Dear Friends of the Alliance,

To every thing there is a season and at this time I am filled with gratitude to those who have been able to attend the lectures and events and to financially support Holocaust and Genocide education. The participation of members of the community and local students during the annual series at Sonoma State continues to exceed our expectations. And I am grateful to the resiliency reflected in our community as we have coped with recovery from fire, the shattering impact of the shootings in Pittsburgh, and growing intolerance in our world.

It was another exceptional year for the Alliance due to the energy and commitment of our Board members: Myrna Goodman, the Director of the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide; and Diane Parness’ leadership as the Academic Coordinator of the Lecture Series. Please see their reports, as well as Arline Thomas’ on the work of our Education Committee that scheduled presentations at local middle and high schools, as well as religious and service organizations. We especially encourage Holocaust and genocide survivors and their descendants to consider assisting us in educating local students about the impact of intolerance.

We were saddened by the deaths of two local Holocaust survivors in 2018: Susy Rafal and Isak Zaidlin, both of whom will be remembered at the annual Sylvia G. Sucher Memorial Lecture on April 2nd.

This year we are planning a special event to honor local Holocaust and genocide survivors and their descendants. Do save the date for this event which includes a special showing of the Holocaust documentary film Big Sonia at Sonoma State on March 10th.

Members of the Board hosted a special event in conjunction with Hans Angress’ retirement from the Board after many years of service. They also tabled at each of the lectures in the 2018 series and the Community-Wide and Congregation Shomrei Torah Yom Hashoah commemorations. We also supported local events marking the 103rd Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the commemoration of the 1994 Genocide of the Tutsis in Rwanda, Kwekuba 24. We participated in events sponsored by our sister organizations: the Armenians of the North Bay, the Rwandan Community of California (TRCC), and the Friends of Rwanda Association (FORA). We were able to support both the JCC Jewish Film Series and the Fifth International Genocide Conference held at Sacramento State University. I also had the great honor of coordinating a panel at that conference on Genocide Denial and Its Consequences with Maral Attallah (Humboldt State University) speaking about the Armenian Genocide, Kenneth N. Stern (Director of the Bard Center for the Study of Hate) speaking about the Holocaust and Anti-Semitism, and Gatsinzi Basaninyenzi (Alabama A&M University) speaking about the Genocide Against the Tutsis in Rwanda.

Genocide in Our Time: It Can Happen Here, the theme of the Spring 2019 semester lecture series, will bring a number of new and returning speakers and topics. Much gratitude goes to Diane Parness for coordinating what we know will be an outstanding series and to Ivan Barta, Miriam Susan Dregéy, Pearl & David S. Furman, Myrna Goodman, Dennis Judd, Her Excellency Mathilde Mukanatabana, Chiaya Rawlin, Carol & Ralph Swanson, Arline Thomas, and Carl Van Dyke who are underwriting lectures in the upcoming series.

We hope that you will be able to support the Alliance and allow us to bring speakers to the series who can expand our understanding of the Holocaust and genocide and educate the next generations of students and future educators. We look forward to seeing many new and familiar faces in the coming months. If you can, do attend one (or more) of the lectures and join us afterwards for a no-host dinner with our guest speaker, the faculty, and Alliance Board members. Those interested in training as speakers in the schools, being included in our mailings to Holocaust and genocide survivors and their descendants or receiving information about the lectures and special events should forward their name and e-mail address to alliance@sonoma.edu and like our Facebook page at the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide.

May 2019 bring healing, understanding and support for all whose lives have been affected by prejudice and intolerance.

With deepest gratitude,

Barbara Lesch McCaffry, Ph.D.
Emerita Professor,
Hutchins School of Liberal Studies,
Sonoma State University
President, Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide

Barbara Lesch McCaffry
Alliance President

Alliance Mission Statement

Our Mission
Honor the experience and preserve the memory of the innocent victims, survivors, and rescuers impacted by the tragedy of genocide.
Support Holocaust and genocide education in conjunction with the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide at Sonoma State University.

Our Work
Attract, collaborate, and coordinate with scholars, survivors, and experts.
Outreach to our community, schools, and survivor groups.
Seek funding and support methods to preserve memory.

Our Vision
Inspire a “never again” moral stance that focuses on our common humanity.
Promote personal action and proactive prevention awareness of the causes of intolerance, genocide, and denial.
This past year has been challenging for organizations supporting Holocaust education and those that diligently hope to stem the increasing tide of anti-Semitism and racial hatred worldwide. The Center was active this year as we joined with over 100 centers and international organizations publicly urging Mark Zuckerberg and Facebook to change their policies of allowing Holocaust denial and anti-Semitic postings to appear freely in Facebook’s newsfeeds. As of this date, it appears the initiative has had some effect.

