



## Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project

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### Summary of Events

#### Artistic Explorations

*Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* is a world-premiere ballet produced and performed by **Ballet Austin**, and choreographed by Stephen Mills. Performing to music by Philip Glass, Steve Reich, Arvo Part and others, the production will explore individual responses to life before, during and after this watershed historical event. Ballet Austin's *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project* will be performed at the Bass Concert Hall at UT's PAC on April 1-3, 2005.

**The Coexistence Exhibition**, an unusual and thought-provoking outdoor billboard exhibition arrives in Austin March 3, 2005 in a visible site like Auditorium Shores. The works, exploring themes of tolerance and mutual respect, were created by artists from around the world, as a result of an internationally juried competition sponsored by the Museum on the Seam for Dialogue, Understanding and Coexistence in Jerusalem.

#### School-based Initiatives

**AISD Teachers** of high school History and middle school Language Arts students will attend a two-day Holocaust education **Professional Development Institute**. The Institute is designed to increase Holocaust content knowledge and improve pedagogic skills in teaching about the Holocaust congruent with state TEKS standards. The content discussed in the seminars will be integrated into local professional development initiatives. Teachers will be provided books and materials that will support their classroom teaching.

**The Warren Fellows**, student teachers having attended 40 hours of intense professional development at the Holocaust Museum of Houston, will receive 8 hours of professional development workshops designed to increase their content and pedagogical knowledge in teaching the Holocaust.

**Students** will benefit from the new information and skills acquired by their teachers. In addition to this intensified curricula, the students of these teachers will be invited to Ballet Austin's production, *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*. Additionally, student workshops on the Holocaust will be offered by the Warren Fellows joined by Ballet Austin II dancers.

**Teaching Materials** from the Holocaust Museum Houston will be available for classrooms across Austin. Curriculum trunks, filled with classroom sets of literature and teaching materials will be made available to all area teachers. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) will supply the *No Place For Hate* materials. The ADL will also serve as a continuing resource to support teachers beyond the project dates.

### Engaging Public Dialogue

Three **public lectures** with scholars of the Holocaust will occur in February and March of 2005. Nationally recognized speakers on Holocaust history, representation, memory, aesthetic and ethics include:

- **February 16<sup>th</sup>: Representing the Holocaust: Memory, Memorial and Time**  
Featuring Dr. James Young, Dr. Abzug, and Stephen Mills
- **March 22<sup>nd</sup>: Talking with Young People about the Holocaust**  
Featuring Dr. Pascale Bos and Dr. Mary Lee Webeck
- **March 31<sup>st</sup>: Featuring Elie Wiesel**

**Televised town hall meeting**, taped by KLRU. Award-winning correspondent Linda Ellerbee will facilitate an inter-generational conversation about the Holocaust and contemporary issues of bigotry and hatred.

### Documentation and Dissemination

**Video documentary** (pending) chronicles the dimensions and nuances of the creative process in community collaboration.

**Book proposal** (pending) published by UT Press or comparable publishing house.

**Educational website** will support both in-school and community based investigations of the Holocaust and related contemporary issues.

### Scholarly Research

**Scholarly research investigations** of the project are an integral part of the conception of this project. Presentations and publications are being made in international conferences including American Educational Research Association Conference, National Council of Social Studies, and the Fourth International Education Conference, The International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem.

### Advisory Councils and Committees

Community involvement is contributed through an Advisory Council and Programmatic Steering Committees.