

**SANDRA BORNSTEIN HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTER**  
**“Beyond Silence: Stories that Endure” 2025-2026 Art and Writing Contest**

**GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION:** This year’s contest theme is **“Beyond Silence: Stories that Endure”**

Six million Jews were murdered during the Holocaust, but Jews found ways to break the silence even in the darkest times. Some, like Anne Frank, wrote diaries that gave voice to their daily fears and hopes. Others whispered routes of escape, smuggled food, or secretly passed news. Partisans in the Warsaw Ghetto and elsewhere organized uprisings, refusing to let their voices and resistance be erased. After the war, survivors who had endured these experiences began to speak out, preserving memory and bearing witness so the world would never forget.

These are just a few examples of how silence was broken. Students are encouraged to interpret the theme in their own way, through the voices, stories, or acts of courage that speak most powerfully to them.

Please create a **work of visual art (any medium: collage, paint, digital, etc.)** that is no larger than 10”x10” and/or **write a poem or essay (min. one page)** with the above theme. The work of art should be accompanied by a description of who or what inspired the art and the elements that you feel are relevant to our understanding. All work should be titled. In addition to awards being given to some individual submissions, each school will be judged on its entire body of submissions, and the judges will choose one school as the winner. The winning school will have its student submissions (up to twenty, chosen by the judges) turned into an exhibit that can be displayed as a means of educating the larger school community. Students may also enter independently of class or school.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: May 15, 2026**

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Entry is not eligible unless the form below is completed and attached to the project

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!**

Student’s Name	
School Name	
Student’s Email	
Student’s Grade	

ENTRIES CANNOT BE RETURNED BY MAIL! IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR ENTRY BACK, IT MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE CENTER BY JUNE 15th, 2026.

**Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center**  
**401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence, RI**  
**[info@hercri.org](mailto:info@hercri.org), 401.453.7860**



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Teacher’s Name & Email	
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I hereby give my permission to the Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center (SBHEC) to use art and academic work by, and photographs of, my child \_\_\_\_\_ on any SBHEC media site or in printed materials for an indefinite amount of time. My child and I forever waive and release any claim they and/or I may have against the SBHEC arising from the art, academic work, and photographs, whether known or unknown, and shall hold the SBHEC and any successor or successors in the interest harmless from the same.

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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