

SPOKANE COMMUNITY OBSERVANCE OF THE HOLOCAUST 2018 ART and CREATIVE WRITING CONTESTS

“HATE SPEECH: A PRELUDE TO GENOCIDE”

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



Graffiti on the House of a Refugee Family in Spokane, WA

The Holocaust was the most extensive premeditated genocide in recorded history. Adolf Hitler and the German Nazi Party came to power in 1933. They cultivated long standing fear and hatred for non-Aryans to rally the people of Germany to go to war with the rest of Europe. They also waged a “war within a war” to rid the world of people they deemed unsuitable for life, including Roma, Jehovah’s Witnesses, homosexuals, people with disabilities and particularly Jews. When WWII ended in 1945 the Nazis and their collaborators had exterminated 11 million people, including 6 million Jews: two-thirds of the Jewish population of Europe. The Nazis skillfully used **hate speech** and propaganda in words and images to exclude, then eliminate, their victims from German and European society. The end result was the Holocaust.

Today in America, hate speech is on the rise once again; directed against Jews, Muslims, immigrants, people of color, and others. The American Constitution defends the rights of people to express all manner of political views. We call that “freedom of speech” and even hateful speech is protected by the law under most circumstances.

**Learn more on our Facebook page:
Never Again Spokane
or ask your English, Social Studies, Art Teachers or
your High School College Counselor
for information about entering the Contests**

**First, Second and Third place winners of both contests will be honored at the
Spokane Community Observance of the Holocaust on Sunday evening, April 15, 2018,
at Temple Beth Shalom on Spokane’s South Hill.**

Contest Winners will receive the following scholarship awards:

1st Place High School Division: \$400.

1st Place Middle School Division: \$250.

2nd Place High School Division: \$250.

2nd Place Middle School Division: \$150.

3rd Place High School Division: \$100.

3rd Place Middle School Division: \$75.