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Presents

The False Witness

The Trial of Humanity's Consciousness

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WITNESSES- SHAKESPEARE- FDR- HENRY FORD



TOGETHER

We Honor

all the victims of Nazi
persecution and those who
perished...

May their memories be for a
Blessing.

We are grateful for those
who survived -
they inspire us!



Program Agenda

March 26th and March 27th
Spanish River High School, Boca Raton

The False Witness

Tuesday, March 26th (Final Dress Rehearsal)

Welcome Remarks - Jenni Frumer, NEXT GENERATIONS of
Holocaust survivors

Introduction of the Play - Robert Krakow, SS St. Louis Legacy
Foundation and
Writer and Director

The False Witness (50 minutes)

Panel discussion - Q&A - Student Actors

Closing Remarks - Robin Isaacson, ORT America

Wednesday, March 27th

Welcome Remarks - Robin Isaacson, ORT America

Introduction of the Play - Robert Krakow, SS St. Louis Legacy
Foundation and
Writer and Director

The False Witness (50 minutes)

Panel discussion - Q&A - Student Actors

Closing Remarks - Jenni Frumer, NEXT GENERATIONS of
Holocaust survivors

Thank you for your support!

Our Organizations



NEXT GENERATIONS of Holocaust survivors is a nonprofit organization, founded by NANCY DERSHAW in 2004.

WE are the descendants of Holocaust survivors

We engage our authentic voices to keep our parents and grandparents legacies and memories alive

We raise awareness and seek to inspire all children by applying the lessons of the Holocaust to rally against bullying, anti-Semitism and hatred by shining a light on the courage of survivors and the selfless acts of righteous people who put their lives in danger to help Jews

WE raise funds to support Holocaust survivors with needs; paying for medications, utilities and transportation.

WE are here to support the next generations of survivors and are committed to increasing the awareness of the effects of multi-generational transmission of trauma

WE are dedicated to honoring all those who were and the future generations who will be scarred by the Holocaust by transforming prejudice, creating greater understanding, developing moral conscience and never forgetting - being silent, no more!

For more information, please visit <http://www.nextgenerations.org/> or contact Jenni Frumer, Director of Strategic Initiatives: 561-312-3054.

ORT America breaks through social and economic barriers to transform lives. When students from underserved communities have access to high-quality education, they are better positioned to enter the job market with marketable skills, become leaders in their own right, and invest back into their communities.

Our global educational network, schools, colleges, and international programs propel more than 300,000 students in 35 countries to develop careers and lead fulfilling, independent lives. ORT's 139-year history proves that education has the power to link generations before us with generations to come, connect communities near and far, and dovetail learning opportunities in the present with prosperity in the future.

For more information contact Robin Isaacson, Director Florida Region ORT America, 561-997-1071 www.ortamerica.org
3 Million Lives Impacted – 139 Years – 35 Countries – Join US!



The SS St. Louis Legacy Project

is a 501©(3) foundation whose mission is to promote greater awareness and dialogue on issues of 1) Jewish identity in the post-Holocaust era 2) Holocaust Education 3) the fight against Anti-Semitism and BDS.

Through its proprietary *Education Through Drama* program, the Foundation produces documentary films, theater projects, archival exhibits, symposiums and curricula that serve a worldwide student body as well as institutional and communal audiences. The Foundation distributes its creative products through its international network of Jewish communal organizations, universities, Jewish High Schools, Jewish film festivals, museums and such notable organizations as ORT AMERICA, NEXT GENERATIONS, the Lappin Foundation, PBS and Chabad. For more information contact: Robert Krakow, 561-703-1080 – www.stlouislegacyproject.org

A special Thank You to our Title Sponsors



Howard Kaye

Howard Kaye is a well-known Boca Raton philanthropist, actively involved in numerous charitable organizations and an ardent supporter of the arts. He was honored as Man of the Year (2008) by the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County and has served on the boards of the JCC and the Federation.

