2007 – 2009 FJMC Torch Awards Entry Document

Zachrenu - Remember Us

Category: FJMC Program – Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Remembrance Program

Temple Sinai Men's Club #551 Dresher, PA

Part I – Identification Information

Submission Identifier Code: TA09-054

Full Title for Entry: Zachrenu - Remember Us

Entry Category: FJMC Program – Yom HaShoah Yellow

Candle Remembrance Program

Contact Persons to be listed on Torch Award CD: George Marcus-Past President

Email address to be listed on Torch Award CD: <u>mensclub@tsinai.com</u>

Club number & Club name: #551 Temple Sinai Men's Club

Number of club members: 131

Synagogue name, city, and state: <u>Temple Sinai, Dresher, PA</u>
Club President Name (at time of entry): <u>Paul Bratt</u>
Club President Name (at time of convention): <u>Paul Bratt</u>

Person preparing entry: George Marcus

Email address of person preparing entry: gmarcus1943@comcast.net

Date of entry submission: March 29, 2009

Part II – Summary Information

Realizing that the voices of the Survivors of the Holocaust soon will no longer be heard, the Men's Club helped produce and distribute a DVD and curriculum featuring pre-B'nai Mitzvah students interviewing three Survivors and one Liberator. This DVD is a tool to teach the lessons of the Holocaust to students.

The DVD will be given to celebrants on the day of their B'nai Mitzvah and we will also provide the DVD at no cost to any schools (public and parochial) or religious institutions so they can benefit from this teaching tool. If other Men's Clubs or synagogues wish it for mass distribution, it is available at a modest cost.

The challenge is for other Men's Clubs and Synagogues to hear and record the voices of their Survivors, so they will be remembered.

Part III - Self Assessment of Entry

- 1. Explain presentation and documentation completeness
 This document will summarize the process of having students learn about the Holocaust and formulate their own questions for Survivors during a recorded interview. The final DVD fully demonstrates how well this process worked.
- 2. Achievements of program goals, publicity, marketing, and advanced planning
 The goal was the recording of a DVD entitled Zachrenu Remember Us,
 which was produced by Men's Club members in conjunction with The Temple
 Sinai Holocaust Education Committee and the Jewish Federation of
 Philadelphia-Bux Mont Kehillah. The project has been publicized in the
 Jewish press and the local press, as well as our Men's Club and Synagogue
 web sites. It took 9 months of planning.
- 3. How does the program enhance the image of FJMC, region and/or your club
 This is a ground breaking project, as pre-B'nai Mitzvah students had not
 previously been used as interviewers. It enhances the image of the FJMC
 and has shown the initiative of the club. Our DVD will be distributed to
 schools (public and parochial) and religious institutions around the country
 to increase Holocaust awareness.
- 4. Include information so other clubs can use this program
 Viewing the DVD should enable other clubs to understand the process of first educating the students and then interviewing Holocaust Survivors. If making their own DVD is not possible, just including this DVD in their Holocaust programming will help other clubs.
- 5. What is the program's value in club building number of named members participating vs. club size and synagogue size

 The Club's participation in this project has shown the initiative of the club and brought several new members. Twelve to fifteen members (of the 131 club members) participated. Congregation size is about 500 families.
- 6. Identification of source of program or practice and description of unique aspects.

 Help us understand where it came from.

 The photo on the FJMC Yellow Candles shows youngsters departing a concentration camp and emphasizes the importance of teaching our youth the lessons of the Holocaust and of remembering the six Million. This program not only teaches our youth, but through their questioning, teaches us.
- 7. Identification of this program as an adaption of previous Torch Award entry or other program. Awards will be given for implementations that are particularly effective.

 The original sources of the programs will be most pleased to know that their efforts have borne fruit.

TA09-054 – Entry Document for Temple Sinai Men's Club, Dresher, Pennsylvania 2007 – 2009 Federation of Jewish Men's Club Torch Award

While this program is not an adaptation of an existing Torch Award, it certainly is a supplemental program for the *Yom HaShoah* – Yellow Candle Remembrance Program.

Part IV - Entry Document

Realizing that the voices of the Survivors of the Holocaust soon will no longer be heard, the Men's Club helped produce and distribute a DVD and curriculum featuring pre B'nai Mitzvah students interviewing three Holocaust Survivors and one Liberator.

This nine month project began with a Holocaust curriculum in our Religious School where B'nai Mitzvah students read several books on the Holocaust. They studied and wrote a timeline of the Second World War from the Nuremberg Laws to the war's conclusion and then formulated questions to ask synagogue members who were Holocaust Survivors.

This ground breaking approach for using pre-B'nai Mitzvah students as interviewers, makes it easier to teach the lessons of the Holocaust to students. The resulting record of these discussions, the DVD entitled Zachrenu - Remember Us, covers the gamut of their studies and questions, and facilitates teaching the Holocaust to others, even by those not familiar with the subject.