In light of the news that anti-Semitic attacks have increased dramatically worldwide over the last year and the recent horrible tragedy in Pittsburgh, our mission to use education in the service of preventing prejudice is more urgent than ever.

The 2019 Holocaust and Genocide Lecture Series schedule is the strongest we have ever planned. Professor Parness has arranged a powerful line-up for this year. Our thanks to her for her continuing excellent stewardship of the Series as we approach our 36th year.

Immeasurable thanks as well to the Alliance Board of Directors for their diligence and hard work in supporting the Lecture Series. The efforts of the Education Committee have been increasingly influential in bringing the lived experiences of Holocaust and Genocide survivors and their families to the students in Sonoma County. The Alliance continues to be a powerful influence in the important work of Holocaust and Genocide education in Sonoma County.

As always, we hope you can attend our lectures and we look forward to seeing you this coming semester.

Myrna Goodman, Ph.D.  
Emerita Professor of Sociology  
Sonoma State University  
Director, Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide

In January 2018, the Alliance Education Committee continued its tradition of sending a letter to the principals of all Sonoma County public and private middle and high schools. Our intent was to familiarize them with the resources available to teachers: the lecture series schedule, access to video archives of prior lectures through YouTube, and opportunities to arrange for presentations in their classrooms and assemblies by Holocaust and Genocide survivors and their descendants.

The Alliance Education Committee was extremely successful in 2017-2018 in coordinating speakers for classrooms presentations, as well as for the Sebastopol Sunrise Rotary, the Rohnert Park Chamber of Commerce, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and the North Bay Chapter of Hadassah. We supported 28 classroom presentations that reached 2,095 students and adults and 70 teachers. These presentations are an integral part of “Our Work: outreach to our community, schools and survivor groups.” We also work collaboratively with Jewish Family and Children’s Services Holocaust Center in San Francisco in responding to speaker bureau requests they receive from schools in Sonoma County. Our speakers are a group of Holocaust survivors, Holocaust descendants, and a third generation Armenian Genocide descendant. They provide a very personal account of the impact of intolerance. “They remember so we don’t forget.”

The Alliance Education Committee currently has eleven speakers. We launched two new speakers this spring: Gloria Tausk Glickman and Deborah Rothenberg, both of whom are Holocaust descendants. In addition, two more Holocaust descendants are crafting their biographies with the assistance of a student intern.

The students continued to express the message of how deeply touched they were by the stories and what a life changing experience it was for them to hear them. They write thank you letters, donate money to the Alliance, and even gave gifts of flowers, candy and plants.

The Alliance Education Committee continues to have a positive and lasting impact with regard to “countering acts of intolerance in Sonoma County.”

For more information about the Education Committee or to request a speaker, please contact alliance@sonoma.edu or call the Alliance Education Chair Arline Thomas at 707-235-9403.

Arline Thomas  
Retired teacher,  
Rohnert Park/Cotati Unified School District and Chair, Alliance Education Committee
It is part of the mission of this lecture series to keep understanding and awareness of the Holocaust and other genocides alive and on the radar of the next generation. We make a concerted effort to bring young scholars and different perspectives to our audience. We accomplished this for our 35th series and I am confident we will succeed again in 2019.

Our 2018 lineup included provocative analyses by Dr. Alexis Herr on the Italian Police During the Holocaust, Maral Attallah on the Armenian Genocide, Prof. Benjamin Madley on the American Genocide, Prof. Ziv Rubinovitz on Rescuers and Survivors in the Israeli Context, and Prof. Evgeny Finkel on The Holocaust, Historical Legacies, and Local Politics.

We were fortunate to welcome back to SSU such distinguished scholars as Prof. James Waller on Becoming Evil and Prof. Carol Rittner on Gender and Genocide. Our case studies featured Her Excellency Mathilde Mukanantabana, Simon Mudahogora, and Ndahiro Bazimya on Rwanda, Prof. Sergio La Porta on the Armenian Genocide, Dr. Lucia Roncalli on the Cambodian Genocide, and Prof. Kerry Whigham on the politicide in Argentina.

