

# Paul Seideman Competition



31 August 2020

## **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 teachers 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 2021\*

## **The prize includes:**

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

## **Deadline:**

All entries are due by **Friday, October 16, 4 pm**. Winners will be notified **Friday, November 6**.

## **Contest Topics**

### Years 9—13

**“We must never forget that we may also find meaning in life even when confronted with a hopeless situation, when facing a fate that cannot be changed.”**

**-Viktor Frankl, Holocaust Survivor**

The events of the Holocaust led to unfathomable suffering amongst millions of people throughout Europe. Explain how the idea of resilience helped Holocaust survivors throughout the events from 1933—1945.

### Years 7—8

**“We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”**

**-Elie Wiesel, Holocaust Survivor**

The Holocaust began with words from a minority view, and silence from the majority. Describe how you and your school prevent bullying and hate speech.

## **Entries and all queries should be sent to:**

**Email:** [educdirector@holocaustcentre.org.nz](mailto: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.