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MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Ric Brewer, Communications Manager

Location: Henry and Sandra Friedman Holocaust Center for Humanity | 2045 2nd Avenue |
Seattle, WA 98121

Phone: (206) 276-5200

Email: Ric@HolocaustCenterSeattle.org

Holocaust Center announces title of new graphic novel

Online vote held to name novel based on life of local Holocaust survivor

[Seattle, WA – July 26, 2021]: The Holocaust Center for Humanity in Seattle announces the title of its new graphic novel, based on the life and experiences of local Holocaust survivor, Steve Adler.

An online vote in mid-July was offered to engage the community in choosing a title for the novel from among three choices: *Lucky As I Was: Steve Adler's Kindertransport Journey*; *Steve's Journey: A Kindertransport Story of the Holocaust*; or *More Than Any Child Should Know: A Kindertransport Story of the Holocaust*.

The final tally of votes showed [*More Than Any Child Should Know: A Kindertransport Story of the Holocaust*](#), as the clear favorite.

The three title suggestions were chosen by the book's authors, Julia Thompson and Paul Regelbrugge.

"The opportunity to have the community help us choose a title was a great way to introduce the novel's pending publication, as well as more broadly make people aware of a young child's remarkable resilience," says Thompson, the Holocaust Center's Education Program Manager.

Paul Regelbrugge, the Holocaust Center's Teaching and Learning Specialist, was co-author and is also the author of the Holocaust-based novel, *The Yellow Star House: The Remarkable Story of One Boy's Survival in a Protected House in Hungary*.

The novel was first suggested by the Holocaust Center's Educators for Change group, a cohort of regional educators that informs the educational programs and resources of the Holocaust Center.

“Graphic novels are very popular with students,” notes the Holocaust Center’s Director of Education, Ilana Cone Kennedy. “They are accessible and engaging and bring personal stories of the Holocaust to students in ways they can connect with.”

[Steve Adler](#), who passed away in 2019, had been a longtime speaker with the Center’s Speakers Bureau, a group of survivors and their descendants who give talks, both in person and virtually, to schools and community groups throughout the Pacific Northwest. As a child, Steve was part of the Kindertransport in 1939, a series of rescue efforts that brought thousands of Jewish children to Great Britain at the outbreak of World War II.

“We felt that Steve’s story would lend itself well to a graphic novel,” says Kennedy. “It illustrates the devastating impact Nazi policies were having on Jewish people at that time, the drama of separation from homeland, the resilience of a young boy torn from his family because of intolerance and hate, and the hope that came with reunion.”

Center Education team members Paul Regelbrugge and Julia Thompson were tasked with adapting Steve’s story, and local artist Sean Dougherty was engaged to interpret it into a graphic novel aimed at students from 6th to 8th grade.

The book is due to be released just prior to the 2021-2022 school year.

“Our goal is to have the graphic novel introduced into curricula for middle schools throughout Washington State,” notes Kennedy. “We think that not only will students become involved in Steve’s experience through words and images, but they will really connect with the messages of the importance of speaking out against hatred and the difference each one of us can make.”

(NOTE: Interviews can be arranged with Ilana Cone Kennedy, the artist, authors, and Barbara Adler West, Steve Adler’s daughter.)

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The Holocaust Center for Humanity teaches the lessons of the Holocaust, inspiring students of all ages to confront bigotry and indifference, promote human dignity, and take action. Find out more at www.HolocaustCenterSeattle.org.

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