He sincerely cares for those in need and demonstrates this time and again with both his time and donations. Howard Kaye is the President of Howard Kaye Insurance Agency, where he shows his clients how life insurance allows you to give back; to your heirs and to charity. In 2009, Howard arranged for 33 surviving passengers of the Jewish refugee ship, SS St. Louis, to reunite in Miami Beach to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the voyage. He presented Senate Resolution 111 to Richard Hunt, a director at the National Archives. The Resolution was signed by all 33 passengers and now resides in the Treasures Vault of National Archives in the same casings as the George Washington Inaugural Address. Howard is very pleased to be a title sponsor of The False Witness presentation and to be reunited with the delegation of SS St. Louis passengers that are participating in this program.



Dr. Steven Melman & Phyllis Melman.

Dr. Steven Melman and Phyllis Melman have been residents of Boca Raton since 2005. Both Steve and Phyllis are on the board of many charitable organizations. They are on the executive board of the Israel Cancer Association, an organization that funds cancer research

by Israel's preeminent scientists. They were chairpersons for ICA golf tournament from 2014-2018. They have been chairpersons of major events hosted by the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach. In 2016, they accompanied a delegation of 7 surviving SS St. Louis passengers on a mission to Israel for commemorative events at Yad Vashem, Hebrew University and the Knesset and were signatories to the Proclamation of Gratitude and Remembrance presented to the Knesset. They are the Executive Producers of COMPLICIT, a documentary film, which tells the saga of the Jewish refugee ship SS St. Louis. The film has been touring the US and internationally for the last 5 years. Steve and Phyllis are very pleased to be a title sponsor of The False Witness presentation and to be reunited with the delegation of SS St. Louis passengers that are participating in this program.



Edith Stein - Boca Raton, FL: Edith is a graduate of Birch College in New York City. She has been active in Hadassah, the national women's committee, Brandeis University, and she is also proud to be a ruby lion of Judah. She is a supporter of the Boca Raton Philharmonic Symphonia, the Boca Raton Museum of Art, SOS Children's Village, The Theatre Lab at FAU,

Temple Bethel, the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County, and she serves on the board of directors of the Tri-County Animal Rescue. Together, Edith & Martin dedicated the Edith & Martin Stein Assisted Living Facility, the Stein Hospice Facility, and the Edith & Martin Stein Building of Hope, all in New Jersey. Remaining loyal to the memory of her husband, and to her home state of New Jersey, Edith continues to support the Jewish Federation of Middlesex County, Temple Emanuel, Embrace Kids Foundation, and Jewish Family & Vocational Services of Middlesex county, among others. Edith discovered a love for the works of artist Theresa Bernstein and, together with her husband, they became major collectors of Bernstein's works. Selections from the collection have been loaned for exhibitions across the US, including a major exhibition in 2013 at the galleries at Edith's alma-mater, at which she was honored for her life's work. Edith also has a deep love for traveling and animals, especially her Yorkshire terrier Lily.

The Surviving Passengers of the Steamship St. Louis



Judith Steel - Kew Gardens, NY: As a child, Steel evaded Nazi persecution in Germany when a French Catholic family took her into their home—an experience that informed her view that love does not always fit within the neat confines of religion.

She was the cantor at the New Synagogue in Manhattan. She attended the 2009 70th Anniversary St. Louis passengers reunion in Miami Beach and signed Senate Resolution 111 which was accepted into the Treasures Vault of the National Archives. Senate Resolution 111 was passed unanimously in May, 2009 and acknowledged the importance of learning the lessons of the saga of the St. Louis. Judith appears in the documentary film, *COMPLICIT*, which has been touring the US and internationally since 2014. Judith, together with Sonja Geismar and Eva Wiener, participated in Canada's apology ceremony in November, 2018 where Prime Minister Justin Trudeau addressed the passengers in the House of Commons and offered his heartfelt apology for Canada's refusal to grant safe haven to the passengers aboard the SS St. Louis



Sonja Geismar - Bronx, NY: In May 1939, Sonja's parents, paternal grandparents, two great aunts, and another great aunt with her husband were passengers on the St. Louis. In Havana harbor, she remembers the tenders and waving to cousins who came to see their grandparents who unfortunately went to Belgium and met their fate in a gas chamber.

