

Local Photography Exhibit Chronicles Journey to Holocaust Sites



"Poland: A Journey Through Holocaust Sites To Insights" is on display in the Ohio County Public Library's auditorium for the month of December 2014.

"The photographs displayed in this exhibit are a small, but poignant collection of the thousands taken by the 33 Wheeling students, educators and community members who traveled to Poland to study the Holocaust with Classrooms Without Borders (CWB)," explained Barb Lewine, curator of the exhibit and Coordinator of CWB - Wheeling.

This past summer, accompanied by Holocaust scholars and a Holocaust survivor, the group visited the cities of Warsaw, Lublin, and Krakow, as well as the Treblinka, Majdanek, Auschwitz and Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camps. They came back determined to share, educate and make a difference in our community. This thought-provoking photography exhibit chronicles their emotional journey.

The 33 individuals chosen to travel with CWB attended several study sessions in Wheeling and Pittsburgh to prepare intellectually and emotionally for the trip. They included 7 educators, 21 students, and 5 community members representing different backgrounds and faiths from the Wheeling area. The participating high schools included Bishop Donahue, John Marshall, Linsly, Wheeling Central Catholic, and Wheeling Park, as well as Wheeling Jesuit University.

Classrooms Without Borders (CWB) was established with the belief that experiential learning brings learning to life and life to learning. CWB is a non-profit educational organization founded in 2011 by Zipora (Tsipy) Gur, Ph.D. in association with the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh and The Holocaust Center.

In 2012, a branch of CWB was created in Wheeling to expand its mission of providing world-class experiential learning and professional development study seminars for teachers and students in our community. Participants learn and immerse themselves in Holocaust education through study seminars to Poland, Germany, and Israel. CWB teaches the past in order to create present understanding and future change. This inspires teachers and students to action by promoting the universal values of compassion, tolerance, respect, altruism, forgiveness, and faith in humanity. International study tours open minds to learning and open hearts to understanding.

"Poland: A Journey Through Holocaust Sites To Insights" can be viewed by appointment during regular library hours at the Ohio County Public Library, 52-16th Street, Wheeling. Please call the Reference Desk for instructions at 304-232-0244. Visit www.ohiocountylibrary.org for more information.