibit *Mapping Our Tears*. The program helps students in the greater Cincinnati area recognize the urgent lessons of the Holocaust including inclusion, social justice and understanding.

For more information on tour scholarships provided by The Gary and Loretta Rabiner Fund, contact The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education at 513-487-3055 or visit www.holocaustandhumanity.org

# THE ROMA AND SAM KALTMAN HOLOCAUST STUDIES FOR EDUCATORS JUNE 18, 2012 - JUNE 22, 2012, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Join us for this graduate-level course created by CHHE in partnership with Xavier University. The course provides various teaching strategies to equip educators with the tools and resources to effectively teach the Holocaust and its lessons. Featuring scholars from around the Cincinnati area, as well as from Indiana University, Northwestern University and The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, it will explore such topics as resistance, the Holocaust experiences of Jewish as well as non-Jewish victims and the creation of the term "Genocide"

### The course also offers:

- 34 contact hours
- Optional graduate credit from Xavier University
- The complete curriculum, Echoes and Reflections (\$100 value)
- · Additional free resources to take back to your classroom

Spaces are still available!

For more information, contact The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education at 513-487-3055 or on the web at www.holocaustandhumanity.org

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education wishes to thank the following individuals and organizations for their extraordinary efforts to make this event possible:

We are grateful for the generous support and beautiful graphic design provided by Photonics Graphics.

We are grateful for the generosity and partnership of Xavier University. In particular, we wish to thank Father Michael Graham for his unwavering support to this project and all other endeavors of The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education. We also express our gratitude to the incredible employees of Xavier University and the Cintas Center.

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# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

The following questions may serve as a guide to help you reflect further on tonight's program.

- What statement, story or thought shared by Professor Wiesel most resonated with you and why?
- Is there anything that you want to learn more about after hearing Professor Wiesel's presentation?
- How do you think Professor Wiesel's experiences during the Holocaust impact him today?
- How will you share Professor Wiesel's messages with others?
- How can we take Professor Wiesel's message today and become an advocate for all people?

We welcome you to share your thoughts on our Facebook page, listed as Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education.

#### STUDENT CONTEST

We invite student attendees to continue Professor Wiesel's message of respect and responsibility by participating in our "Never to be Silent: Student Reflections on 'An Evening with Elie Wiesel.'"

Whether through visual arts or poetry and prose, we ask students to explore the impact and significance of Professor Wiesel's experiences and reflect on how they connect to today. Students can submit their entries to The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education by May 30, 2012. A first place winner and runner-up will be selected in each of the two categories, and will also be recognized at CHHE's annual meeting in September. For more information, please contact The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education.

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John E. Neyer, President • Sarah L. Weiss, Executive Director

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An Evening with

# ELIE WIESEL

Sunday, May 6, 2012, 7:00 p.m. Cintas Center at Xavier University 1624 Herald Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45207-7510



# An Evening with

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Sunday, May 6, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the Cintas Center at Xavier University.

Holocaust survivor, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and author of *Night*, Professor Wiesel has worked on behalf of oppressed people for much of his adult life. His personal experience of the Holocaust has led him to use his talents as an author, teacher and storyteller to defend human rights and peace throughout the world.

Tickets: General Admission - \$20; Preferred Seating - \$35-\$50

Tickets go on sale March 1 at www.holocaustandhumanity.org through Ticketmaster. Student tickets are available, please contact our office for more information.

> www.holocaustandhumanity.org info@holocaustandhumanity.org 513.487.3055

Professor Wiesel's visit is made possible through a generous grant by The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati.







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