

2022 Art Competition

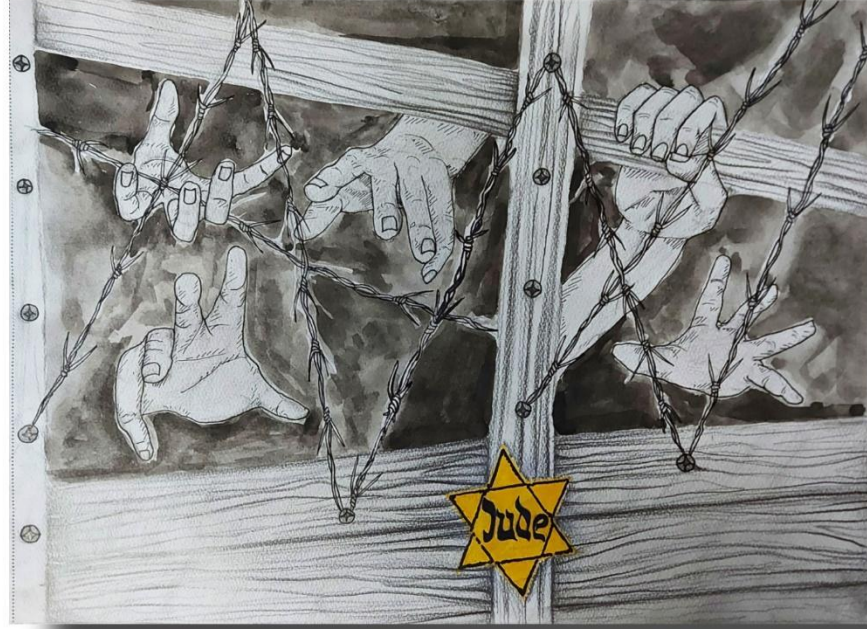
Student	LILA BUYUKBABANI
Teachers	UMIT DIZDAR (Art) & ENGIN ARIK (English)
School and Grade	Istanbul Ulus Jewish Middle School (7th grader)
Inspired by	The Ones I Lost

This film reminded me of my grandmother's uncle. I am the great great-niece of a Holocaust survivor. I don't know if he was lucky to be still alive after so much pain, but I do know that I will do my best not only to tell his story and remember his name, but also honor every single name I have heard in this video.

These hands, in my artwork, represent different lives. Some belong to a craftsman, some to a doctor who saved his patients, and some to a mother who loved her child. In my painting, I wanted to reflect their suffering, their hunger, their struggle to survive, their loneliness, their fearful tears as well as their faith. These hands are the symbols of separations, cries, mothers, babies, grandfathers, neighbors who have lived once.

I feel I am the newly emerging branch of a giant tree. With this artwork I want the painful screams of the millions who lost their lives to be heard and their names to be remembered. I hope the power from the roots will be carried on to the branches, and from the branches to the sky and then to the future. Thus, all those who are gone can become eternal. This video shows where we come from, and I hope my painting is the voice of the victims who must never be forgotten.





Lila Büyükbabani 7A

Watercolor, marker on paper-2022

