

Holocaust Education and Programming Center

WAGNER COLLEGE

Spring 2016 Calendar of Events

January 28, 2016, 6pm, Manzulli Board Room, Foundation Hall

Erasing Jewish Vienna: The 1943 Gustav Klimt Retrospective

Laura Morowitz, Professor of Art History

International Holocaust Remembrance Day-71st Anniversary Auschwitz Liberation
Dr. Laura Morowitz, Professor of Art History at Wagner College, is currently writing a book examining art in Jewish Vienna in relation to cultural erasure. Last year she taught a course on Nazi Art and Aesthetics at Wagner College. She served as researcher for a novel on Adele Bloch Bauer painting by Klimt, *Woman in Gold*, to be published by Atria (Simon and Schuster) in 2016.

*Light kosher dinner. Free. Please call for reservation 718-390-3253.

Sunday, January 31, 2016, 3-5pm, Manzulli Board Room, Foundation Hall

Holocaust Remembrance Readings. Co-hosted by Theater Major Jazmine Minner and Prof. Lori Weintrob, with SIOutLoud. Featuring Wagner's Hillel President and Theater Major Adam Goldenberg in the play *Dr. Korczak and the Children* (excerpt). Staten Island OutLOUD presents a special afternoon of readings and conversation. *Kosher falafel and cookies served.

February 24th, 4:30, Spiro Hall 2

WWII Veteran William Morris Jr.: Eyewitness to D-Day

From Omaha Beach to confrontations with the German Military, William Morris assisted in the Allied defeat of the Nazis, even as he experienced racism. These experiences were recently published in a children's book by Dolores Morris, his daughter, *The Dog That Wagged her Tail: A Black Veteran's Story World War II*. Both father and daughter will answer questions about these experiences. William Morris Jr. was awarded the Albert V. Maniscalco Community Service Award from Borough President James Oddo for his military service in WWII, leadership at the Port Richmond Food Pantry and education of youth. Morris attended Wagner College briefly. Co-sponsored by the History Department.

March 21, 6:30pm, Manzulli Board Room, Foundation Hall

The Perpetual Search for Justice: Lessons of the Holocaust

Martin Mendelsohn is counsel to the Simon Wiesenthal Center, one of the largest international human rights organizations, with a focus on fighting anti-Semitism. He has assisted German and U.S. prosecutors in Nazi War Crime trials for more than 40 years. He served as the first director of litigation for the U.S. Office of Special Investigations in the Department of Justice (1977-80) as well as in prominent

Washington DC law firms. In 2009, Mendelsohn represented the Sobibor survivors in the trial in Germany of John Demjanjuk, found guilty as an accessory to the murder of over 27,000 Jews. He is co-author of a book *The Last Nazi: Joseph Schwammberger and the Nazi Past* about the 1993 trial of the Nazi Camp Commander extradited from Argentina. He is a graduate of Brooklyn College and George Washington Law School.

March 29, 2:40-4:10, Manzulli, Foundation Hall

Reporting on Evil: Hannah Arendt's *Eichman in Jerusalem*

Anne Heller, author, *Hannah Arendt: A Life in Dark Times* (New Harvest, 2015)

Anne Heller delves into the life of one of the most insightful and controversial female Jewish writers of the 20th century. Hannah Arendt's *Eichman in Jerusalem: the Banality of Evil* were based in part on her notes for *The New Yorker* at his trial in Jerusalem in 1961. Arendt depicted this Nazi not as a monster but as ordinary bureaucrat responsible for millions of deaths of Jews. Heller traces her Jewish identity from an assimilated German family to the literary circles of New York.

April 15, 12:30-2:30, Room TBA

Readings of play *Shayna Maidel* by Tandy Cronyn

May 1 6pm, B'nai Jeshurun, 275 Martling Avenue

Staten Island Yom Ha-Shoah Event Honoring the Righteous Gentiles

May 2 Date/Time TBA

Holocaust Remembrance Theater Reading

Linked to the National Jewish Theater Foundation International Initiative

May 6, 12:30-2:30

Theater and the Holocaust: Student Presentations

May 11, **Chai Society Mitzvah Dinner**

May 20, Wagner College Graduation.

Honorary Degree to Romi Cohn, partisan in Slovakia during the Holocaust.

For more information on programs, to make a reservation, to schedule an interview with a survivor or make a donation, please call

Dr. Lori Weintrob, Director, 718-390-3309 (office)/646-345-4507 (cell)

Special Thanks to our Chai Board:

Victor and Kim Avis and Robin Lefkowitz, Co-Chairs

Ken Byalin, Dennis Bloomfield, Aletta Diamond, Stephen Greenwald, Marcia and Monroe Klein '50, Manny Saks, Cory Schifter, Damian Slattery, Marjorie Steinberg '89, Linda Steinman, Philip Straniere '69, Frank Weile, Orly Wiseman, Rabbi Abraham Unger, Aleksandra Zagorin