

2015 CREATIVE ARTS STUDENT CONTEST

LIBERATION: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED 70 YEARS LATER?

Middle School Writing – Third Place

“Liberation...Lessons Through the Decades”

by William Rowland

PROPERTY OF GEORGIA COMMISSION ON THE HOLOCAUST

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"LIBERATION...LESSONS THROUGH THE DECADES"
BY WILLIAM ROWLAND

Liberated...freed by the American allies, minus six million souls
The ink scars remain as do the hearts filled with holes
Searching for loved ones, not a neighbor to be found
The towns seemed so empty, desperate for footing on solid ground
Starting anew, migrating, and finding a place to belong
The first ten years were spent surviving to a different song
America, the 50's, so many opportunities to succeed
Learning to love again and trust in fellow man, indeed
The 60's brought a world of change
Peace, love and acceptance did reign
Another war..... this time on Asian land
No more bloodshed, must take a stand
The 70's opened the door for peace between Egyptians and Jews
Everyone learned that the time had come to consider the views
Of a people who have been persecuted throughout the ages
Opportunity for change on every single one of the world's stages
A groundbreaking event in the 80's challenged all mankind
To stare the evil, Holocaust, in the face, never to rewind
A great museum was erected on which the world would gaze
A solemn location to confront hatred and become a sacred place
In the 90s, educating students about ink still unfaded
Touching the soul of every boy and girl seeking knowledge unequated
Who forever cherishes freedom's endeavors

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This hallowed place will change the lives of those who enter, forever
Genocide still exists as the new millennium dawns
Rwanda, Darfur, Ukraine.... each using innocent people as pawns
Lessons learned show the human spirit forever there
As another decade passes, survivors reunite in prayer
Responsibility to destroy Anti-Semitism can never be assumed
Not by only a few, but all, and must never be exhumed
Lessons are like the many stars, “IT MUST NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN!” a promise
Take responsibility for the wrongs of the past and remain eternally honest
Never allowing another tear in agony to fall
Let the ink of hate become victory in love, ONCE AND FOR ALL!!!!!!

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