



Contact David Stoeffler, Executive Director
Telephone (608) 787-0226
Cell (608) 213-7301
Email david@lacrosseeducationfoundation.org
Website www.lacrosseeducationfoundation.org

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LOGAN STUDENT WINS CONTEST FOR ESSAY ON HOLOCAUST

Contest encourages students to apply lessons from the Holocaust to current events

LA CROSSE, WI, April 21, 2016 – Annika Dome, a sophomore at La Crosse Logan High School, has won first-place in a new essay contest designed to bring added meaning to studies of the Holocaust by connecting it with 21st century issues.

Two other Logan students – Lily Janezich and Isaiah Nelsen, both juniors – won honorable mention in the contest, sponsored by the Maureen and Robert Freedland Fund for Studies of the Shoah.

Annika was to be awarded the \$250 first prize in a school assembly today at Logan High School. Her essay read in part:

Adolf Hitler is now one of the most infamous historical figures due to his intense fury that, by instilling fear in the minds of his citizens, came at the cost of genocide and other such unjust actions. One of the most important lessons of the Holocaust is to be on guard against intolerance and demagoguery.

The Maureen and Robert Freedland Fund is an endowment established at the La Crosse Community Foundation in 2007. Annual proceeds support grants awarded by the La Crosse Public Education Foundation to help students to advance their understanding of the Shoah, the systematic genocide against the Jewish people and other “undesirable” groups targeted for destruction by the Nazis in World War II. In addition to exposing students to the history of the Shoah, teachers are encouraged to help students to recognize the events and beliefs that made the Shoah possible and relate them to events around the world affecting people of many nationalities and religious beliefs. Essay contest prizes were provided through a separate gift from Maureen and Robert Freedland.

“Through the grants and new essay contest, we hope students will come to better understand lessons of the Holocaust that may apply today, including current racial, ethnic and religious persecution around the world or the refugee policies that are debated today,” said Maureen Freedland.

For more information about the Shoah Studies grants, or the essay contest, contact the LPEF office at 787-0226, or go online to: <http://lacrosseeducationfoundation.org/awarded-grants/maureen-and-robert-freedland-shoah-study-grants/>

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