

The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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22 HOLOCAUST EDUCATORS FROM 10 U.S. STATES RECEIVE COVETED LERNER FELLOWSHIPS

THE JEWISH FOUNDATION FOR THE RIGHTEOUS PROVIDES EDUCATORS WITH INSTRUCTION ON TEACHING HOLOCAUST EDUCATION TO THEIR STUDENTS

ELIZABETH, New Jersey – The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous (JFR) has selected 22 middle and high school teachers from 10 states as 2022 Alfred Lerner Fellows to delve into the complex history of the Holocaust as well as discuss new teaching techniques for introducing the subject of the Holocaust into their classrooms. The JFR’s Summer Institute for Teachers is an intensive five-day course that takes place at the Hilton Newark Airport from June 25 through June 29.

The program is a high-level, intensive academic seminar in which participants are exposed to noted Holocaust scholars, including: Doris Bergen of University of Toronto; Jeffrey Burds of Northeastern University College; Lawrence R. Douglas of Amherst College; Steven Field of New York University’s Grossman School of Medicine; Daniel Greene of Northwestern University; Peter Hayes of Northwestern University; Benjamin Hett of Hunter College; Samuel Kassow of Trinity College; renowned Holocaust historian and exhibition curator Paul Salmons; Robert Jan van Pelt of University of Waterloo; Edward B. Westermann of Texas A&M University; Robert Williams of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and renowned author Alexandra Zapruder. It is designed to allow participants to meet in small groups following each lecture, address the specific aspect of the Holocaust that is presented, share teaching concepts and develop approaches to introducing the subject matter to their students.

Teachers selected for the program must be English or social studies teachers at the middle or high school level, have taught at least five years, are at least five years from retirement and currently teach the Holocaust in their classroom.

JFR LERNER FELLOWS ANNOUNCED 2022
TAKE 2-2-2-2

“There are three main goals of the JFR’s Summer Institute, which include: providing teachers with a graduate level course on the Holocaust; pedagogical connections with other teachers and their curriculum so they learn what’s worked and what hasn’t; and to give them resources for the classroom,” said JFR Executive Vice President Stanlee Stahl.

The 2022 Lerner Fellows are:

- Sharyn O'Keefe from Communications High School in Wall, NJ
- Rhaymen Altagracia-Yunes from Atlantic City High School in Atlantic City, NJ
- Lauren Wells from Livingston High School in Livingston, NJ
- Terrilisa Bauknight from Essex County Schools of Technology in Newark, NJ
- Darren Babnew from Pleasantville High School in Pleasantville, NJ
- Sarah Coykendall from the Holocaust Resource Center of Kean University in Union, NJ
- Irvin Moreno-Rodriguez from the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center at Stockton University in Galloway, NJ
- Leah Rauch from the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center in Skokie, IL
- Jessica Hulten from the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center in Skokie, IL
- Deborah Brown from St. Patrick Catholic School in Robertsdale, AL
- Jeanette Connally from St. Dominic Catholic School in Mobile, AL
- Scott Vensel from Dorseyville Middle School in Pittsburgh, PA
- Megan Shaver from Beck International Academy in Greenville, SC
- Jessica van Son from Cascade Middle School in Longview, WA
- Casie Greve from Couperville Middle and High School in Coupeville, WA
- Fernelize Henry from Teaching and Learning, School District of Palm Beach County in West Palm Beach, FL
- Steve Gordon from Western Pines Middle School in West Palm Beach, FL
- Kimberly Coombs from the School District of Palm Beach County in West Palm Beach, FL

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- Alicia Booker from Lakota West High School in West Chester Township, OH
- Lauren Karas from the Nancy and David Wolf Holocaust and Humanity Center in Cincinnati, OH
- Ezequiel Castellanos from Holocaust Museum Houston in Houston, TX
- Caprice Erickson from Holocaust Museum Houston in Houston, TX

The nationally acclaimed Fellowship program is named in memory of Alfred Lerner, the founding chairman and chief executive officer of MBNA Corporation, who died in October of 2002. Lerner was a long-time advisor and supporter of JFR programs and activities. His deep commitment to the work of JFR and in particular to his special interest in the field of Holocaust education, led to the seminar being endowed in his name.

The JFR continues its work of providing monthly financial assistance to more than 130 aged and needy Righteous Gentiles, living in 13 countries. Since its founding, the JFR has provided more than \$42 million to aged and needy rescuers – helping to repay a debt of gratitude on behalf of the Jewish people to these noble men and women. Its Holocaust teacher education program has become a standard for teaching the history of the Holocaust and educating teachers and students about the significance of the Righteous as moral and ethical exemplars. For more information, visit <https://www.jfr.org/>.