

Religious School- April 2023

Back in January, our Vav and Zayin students (6th and 7th grades) embarked on an essential journey. This journey was part of a legacy left behind by Agi Rado, an internationally recognized concert pianist, Holocaust survivor, and Bolton Street Synagogue member. Agi had shared her experience as a Holocaust survivor through many presentations with students, with the media, and with the USC Shoah Foundation. And so it was only fitting, that when Agi died in February of 2019, she instructed that some of her estate be used to fund Holocaust education at Bolton Street Synagogue.

Our students began their mission to learn and to teach important lessons learned from their Holocaust study. They explored the history of antisemitism and then traveled to Washington, DC, with their parents to visit the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. The students explored the vast topics to choose a focus for their study and presentations. After much discussion and some voting, the students chose to focus their project on Children in the Holocaust. Jay Weixelbaum, a BSS member who has some museum curating experience, visited the class to tell them about his research into the Holocaust and his strategies for curation. The students are using a 19 panel exhibit from Yad Vashem for their exhibit. They have been learning about their specific panels and practicing presentations for the exhibit. They will act as congregational docents for this Children of the Holocaust exhibit on Friday evening, April 28, following Shabbat services, and on Sunday morning, April 30, during religious school. In addition, the congregation will honor Agi Rado and her legacy with a memorial plaque and dedication. Congregants will also be able to watch excerpts from a video of Agi sharing her beautiful piano playing, and her poignant and painful memories of her experience before, during and after the Holocaust. Zichrona livracha. May Agi's memory forever be for a blessing, and may her legacy live on through the lessons we learn from our students.