Sonja and her parents went to England and when their quota numbers were reached, they sailed into New York harbor on February 11, 1940 and the Statue of Liberty came into view. Sonja became a high school social studies teacher. Years later she changed the direction of her career by returning to graduate school for her second Master's degree. She became a high school librarian in an inner city school and after ten years became head librarian. Sonja together with Eva Wiener, participated in the mission to Jerusalem where they told their stories at the Knesset, Yad Vashem and Hebrew University.



Eva Wiener - Neptune, NJ: Eva Rose Safier Wiener was born in Berlin, Germany during the rise of Hitler. To escape the Nazis, her parents were able to book passage on the St. Louis, for its ill-fated voyage to Havana, Cuba. When the ship was forced to return its passengers to Europe, Eva and her parents were among the fortunate ones to be accepted into the quota for England.

They immigrated to the United States in May of 1946. Eva was employed as a Budget Analyst at Fort Monmouth, an installation of the U. S. Department of Defense. While at the Fort she was instrumental in establishing a yearly program commemorating the Holocaust. This program grew to become the most successful program of its kind for a military installation. She has been Past President of the Monmouth County Chapter of B'nai Brith Women and the Gibor Zimel Resnick Chapter of American Friends of Magen David Adom. In November of 2006 Eva was honored by being the recipient of the Eishet Chayil (Woman of Valor) awarded by the Central New Jersey Women's Branch for Conservative Judaism. In 2012 Eva was selected by her synagogue as the Woman of the Year. In May of 2012 Eva also received a "Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition" for "invaluable service to the community" presented to her by Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr.



Herbert Karliner - Miami, FL: (Pictured with wife Vera) Herbert Karliner is one of Miami's leading citizens. He is a Korean War veteran and a Board Member of the Holocaust Memorial of Miami Beach. His efforts resulted in the creation of the SS St Louis Exhibit at the US Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. He is a tireless advocate for the rights of Holocaust survivors. As a child, he survived the war by posing as a Catholic and working as a hired hand for a pro-Vichy farmer near Lyon. He helped organize the 70th Anniversary Reunion of the SS St. Louis Passengers in Miami Beach in December, 2009, overlooking the exact location where the St. Louis was turned away 70 years before. Herbert participated in the historic US State Department apology ceremony in Washington, DC in September, 2012 where Deputy Secretary of State William Burns made the first ever "Admission of Wrongdoing" for the US refusal to grant safe haven to the passengers aboard the SS St. Louis.



Charles Mendel - Boynton Beach, FL (Pictured with wife Phyllis): One of the youngest of the surviving passengers, Charles and his family went to France. He was taken in by the OSE French children's home and protected until he came to America in 1946. He served in the US Army during the Korean conflict. Upon his return from the service, he graduated from the University of Maryland. After graduation he was employed by Honeywell. He worked on the early space mission projects in the Washington, D.C. area. From there he moved to Cincinnati, where he worked in a family business for 37 years; the last 20 years as president of the company. Charles was a signatory to the Proclamation of Gratitude presented to the Ambassadors of Great Britain, The Netherlands, France and Belgium in September, 2012. The Proclamation was presented in remembrance of these 4 countries granting safe haven to the St Louis passengers when the ship was forced to return to Europe in June, 1939.



John Shilling - The first five years of John's life were spent moving as far away as possible from a tempest before the storm better known as WWII and the Holocaust. Born in Prague, John spent his preschool years in Holland and Ecuador, and first and second grade in Orlando, Florida before moving to NY. He graduated from Forest

Hills High School, Queens College, and Columbia University College of Dental Medicine. John practiced general dentistry on Long Island in Copiague and lived in Melville NY. Since his retirement John has had the opportunity to share his family's story of emigration with HS students and with organizations interested in stories and experiences like his.

History of Characters



Anne Frank

(1483 – 1546) Prosecution

Anne was born in Frankfurt, Germany and moved to Amsterdam with her family when she was four years old. In May, 1940, the Frank family was trapped by the Nazi occupation of The Netherlands. By July, 1942, the Franks were forced to go into hiding.