In 2019 we will welcome to SSU some very prominent speakers in the field of genocide studies. Prof. Christopher Browning, author of Ordinary Men, will be one of our first speakers in the series. He will be followed by Prof. Raz Segal, whose topic is Making Hungary Great Again: State Building, Mass Violence, and the Ironies of Global Holocaust Memory. Prof. Peter Hayes will speak on the topic of his recent book: Why? Explaining the Holocaust. Prof. Mehnaz Afridi will talk about Islamophobia and Antisemitism: Differences, Parallels, and Challenges. Prof. Alex Alvarez will return to speak to us about Refugees, Climate Change, and Conflict.

Of special note is the exciting documentary our good friend Christyne Davidian has worked to bring us: Crows of the Desert – A Hero’s Journey Through the Armenian Genocide. Our case study presentations will include Irfan Mirza on the Bosnian genocide, Dr. Alexis Herr on Sudan, and Ambassador Mukanantabana, Simon Mudahogora and Ndahiro Bazimya will speak to us again of their experience with the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. We also look forward to a distinguished panel of local descendants and scholars talking about their personal experiences as members of The Second Generation.

We are very grateful to SSU’s own faculty for the contributions they make to our series. 2019 will include presentations by Prof. Stephen Bittner on The Holocaust and Historical Context, Prof. Myrna Goodman on The Concept of Genocide, and Prof. David McCuan providing his expertise on the Syrian genocide.

I am very pleased that we are able to offer a roster of distinguished speakers that serves the goals of our lecture series so well. Our theme for 2019 is Genocide In Our Time: It Can Happen Here. I hope you will be able to come often and join our important discussion.

Dr. Diane L. Parness, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Political Science
Academic Coordinator, Holocaust and Genocide Lecture Series
Sonoma State University
2019 Holocaust and Genocide Commemorations and Events

Congregation Shomrei Torah (CST) will host its annual Yom Hashoah Holocaust Memorial Observance on Wednesday, May 1st, the eve of the Day of Remembrance, at 6:15 p.m. at 2600 Bennett Valley Road in Santa Rosa. The annual Candle Lighting service will include Jewish survivors and children of survivors, lighters for the Roma, Gays & Lesbians, Disabled, Righteous Gentiles, and Political Prisoners; and other lighters representing Native America, Armenia, Cambodia, Darfur, and Rwanda genocide victims. Cantorial soloist Erica Wisner and the CST Choir will perform musical interludes. Rabbis George Gittelman and Stephanie Kramer will officiate. Following the program there will be refreshments. For more information, contact CST at 707-578-5519.

The Annual County-wide Yom Hashoah Commemoration will be held at the Friedman Center, 4676 Mayette Avenue in Santa Rosa on Sunday, May 5th, 2–4 p.m. The theme will be Lidor V’Dor: From Generation to Generation with Elizabeth Rosner as the keynote speaker (author of Survivor Café and a Holocaust descendant). A hidden child Rena Victor, her daughter Susan Victor, and her grandson Micah Victor Lesch will also be speaking. For more information, please see http://www.jccsoco.org and click on the link for “Special Events,” or contact the Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County at 707-528-4222.

2019 is the 25th anniversary of the Genocide against the Tutsi. The Rwandan Community of Northern California (TRCC) and Friends of Rwanda (FORA) will observe Kwibuka 25 on April 13th at multiple events and venues in Northern California to allow participation by many. For additional information contact: Vianney Mugabo: 916-202-2718 or Yehoyada Mbangukira: 925-628-9895.

April 24th marks the 104th Annual World-Wide Commemoration of the Armenian Genocide. The SF Bay Area Armenian Genocide Commemoration Committee coordinates Bay Area events that will be listed at: www.sfbayecalendar.com. The SF Bay Area Armenian National Committee also coordinates events that will be listed at: www.ancsf.org.

Information on the 2019 Lecture Series can be found at:
PLEASE SAVE THE DATE
March 10, 2019 for a showing of the
Holocaust documentary film *Big Sonia* on the Sonoma State campus.
Co-sponsored by the Alliance, the Center for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, and SSU's Jewish Studies Program

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In Memorium

*Holocaust Survivors:*

Susy Raful and Isak Zaidlin

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Giving to the Alliance

*Your kind gift to the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide can be submitted using the enclosed envelope. Please designate the fund to which you wish to make your gift:*

- **E0022: Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund:** Created in memory of Paul V. Benko, an SSU faculty member and founding member of the Alliance. Supports the Annual Lecture Series.

- **C0119: Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide Annual SSU Lecture Series Fund:** Supports the Annual Lecture Series, Holocaust and genocide education in local schools, and the Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture.

- **C0286: Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund:** Supports Armenian Genocide education in the Annual Lecture Series.

