

# 2024

## Jakob and Sala Kryszek Art & Writing Competition

OREGON JEWISH MUSEUM AND  
CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION



Miriam Greenstein, 10 years old [left], and later in life [right], photos courtesy of OJMCHÉ

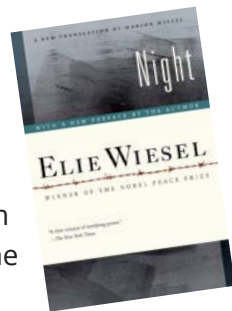
### Submission Date: April 26, 2024



Elie Wiesel (1928-2016) was born in the town of Sighet, a region now part of Romania. During the Second World War, Wiesel, along with his family and other Jews from Sighet, were deported to concentration and death camps. His parents and younger sister perished in the camps. Wiesel was among those at

Buchenwald concentration camp to be liberated by Allied troops in 1945. It was only after the war that Wiesel learned that his two older sisters, Beatrice and Hilda, had also survived the Holocaust.

In 1958, Wiesel published his first book, *Night*, a memoir of his experiences during the Holocaust. In his lifetime, Wiesel published more than 30 books and numerous articles. His life work of writing, teaching, and speaking out against racism and injustice challenges us to think about what the world has learned since the Holocaust.



***“Hope is a gift, an offering, that only we human beings can give to one another.”***

— Elie Wiesel, Wagner College Commencement Address, 2012

## PROMPT

**Despite evidence of continuing racism, war, and antisemitism since the Holocaust, Elie Wiesel encouraged his readers to take a stand against hatred.** He believed hope could be the force to make a brighter future. The hope that we give to one another, shared freely and purposefully, is essential if we are to stop racism, war, and antisemitism. Wiesel calls on us to believe that peace and justice for all depend upon the hope we give to one another.

After considering a literary text (memoir, fictional story, or biography) or work of visual art about a Holocaust survivor or victim, write or create a literary or artistic response that expresses your hope of a world where every person has the opportunity to live with dignity, equality, and justice. For example, you could create a literary or visual response to one of the texts below, representing the story from a new perspective or elaborating on an under-developed perspective. Or you could read one of the texts below as a springboard for a question you explore in a new artistic/literary work. Or you could respond to a passage, image, quote, dialogue, or form of symbolism you encounter in one of the works listed below. The possibilities for your artistic/literary response are endless. The list below is intended to inspire rather than limit your thinking. The key requirement of the competition is that whatever you submit should respond to something you’ve read and studied and should express your vision of hope that every person should live with dignity, equality, and justice.

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### Recommended Readings

- Marianne Buchwalter, *Memories of a Childhood in Berlin*
- Lucille Eichengreen, *From Ashes to Life: My Memories of the Holocaust*
- Dr. Edith Eva Eger, *Choice: Embrace the Possible*
- Anne Frank, *The Diary of a Young Girl*
- Victor E. Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning*
- Miriam Greenstein, *In the Shadow of Death*
- Antonio Iturbe, *The Librarian of Auschwitz*
- Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz*
- Heather Morris, *The Tattooist Artist of Auschwitz*
- R. J. Palacio, *White Bird*
- Art Spiegelman, *Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History*
- Elie Wiesel, *Night*
- Markus Zusak, *The Book Thief*
- Alice Kern, *Tapestry of Hope*
- Eline Hoekstra, *Wishing Upon a Star*
- Morris Gleitzman, *Once*
- Alan Gratz, *Refugee*



PHOTOS, top to bottom:

- Alice Kerns with friends, date unknown
- Alice Kerns
- Painting of Eline Hoekstra in 1935 at age 12
- Eline Hoekstra

*all photos courtesy of OJMCHÉ*