The family was arrested in August, 1944. In November, 1944, Anne and her sister, Margot, were transferred from Auschwitz to Bergen-Belsen. Otto Frank, Anne's father, attempted to find refuge in the United States but due to the restrictive policies of the Roosevelt administration, the Frank family did not find safe haven in America. Anne Frank's *The Diary of Young Girl* has been translated into over 60 sixty languages.



Martin Luther

(1483 – 1546): Counsel for Defense

Martin Luther was the leader of the Reformation which changed the course of history. He is one of the most influential Christians in the annals of religion. He gives us the medieval foundation of Hitler's anti-Jewish policies. In Luther's tract, "THE JEWS AND THEIR LIES", he attacks the Jews of blaspheming Jesus in their prayer books and in their synagogues and of kidnapping Christian children and using their blood for the Passover service. Luther even proposes a method of dealing with the Jewish question in his day which is chillingly similar to the Kristallnacht program (Night of the Broken Glass) of November 9-10, 1938. The Nazis dedicated Kristallnacht as a memorial to Luther's birthday (November 10, 1483). Luther recommended that "Jews should be deprived of money, civil rights, religious teaching and education and be forced to labor on the land, be expelled from Germany, and possibly killed." His statements (written in 1543) were revived and used in propaganda by the Nazis. In 1994, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — the largest branch of the Lutheran church in the United States — "formally rejected the anti-Semitic writings of the movement's founder, Martin Luther."



William Shakespeare

(1564-1616): Witness for the Defense

William Shakespeare was England's foremost playwright and poet. His influence on the world's literary traditions cannot be overstated. His play, *The Merchant of Venice*, was performed by the Nazis 50 or more times during the wartime period.

The Nazis believed that the Shylock character, created by Shakespeare, was an accurate representation of the true character of the Jews. The apologists for Shakespeare state that the common stereotype of Jews was their association with money lending and usury. However, upon deeper study, the characterization of Shylock is thought to be associated with various blood libels i.e. that Jews kill Christian children and used their blood for the Passover service and that Jews seek revenge against Christians in the form of castration. The Merchant of Venice taken together with Christopher Marlowe's The Jew of Malta are currently being reexamined as "problem plays" in the post- Holocaust era.



Richard Wagner

(1813-1883): Witness for the Defense

Richard Wagner had a great influence on the political ideology of the National Socialist Party (Nazi Party) and the Aryan foundation. Wagner was idolized by Hitler, and helped give life to Hitler's notion of Aryan supremacy and the need to maintain its racial purity.

Wagner proposed that his operas should be a warning to Germany of its racial degeneration and the need for a renewal of the Aryan spirit. Wagner declared that the most insidious enemy of Aryan Germany was the Jew who will contaminate the purity of the master race. The performance of Wagner's operas remains a source of controversy in Israel with many Holocaust survivors objecting to their productions. Prominent scholars believed that Wagner's work was greatly influenced by Germany's most influential philosophers including Kant, Hegel, Schopenhauer, all of whom had a negative perception of the Jews.



Henry Ford

(1863 – 1947): Witness for the Defense

Henry Ford, America's most famous inventor and founder of the Ford Motor Company, exhibited a form of anti-Semitism that was pervasive in American society in the 1920s and 30s. These attitudes caused the American Congress in the 1930's to close the doors to the Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi terror. Ford was publisher of the *Dearborn Independent* and *THE INTERNATIONAL JEW*, both of which were horrific denunciations of the Jews and their evil and destructive influence on the world. These publications were circulated by the Nazis as part of their anti-Jewish propaganda. Ford was an advocate of the infamous *PROTOCOLS OF THE ELDERS OF ZION* which was circulated throughout the world and became the cornerstone of the myth of a Jewish world conspiracy. Adolf Hitler speaks with great admiration of Henry Ford in Hitler's manifesto, *MEIN KAMPF*.