- **C0409: Holocaust and Genocide Program Documentary Fund:** Supports the production of a documentary about Holocaust and genocide programs at SSU including the Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Grove and the Anne Frank Tree.

- **C0410: Rwanda Student Education and Travel Fund:** Created in collaboration with the Friends of Rwanda Association (FORA). Supports the education of SSU students regarding the Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda and/or travel to work and teach in FORA vocational schools with Genocide survivors in Rwanda.

- **E0396: Adele Zygielbaum Endowment Fund:** Created in memory of Adele Zygielbaum, a Holocaust survivor. Supports Holocaust and genocide education including the Annual Lecture series.

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You can also donate on-line

- go to: [https://www.sonoma.edu/development/](https://www.sonoma.edu/development/)
- click on the green button on the left side of the screen for “Give Online”
- click on “Schools, Departments & Programs”
- click on “School of Social Sciences”

To donate to the **Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust Annual SSU Lecture Series Fund (C0119)** please select the button for The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust. To donate to all other funds, please select the button for “Other” and indicate the name of the fund and its associated fund number in the designated box. You can also include information here if you would like us to send someone an acknowledgement of your gift. Questions can be directed to the Alliance at: alliance@sonoma.edu.
We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the following donors who make it possible to continue the work of the founders of the Alliance:

**Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust Lecture Series Fund (C0119):**
- Anonymous
- Eric Angress (in honor of Hans Angress)
- Hans Angress & Enola Nelson (in memory of Ernst Angress)
- Todd W. Cereghino (in memory of Lillian Judd and Hillel Seidman)
- Joyce Tipton & William G. Cox
- Diane Dorfman
- Samuel Friend
- Gloria Tausk & Donald S. Glickman (in memory of Henry & Ann Tausk)
- Nancy R. Harris (in support of the Robert L. Harris Memorial Lecture)
- Madelyn R. Hodges (in honor of Hans Angress)
- Jewish Community Federation’s Holocaust Memorial/Education Fund
- Kirpal S. & Kirpal K. Khalsa (in memory of Sylvia G. Sucher)
- Margo & Charlie Klipp
- Elaine Leeder
- Her Excellency Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana (to underwrite a lecture in memory of Alexandre Kimenyi)
- Joel Neuberg
- Mary & Adrian Pratzellis (in memory of George Triest)
- Chiaya Rawlins (to underwrite a lecture in memory of Alexandre Kimenyi)
- Rita Rothman
- Daniel W. Shay (in memory of Robert L. Harris)
- Sarah J. Clark & John F. Thomas
- Arline F. Thomas (in honor of Louis & Suzanne Roberts)

**Armenian Genocide Memorial Lecture Fund (C0286):**
- Anonymous
- Hans Angress & Enola Nelson
- Todd W. Cereghino (in honor of the Armenian Rescuers in Paris 1940-44)
- Christyne A. Davidian
- Larissa Goliti
- Medtronic Volunteer Grant (for Christyne A. Davidian)
- Medtronic-Your Cause, LLC
- Rosemary Matossian (in memory of Misak & Mariam Pilibosian)
- Carl Van Dyke (to underwrite the showing of *Crows of the Desert* in the 2019 Lecture Series in memory of his grandmother Elmas Apkarian Sarajian Boyajian)

**The SSU Rwanda Student Education and Travel Fund (C0410):**
- Todd W. Cereghino (in honor of FORA, Friends of Rwanda Association)

**Paul V. Benko Holocaust Education Endowment Fund (E0022):**
- Ivan Barta (to underwrite a lecture on the Holocaust and Hungary in the 2019 Lecture Series)
- Shelley Bauer (in memory of Ann & Walter Weinstock, Holocaust survivors)
- Joann S. Berman (in honor of Rabbi Meredith Cahn)
- Miriam Susan Dregéy & Sharon Moxley (to underwrite a lecture on the Holocaust and Hungary in the 2019 Lecture Series)
- Linda Emblen (in memory of her mother, Ann Van Mourik Cory)
- Pearl & David S. Furman (to underwrite a lecture by Peter Hayes in memory of Ruth & Murray Mruvka and Gussie & Edward Furman in the 2019 Lecture Series)
- Myrna L. Goodman (in honor of Hans Angress and in memory of Joe Brumbaugh)
- Evelyn Gurevitch
- Marsha Jacobs
- Dennis Judd (to underwrite a lecture by Professor Alex Alvarez in the 2019 Lecture Series)
- Amar S. & Sahib-Amar K. Khalsa (in memory of Sylvia G. Sucher)
- Rudy Lacoe & Paula Hammett Charitable Fund (in memory of Paul V. Benko)
- Barbara Lesch McCaffry & Michael (Mac) McCaffry (in honor of Hans Angress and in memory of Mary Esther Fuhs, Sherill Kuttner, Helga Spizman’s husband Morris, Susy Raful, Isak Zaidlin, and Brian Wilson’s mother Irene)
- Robert & Susy Raful (in memory of Paul V. Benko)
- Suzanne M. Roberts (in memory of Lillian Judd)
- Stanford T. Roodman (in memory of the family of Jake Brzozowski)
- Rita Rothman (in memory of Morris, 70173; Allan, 70171; and Bernard Rothman, 70172)
- Carol & Ralph Swanson (to underwrite a lecture by Professor Alex Alvarez in the 2019 Lecture Series)
- Arline F. Thomas (in honor of Hans Angress and to underwrite a lecture by Dr. Alexis Herr in memory of Lillian Judd in the 2019 Lecture Series)
- Roberta & Murray Zucker Donor Advised Fund of the Jewish Community Federation

