



Holocaust survivor Hannah Steiner speaks with Ruth Kupperberg and Bethany Friedman after the Wagner College performance of “In Light of One Another.”
Photos by Shira Stoll, for Staten Island Advance

Holocaust survivors see their stories come to life

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Holocaust survivors watched their lives unfold during an original Wagner College performance Sunday afternoon.

Twelve students learned and performed testimonies from six Staten Island survivors originally from Germany, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania in the play, “In Light of One Another: A Meditation on Resistance Drawn from the Testimony of Survivors.”

Margot Capell, Romi Cohn, Rachel Roth, and Hannah Steiner attended Sunday’s 3 p.m. performance.

Egon J. Salmon and Gabi Held were unable to attend. Salmon said he would attend at a later date and Held is currently in Florida for the winter.

“These six individuals, who were only teenagers in World War II, are such role models for how to stand up,” said Lori Weintrob, professor at the college, co-writer of “In Light of One Another” and director of the school’s Holocaust Center.

The survivors were moved by the performance and embraced the students after hearing the stories.

“It’s very important for the new generation. They have to know ... they have to feel what we felt,” survivor Rachel Roth said.

Theresa McCarthy, director of “In Light of



Holocaust survivor Rachel Roth tears up after the Wagner College performance of “In Light of One Another.”

One Another,” said the college student-actors were the best people to work on this project.

“They just really want to honor these survivors,” McCarthy said.

Weintrob thanked the Leonard B. Kahn Foundation for making the play possible. It awarded a \$50,000 grant to the Wagner College Holocaust Center to expand impact on Jewish communities in New Jersey.

In addition to Sunday’s performance at the Stage One Theatre, students performed the play March 15-17.

Other performances will be at the Congregation B’nai Israel in Basking Ridge, New Jersey on April 8 at 10 a.m. and at the Congregation Anshe Emeth in Highland Park, New Jersey on April 29 at 1 p.m.

Anyone interested in attending may do so by contacting Director Lori Weintrob at lweintr@wagner.edu or by phone at 718-390-3309.