Franklin D. Roosevelt

(1882 – 1945): Witness for the Defense

Franklin D. Roosevelt was president of the US from 1933 until his death in 1945. He is considered one of the greatest presidents in American history. His legacy regarding Jewish refugees and Jewish rescue is another matter. His refusal to grant safe haven to the Jewish refugees aboard the *SS St. Louis* in June, 1939, stands as a powerful symbol of the world's indifference to the plight of the European Jewish community suffering under Nazi reign. In January, 1944, Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau presented President Roosevelt with a report "Report to the President on the Acquiescence of this Government in the Murder of the Jews". The report was a scathing indictment of US failure to assist the Jewish refugees during wartime. Roosevelt immediately agreed to the establishment of the War Refugee Board which assisted Raoul Wallenberg in his efforts to save Hungarian Jews.

Production Team



Robert Krakow

Writer & Director

(Right, pictured with Jonathon Krakow attending PM Trudeau's apology to the passengers of the SS St. Louis) Robert is a graduate of Georgetown Law School and the author of two acclaimed plays, *The False Witness* and *The Trial of Franklin D. Roosevelt*.

Both plays have been performed in theater venues throughout the United States. Krakow is the creator of the documentary film, *COMPLICIT*, which won 1st prize at the Rhode Island International Film Festival for the festival's prestigious Judaica category for films celebrating the Jewish Experience. His foundation was responsible for bringing 14 surviving passengers from the refugee ship, SS St Louis, to the US Department of State in September, 2012, where Deputy Secretary of State William Burns welcomed the passengers on behalf of President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton. The ceremony included the first ever apology by the State Department for refusing to address the Jewish refugee crisis during the pre-war and wartime period. Krakow's groundbreaking research on the origins of Hitler's anti-Jewish propaganda was published in *The Qualitative Report of Nova Southeastern University*. In November, 2018, his foundation led a delegation of 5 SS St. Louis passengers to the House of Commons in Ottawa, where Prime Minister Justin Trudeau welcomed the passengers on behalf of the Government of Canada and made the official apology statement for Canada's refusal to grant them safe haven in June, 1939. In May, 2014, he was honored by the City of Miami for his "Championship of Justice and Human Rights and his critical work in the SS St Louis Legacy Project".



Jonathon Krakow

Creative Director

Jonathon (left, pictured with member of the Knesset Avi Dichter,) is a graduate of the Lynn University Transitions Program. He is an advocate for the special needs community and has appeared on PBS WXEL to tell his personal experiences in hopes of inspiring others.

In 2013, he made his first trip to Israel through the Birthright Program. In November, 2016, he accompanied 7 surviving SS St. Louis passengers to Israel for a special commemorative event at the Knesset where Jonathon met Member of the Knesset Avi Dichter and presented him with the Proclamation of Appreciation to honor the citizens of Israel for their enduring commitment to provide a homeland for the Jewish people. Jonathon was the research director for the documentary film, *COMPLICT*, which has been touring the US and internationally for the last 5 years.



Rebecca Pontillo

Production Coordinator/ Eleanor Roosevelt

A South Florida native, Rebecca was always passionate about Theatre and performed in over 20 local community theatre shows before attending Dreyfoos High School of the Arts.

After graduation, Rebecca spent six months in Israel, living on a Kibbutz and exploring her Jewish identity. Upon her return, she attended FAU to pursue Holocaust and Judaic studies, but left school when she married her wonderful husband, Daniel, and had their children, Eli and Isaac. Upon entering the workforce, Rebecca quickly realized her passion for the law and obtained her paralegal certificate from FIU. She works full time as a paralegal, while currently studying at FAU to eventually receive her law degree. She devotes her time to her family, work, her shul, and the SS St Louis Legacy Foundation, where history is taught through drama. She is thrilled to be playing the part of Eleanor Roosevelt.

Cast & Crew



Leah Davidowitz

Anne Frank:

Prosecution for Spirit of Humanity

Leah is thrilled to bring Anne Frank to the stage. Previously, she has played Tzeitel (Fiddler on the Roof), Liz (Chicago), and the Wicked Witch of the West (Wizard of Oz).

She invites you as the jury to watch closely for you may learn things you never knew.



Teig Geller

Martin Luther: Counsel for the Defense

Teig has been in many performances in his life with his oldest one dating back to 2012. You may have seen him in previous Spanish River productions such as Fiddler on the Roof as Perchik and in Seussical as a Wickersham. When not acting, you may see Teig in the Stagecraft team at Spanish River or learning and playing piano.