**Adele Zygielbaum Endowment Fund (C0396):**
- Paul & Michelle Zygielbaum and Arthur I. & Christine Zygielbaum (in memory of Szmul Mordechai ‘Artur’ Zygielbojm, martyr & grandfather of Paul & Arthur)

**Alliance Hospitality Fund:**
- Bethlehem Lutheran Church (in honor of the presentation by Al & Suzanne Batzdorff)
- Todd W. Cereghino, Madelyn R. Hodges, Peter Krohn, Deborah Rothenberg, and Brian & Ruth Wilson (in honor of Hans Angress’ lecture on 2/20/18)

And a generous grant for the lecture series from the Sonoma State University Students’ Instructionally-Related Activities Fund

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*This list includes donations received between November 10, 2017 and November 30, 2018. If we inadvertently omitted your name or listed it incorrectly, please let us know at: alliance@sonoma.edu*
The Sebastopol Center for the Arts iconic award-winning Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival (SDFF) is a 4-day celebration from March 28-31, 2019 of non-fiction film. The festival features extraordinary films shown at different venues in historic downtown Sebastopol. Documentary filmmakers work to share truth. In so doing, SDFF often includes films related to the Holocaust and Genocide. For more information contact The Sebastopol Center for the Arts at 707-829-4797 or https://sebastopolfilmfestival.org.

The Jewish Community Center of Sonoma County (JCC) will be holding the 4th Annual Israeli Film Festival, bringing a selection of Israel’s robust and prolific film industry, and helping explore the complexity of life there. This is a sister program to the long-running and well-regarded Jewish Film Festival in the Fall. The Israeli Film Festival will feature four films, playing on Tuesdays, March 5th-26th, 2019. A film related to the Holocaust and Genocide will be part of the program. For more information see www.jccsoco.org/israeli-ff-2019.

To learn more about the Jewish Studies Program at SSU and its lecture and music series, please email tiffany.oneil@sonoma.edu

Alliance History

The Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust was formed in 1982 on behalf of the victims and survivors of the Holocaust and the need to tell their stories and for others to learn from their experiences. Those who began this collaborative effort between the community and members of the Sonoma State University faculty promised to let the world know of the atrocities that had occurred. The initial intention was primarily to learn the facts, act on them, and never forget.

As a result of these efforts, a highly successful annual lecture series on the Holocaust and Genocide was created at Sonoma State University. As a University-community partnership, the Board includes members of the community, University faculty and administrators, and students who have participated in the Lecture Series. In 2010, the name of the Alliance was changed to the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide to reflect its revised mission and its continuing educational commitment to include all those affected by genocide.

Alliance 2018-19 Board Members

Todd Cereghino, Recording Secretary
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Emeritus Board Member
Ilka Hartmann

We extend our deep gratitude to following former Board members who will be continuing their services as Associate Board Members: Miriam Susan Dregéy (after many years of service on the Board) and Reuben Steinglass (who now teaches at the Jewish Community High School of the Bay). We wish former Board member Jennifer Weil Glickman all the best.
TIME SENSITIVE

Address corrections or deletions can be requested using the enclosed donation envelope or via e-mail to alliance@sonoma.edu. Those interested in receiving information about the lectures and special events should forward their name and e-mail address to alliance@sonoma.edu.

Past Lecture Archives
Information and access to the video archive of past lectures can be found at http://www.sonoma.edu/holocaust by clicking on the link for the Holocaust & Genocide Video Archive.

Please like our Facebook page at Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide