



For Immediate Release

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March 15, 2021

FULLERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Ladera Vista JHS of the Arts Student Finalists and Awardees in
The 22nd Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest

(Fullerton, CA) – We are pleased to share that three students from Ladera Vista JHS of the Arts have been selected as finalists for the 22nd Annual Holocaust Art & Writing Contest offered through the Rogers Center for Holocaust Education at Chapman University, sponsored by The "1939" Club and supported by the Samueli Foundation and Dana and Yossie Hollander.

Under the guidance of Mme. Blake at Ladera Vista JHS of the Arts, Lydia W. and Violet C. have been selected as finalists in the prose category and Rhiannon J. has been selected as a film finalist for the contest theme of “Sharing Strength, Sustaining Humanity.” These talented students have been selected from over 5,000 entries submitted from 12 countries including Poland, Canada, Denmark, Germany, India, Mexico, the Peoples Republic of China, Romania, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, and eight states in the United States of America.

This year's virtual event was held on Friday, March 12, 2021 where two students from Ladera Vista JHS of the arts were selected from the finalists as winners. **Violet C.** was *awarded second place overall in the middle school division for her prose* submission based on testimony of Rosette Fischer and **Rhiannon J.** was *awarded second place overall in the middle school division for her film* submission based on testimony of Engelina Billauer. Both awardees received video congratulations from the survivors themselves.

The submissions focus on themes central to the Holocaust and ethical decision making in our world today. In past years, finalists have been invited to an in-person award ceremonies and reception where they have been afforded the opportunity to meet with Holocaust survivors. Additionally, first and second place winners, their teachers, and their schools win monetary prizes and first place winners are invited to attend a summer study trip which deepens their Holocaust education and connects them with survivors in the area.

The Fullerton School District is located in northern Orange County, California and serves over 12,100 students in grades TK – 8th. The Fullerton School District includes 20 schools, 15 elementary schools, two K-8th grade schools, and three middle schools. The mission of the Fullerton School District is to

work collaboratively with the community to provide an innovative, high-quality educational program for all students in a safe learning environment. The District motto, “*Great Schools - Successful Kids*” exemplifies the belief that all students will achieve academic excellence, acquire interpersonal skills, and develop technological expertise to contribute as productive citizens in a democratic society. For more information, call 714/447-7400 or visit www.fullertonsd.org.

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For more information, please feel free to contact William Lynch/Principal, Ladera Vista JHS of the Arts at 714/447-7765