Juliana Laskow

Lady Justice

Juliana is delighted to bring Lady Justice to the stage in The False Witness and invites you along for the journey. She is currently the Treasurer of Spanish River's Thespian Troupe 3963, and has attended French Woods Festival of the Performing Arts since 2014.

Her favorite credits have been Hello Dolly, How To Succeed, and the role of Fruma Sarah in Fiddler on the Roof. Juliana wishes to have a career in corporate finance or theatrical financial production after college.

Cast & Crew



Justin Habe

Richard Wagner: Witness for the Defense

A relative newcomer to the stage, Justin has been in one production and has seen a total of three school productions, but his passion for acting and singing gives him merit amongst other Thespians. A quiet but focused performer who works to improve often,

Justin is eager to bring Richard Wagner to life in *The False Witness*.



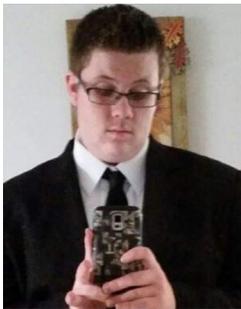
Adam Davis

**William Shakespeare and Henry Ford:
Witnesses for the Defense**

Adam has performed in 11 different stage productions, seen *Hamilton* twice, and is honored to be a part of bringing

The False Witness to stage. Growing up within a Jewish culture, the show's message resonates

with him in a profound manner. He believes that no matter your background or culture, there is something to take away from this show. He will be attending Stagedoor Manor Theater Camp in the summer of 2019 and will continue to work in the theatre department at Spanish River over the next few years.



Dylan Hobbs

**Franklin D. Roosevelt:
Witness for the Defense**

Dylan is overjoyed to be performing in such a powerful production. It was eye opening to see what our schools do not teach us about the Holocaust. He is very honored to be given the opportunity to participate in this show

and hopes to continue to perform on stage in college.

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**Thank you to the committee who worked
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Blumenthal, Nancy Dershaw, Jenni Frumer,
Robin Isaacson, Robert Krakow, Rebecca
Pontillo, and Randi Posner.**

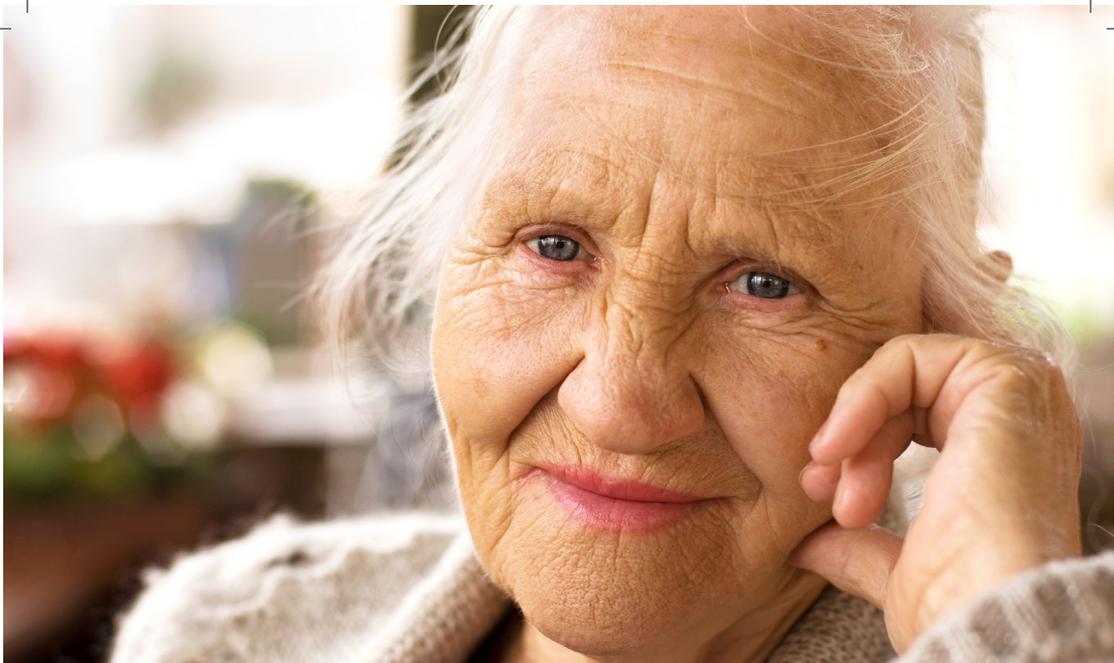


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Krakow, Writer and Director of The False
Witness, the Passengers of the SS St Louis,
ORT America, the talented actors, all of the
volunteers, our wonderful sponsors and
the many others who have made this
performance possible...**

**Warm wishes,
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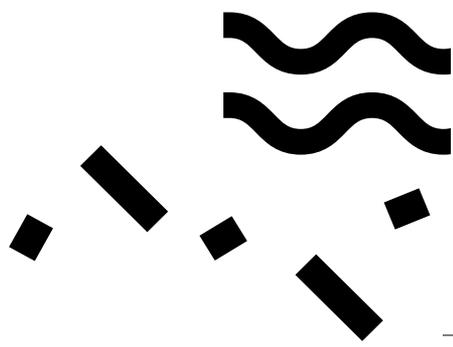
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**Jenni Frumer &
Neil Newstein!**





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Freedom Song is an original musical production created and performed by individuals who are current or past residents of Beit T'Shuvah, the interdenominational Jewish treatment program in Los Angeles.

Following the performance, audience members are encouraged to dialogue with the cast, who courageously and honestly share their own stories of addiction and recovery.

~TWO FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS~
RESERVE YOUR SEATS TODAY!

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019 AT 2 PM

Benjamin Hall at The Benjamin Upper School
4875 Grandiflora Rd, Palm Beach Gardens, 33418
www.alpertjfs.org/events/freedom-song - 561.762.9707

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019 AT 7 PM

Olympic Heights Community High School
20101 Lyons Road, Boca Raton, 33434
www.alesjfs.org/freedomsong - 561.852.3333



Glossary of Terms

Bavarian Diet: The legislature of Bavaria, Germany from 12th century to 1806.

Concordat: A concordat usually refers to an agreement between the Vatican and a government of a certain country on religious matters (although it is also used in relation to some other agreements in internal United Kingdom and other countries' politics). This often included both recognition and privileges for the Catholic Church in a particular country.

Papal Bulls: A Papal Bull is a particular type of letter, patent or charter issued by a pope. It is named after the bulla (seal) that was appended to the end to authenticate it.

SS St. Louis: The fated ship that sailed from Hamburg, Germany in May 1939 carrying 936 Jewish refugees. Dramatized in the motion picture Voyage of the Damned, the St. Louis was allowed to leave Germany by Hitler's propaganda ministry who wanted to prove that the "civilized world" agreed with the Nazi assessment of Jews. The ship was refused entrance to Cuba, to the United States, to the Dominican Republic and to Canada before returning to Europe. We are honored to have St. Louis survivors in our audience this evening

The Dearborn Independent: A newspaper published by Henry Ford containing clearly anti-Semitic articles. Beginning in May of 1920, articles in 92 issues attacked the Jews including: "The Scope of Jewish Dictatorship in the United States", Jewish Degradation of American Baseball" and "The International Jew – The World's Foremost Problem."

The Jews and Their Lies: A 65,000-word treatise by Protestant Reformer Martin Luther (Defense Attorney in "The False Witness"). He refers to Jews as "a brood of base, whoring people..."

that is, no people of G-d”, “vipers and children of the devil”, “full of the devil’s feces”, “truly stupid fools”, “thieves and robbers”, “daily murderers”, “vermin”, and “gangrene”. He recommended that Jews should be deprived of money, civil rights, religious teaching and education and be forced to labor on the land, be expelled from Germany, and possibly killed. His statements (written in 1543) were revived and used in propaganda by the Nazis.

The Protocols of The Elders of Zion: A widely- disseminated but fraudulent racist tract alleging a Jewish and Masonic plot to achieve world domination. “The Protocols” has been proven by respected international scholars, both Jewish and nonJewish, to be a forgery, a hoax and a classic case of plagiarism. The original source has been clearly identified as an 1864 book by Maurice Joly entitled, “The Dialogue in Hell Between Machiavelli and Monttesquieu” – a satirical attack against the ambitions and methods of French Emperor Napoleon III.

A History of the United States Resolution

111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. RES. 111

Recognizing June 6, 2009 as the 70th anniversary of the tragic date when the M.S. St. Louis, a ship carrying Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany, returned to Europe after its passengers were refused admittance to the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 23, 2009

Mr. KOHL (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

MAY 19, 2009

Committee discharged; considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing June 6, 2009, as the 70th anniversary of the tragic date when the M.S. St. Louis, a ship carrying Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany, returned to Europe after its passengers were refused admittance to the United States.

Whereas on May 13, 1939, the ocean liner M.S. St. Louis departed from Hamburg, Germany for Havana, Cuba with 937 passengers, most of whom were Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi persecution; Whereas the Nazi regime in Germany in the 1930s implemented a program of violent persecution of Jews;

Whereas the Kristallnacht, or Night of Broken Glass, pogrom of November 9 through 10, 1938, signaled an increase in violent anti-Semitism;

Whereas after the Cuban Government, on May 27, 1939, refused entry to all except 28 passengers on board the M.S. St. Louis, the M.S. St. Louis proceeded to the coast of south Florida in hopes that the United States would accept the refugees;

Whereas the United States refused to allow the M.S. St. Louis to dock and thereby provide a haven for the Jewish refugees;

Whereas the Immigration Act of 1924 placed strict limits on immigration; Whereas a United States Coast Guard cutter patrolled near the M.S. St. Louis to prevent any passengers from jumping to freedom;

Whereas following denial of admittance of the passengers to Cuba, the United States, and Canada, the M.S. St. Louis set sail on June 6, 1939, for return to Antwerp, Belgium with the refugees; and

Whereas 254 former passengers of the M.S. St. Louis died under Nazi rule: Now, therefore, be it

1 Resolved, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes that June 6, 2009, marks the
3 70th anniversary of the tragic date when the M.S.
4 St. Louis returned to Europe after its passengers
5 were refused admittance to the United States and
6 other countries in the Western Hemisphere; 6

1 (2) honors the memory of the 937 refugees
2 aboard the M.S. St. Louis, most of whom were Jews
3 fleeing Nazi oppression, and 254 of whom subse-
4 quently died during the Holocaust;

5 (3) acknowledges the suffering of those refugees
6 caused by the refusal of the United States, Cuban,
7 and Canadian governments to provide them political
8 asylum; and

9 (4) recognizes the 70th anniversary of the M.S.
10 St. Louis tragedy as an opportunity for public offi-
11 cials and educators to raise awareness about an im-
12 portant historical event, the lessons of which are rel-
13 evant to current and future generations

*Thank you to the Survivors of the
Steamship St. Louis for sharing
your stories of bravery with us- your
courage inspires us.*

*Thank you to those who
Contributed to make this
performance possible*

Boca Raton Financial Planners
Margaret and Robert Blume
Dr. Scott and Jennifer Blumenthal
Sandy and Harvey Brandner
ComForCare
Falcon Partners of Florida
Toby Feuer
Jenni Frumer and Neil Newstein
Michelle and Robert Gordon
Dr. Larry and Debbie Kanter
Howard Kaye
Dr. Steve and Phyllis Mellman
Ruth & Norman Rales Jewish Family Service
Barbara and Chip Ross
Arthur Rottenstein
Senior Care Authority
Senior Helpers
Barbara and Gerry Siegel
Edith Stein
Maryon Weill

OUR VISION



NEXT GENERATIONS, ORT America and The SS St. Louis Legacy Foundation

have come together to present The
False Witness as tribute to the survivors
of The SS St. Louis as well as to
educate and remind us of our past;
and guide us into the future.

We hope that this play has touched
you and reminded you of the
importance of keeping our history
alive.

