

Paul Seideman Competition

17 June 2021



Background:

Paul Seideman is a Holocaust survivor who established an annual composition contest to encourage New Zealand students to learn more about the Holocaust. As a young Jewish boy from Czechoslovakia, Paul survived several years in Nazi German concentration camps during World War II. Upon liberation, Paul emigrated from Europe to Australia, eventually settling in New Zealand. To commemorate the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau by the Soviet Army on January 27, 1945, Paul funded this annual competition.

Format & Entry Requirements:

Entries may be in the form of an essay, video/media clip, or other digital format. Entries can be submitted via email or post. Maximum 5 minutes in length video/media clip. Written essays should be submitted in a PDF format, with the following word limits:

- Year 7-8: 500 words maximum
- Year 9-10: 750 words maximum
- Year 11-13: 1000 words maximum

Entries must include:

Name of student, current year, name of the school, contact phone number, email, and teacher's name.

Prize Winners will present their entries and receive their prize at the United Nations International Holocaust Remembrance Day function in Wellington on 27 January 2022*

The prize includes:

- Return flights to Wellington for the student and one guardian.
- \$200 prize money
- Framed certificate
- Overnight hotel accommodation in Wellington

Deadline:

All entries are due by Tuesday, 31 August, 4 pm. Winners will be notified Friday, 10 September.

Contest Topics

Years 9—13

"Brothers! It is better to fall as free fighters than to live by the grace of murderers. Resist! To the last breath!"

-*They Shall Not Take Us Like Sheep to the Slaughter!* by Abba Kovner, Holocaust survivor

Resistance to the Nazis came in many forms, and from different avenues. Examine the different ways in which groups targeted by the Nazis were able to resist them and their collaborators.

Years 7—8

"Stand up for what you believe in, even if you are standing alone."

-Sophie Scholl, White Rose resistance member

Power is often exercised by those who are behind closed doors, away from the eyes of the public. Student groups like the White Rose challenged the power of the Nazis, very publicly. Examine how students can have an impact on shaping events such as the Holocaust.

Entries and all queries should be sent to:

Email: educdirector@holocaustcentre.org.nz

Postal: Kristopher Clancy, Education Director, Holocaust Centre of New Zealand, 80 Webb Street, Wellington 6011.

*All entrants must be available for the United Nations International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27, 2021 and by entering this competition students agree to the inclusion of their work and photos in HCNZ publications and online platforms.