Produced by Men's Club members, in conjunction with The Temple Sinai Holocaust Education Committee and The Jewish Federation of Philadelphia-Bux Mont Kehillah, the Club is also active in the funding of the curriculum and distribution costs of the DVD. At Temple Sinai, the DVD will be given to celebrants on the day of their B'nai Mitzvah. We will also provide the DVD at no cost to any schools (public and parochial) or religious institutions, so they can benefit from this teaching tool. If other Men's Clubs or synagogues wish it for mass distribution, it is available at a modest cost.

The goal of this DVD is to teach and to challenge other Men's Clubs and Synagogues to emulate this concept in their congregation - to hear and record the voices of their Survivors, so they will be remembered.

TEMPLE SINAI

Yom HaShoah Service and Premiere of "Zochreimu" Oral History DVD



Sunday, May 4, 2008 29 Nisan 5768 כט ניסן תשס"ח 10:00 a.m.

The Star-Spangled Banner- Please stand

-Francis Scott Key, 1514

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Introduction - Rabbi Adam Wohlberg

Partisans Hymn- Together

Zog nit keynmol az du geyst dem letztn veg, Ven himlen bla-yene farshteln bloye teg, Veyl kumen vet noch undzer oisgebenkte sho, S'vet a poyk ton undzer trot: mir zeynen do!

Never say that you now go on your last way, Though darkened skies may now conceal the blue of day; Because the hour for which we've hungered is so near, Beneath our feet the earth shall thunder, "We are here!"

From the land of palm-trees to the far off-land of snow We shall be coming with our torment, with our woe; And everywhere our blood has sunk into the earth Shall our bravery, our vigor blossom forth.

Fun grinem palmen land biz veytn land fun shney, Mir zeynen do mit undzer peyn, mit undzer vey, Un vu gefaln s'iz a shprots fun undzer blut: Vet noch a shprots ton undzer gvure, undzer mut.

Yiddish Text by Hirsch Glick

CANDLELIGHTING

In memory of the helpless infants, children, and teenagers who were cut down like young trees before their time...before they had a chance to experience life.

We shall not forget!

In memory of all the mothers and fathers who were cruelly separated From their families.

We shall not forget!

In memory of all the scholars, teachers, and rabbis who were first to be seized.

We shall not forget!

In memory of all the "Heroes of Resistance" who fought the Nazi's -So few against the many.

We shall not forget!

In memory of all the martyrs who gave their lives to help their Brothers under Nazis.

We shall not forget!

IN UNISON

They are lit. Six lights. One for each million slain innocents.

Today candles burn. Yesterday it was people. Yesterday it was ideas. Yesterday it was a way of life. Today candles burn testifying to the fact that we are here. The Jews live in spite of what the world inflicts upon us. The Jews live because we care. We are part of the heritage. When we strike the match to kindle these candles, we testify to the determination of our people to live. We believe in God, in humankind, in ourselves, and we bless these candles affirming this belief for all to see and hear.

6 Million!

6 Million!

6 Million innocent men, women, and children murdered because they were being who they were!

6 Million regular people living their lives in a way that was not liked by other people!

6 Million!

6 Million!

6 Million times mankind failed to realize who Jewish

people are!

6 Million lives that could not be saved from the ruthless and selfless ones who took their lives with out second-guessing or thinking of anything but power!

6 Million!

6 Million!

6 Million is a strong number can never be strong enough to live or replace lives gone!

6 Million souls wasted away with no last words but HELP!

6 Million!

By: Jessica Bren- 7th Grade Temple Sinai Religious School Student

"Zochreinu"

Soon the Holocaust will be only a page in a history book, as time takes its toll on the eyewitnesses who endured that period. As one student attested, "we will be the last generation to speak to the survivors".

With this in mind, The Holocaust Education Committee of Temple Sinai has produced a DVD featuring ten students interviewing three Holocaust survivors and a liberator of the Mathausen Death Camp. This DVD will be a valuable teaching tool. It will be presented to our students on their B'nai Mitzvah and made available to schools in the area, both public and parochial.

As far as is known, this is the first oral history in which young students are used as the interviewers. Because of this, the National Holocaust Museum of Israel [Yad Vashem] as well as the United States Holocaust Museum has expressed an interest in receiving copies of the DVD, which is professionally produced by Marc Zumoff of Dresher, a member of Temple Sinai and the voice of the Philadelphia 76ers.

The survivors are Franklin Lewinson of Blue Bell, Edith Milner of Dresher and Anneliese Nossbaum of Jenkintown. The liberator is Irving Fischer of Cheltenham.

The interviewers are Cory Borgman, Adam Chernow, Jonathan Ginsberg, Daniel Kodroff and Adam Rosenwasser, all from Dresher; Hannah Hampton of Ambler; Aliza Glatter of Fort Washington; Jennifer Sher of Warminster; Tommer Ben Joseph of Doylestown; and Jacob Fischer of Blue Bell.

Rabbi Adam Wohlberg and Cantor Stephen Freedman appear in the DVD as well, offering reflections and prayers on the Holocaust experience.

"Zochreim" is directed by local filmmaker Greg Farnese. George Marcus, Chair of Temple Sinai's Holocaust Education Committee, served as Executive Producer for the production.