



Our students will shape and lead the future

News release

June 10, 2015

Everett student earns award in Holocaust Center contest



"How can lessons of the Holocaust inspire you to make the world a better place?" This is the question that was posed to hundreds of students in the Pacific Northwest for the [Holocaust Center for Humanity's 2015 Writing, Art and Film Contest](#).

Over 700 students, in grades 5 through 12, from more than 60 schools throughout the Northwest answered in the form of poetry, fiction, painting, sculpture, drawing and film. On June 7, the Center honored the winners at an awards ceremony.

This year, Henry M. Jackson High School sophomore, Paulina Pena, took *Honorable Mention* in Writing (grades 9-12). The following is an excerpt from her entry:

"The Holocaust taught humanity that we need to stand up for our own rights and beliefs. We also need to learn how to respect others' opinions."

Congratulations to Paulina and her teacher [Eric Bush](#)," said fellow Jackson High teacher Kelly Dietsch. "She is the fifth Jackson student to be recognized in the past three years!

"We are lucky to have such dedicated teachers here at Jackson who are willing to go the extra mile to showcase their students' talents, and encourage their students to reach beyond the comfort of the classroom to a broader audience," said Dietsch.

The contest gives students the opportunity to engage with the lessons of the Holocaust, while empowering them to explore themes of tolerance, bigotry and compassion in their daily lives. Director of Education Ilana Cone Kennedy explains, "The contest is a great way for students to connect the lessons of the Holocaust to their own lives. Through their writing and creativity, they find that their actions, even small ones, make a difference. Their work inspires all of us."

A full list of the winners and their work is available on the [Holocaust Center website](#).

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