



women in the visual and literary arts

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HMH and Women in the Visual and Literary Arts Present New Virtual Exhibition

HOUSTON, TX (October 14, 2020) – Holocaust Museum Houston (HMH) and Women in the Visual and Literary Arts (WiVLA) have teamed up to present *Compassion*, a virtual exhibition on view on the Museum’s website through January 31, 2021. The virtual exhibition explores the meaning and manifestation of compassion in today’s world through vivid, colorful paintings, sculptures and other visual works of art paired with complementary written pieces – original poetry, essays, short stories and plays.

“Houston’s vibrant art scene is too often underrated,” said HMH CEO Dr. Kelly Zúñiga. “We’re honored to host some of our city’s talented writers and artists’ work in this virtual format, especially in this time when we could all do with a little more compassion.”

The exhibition is a collaboration between writer and artist members of WiVLA, a Houston-based organization that since 1994 has united and supported women artists and writers in their creative endeavors. The writers and artists collaborated for months to create their own interpretations of compassion, a poignant theme as the world continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic and issues of racial injustice.

Among its features are a quilt that commemorates the more than 70,000 physically and mentally disabled men, women and children killed by the Nazis, and a short play about two people struggling with negative news and anxiety and searching for hope. Other exhibition highlights include a sculpture made with milk, gold leaf and barbed wire, and a bilingual piece, written in English and Spanish, entitled “Compassion at the Border.” [Click here for exhibition photos accompanied by writings.](#)

Compassion is available to view through January 31, 2021, at no charge, at hmh.org/Compassion.

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ABOUT HOLOCAUST MUSEUM HOUSTON

Holocaust Museum Houston, Lester and Sue Smith Campus, a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization founded in 1996 by Houston-area Holocaust Survivors, their descendants and members of the community, is accredited by The American Alliance of Museums. Average annual attendance is 130,000 visitors, including more than 71,000 middle and high school students. The Museum is dedicated to educating people about the Holocaust, remembering the 6 million Jews and other innocent victims and honoring the survivors' legacy. Using the lessons of the Holocaust and other genocides, we teach the dangers of hatred, prejudice and apathy.

ABOUT WOMEN IN THE VISUAL AND LITERARY ARTS

WIVLA's mission is to provide an inspiring forum for women to explore and advance their creative development, to promote their work in the marketplace, and to infuse the community with their spirit of cooperation and invention. Women in the Visual and Literary Arts (WIVLA) is a nurturing place for sharing and growth, where visual artists, writers and other creatives meet in an atmosphere of support and mutual respect.