



Susan Wengraf
Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR
March 21, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Susan Wengraf & Sophie Hahn (co-authors), Mayor Arreguín (co-sponsor), Councilmember Bartlett (co-sponsor)

Subject: Proclamation in Honor of City of Berkeley Holocaust Remembrance Day

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Holocaust Remembrance Day Proclamation for the City of Berkeley's 20th Annual Holocaust Remembrance Day. The program will take place virtually on Sunday, April 16th from 2:00 - 3:00 PM.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

An allocation of \$6,000 dollars has been approved in the 2023 budget for this event.

BACKGROUND

For the past twenty years, The City of Berkeley has sponsored the Holocaust Remembrance Day program honoring survivors and remembering those who were murdered, those who resisted and those who rescued victims of the Holocaust.

More than 11 million people were targeted for extermination by the Nazis, including 6 million Jews, Roma, Poles, people with physical disabilities, homosexuals, communists, socialists and dissenting clergy.

The 2023 Berkeley Holocaust Remembrance Day theme is "*Remembrance and Resilience*". This year the community will honor Miriam Finder Tasini, retired UCLA professor and practitioner of psychiatry and psychoanalysis and author of *Where Are We Going*, who will speak about her experiences as a young child fleeing from the Nazis. The program will also feature Hannah Weisman, Executive Director of The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life, and musical performances by Aryeh Nussbaum Cohen, operatic countertenor, a unique candle lighting ceremony by survivors and family members, and a performance by young members of the Jewish Community Center of the East Bay.

Holocaust Remembrance Day reminds us of the extreme dangers of letting hate go unchecked. The program is meant to remind us of the horror of the systematic

annihilation of millions of innocent people and at the same time serves to strengthen and renew our belief in the courage and resilience of the survivors and rescuers.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No direct impact.

CONTACT PERSON

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Council District 6

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Attachments:

1: Proclamation

BERKELEY'S 20TH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

Whereas, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic genocide of more than six million European Jews by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945; and

Whereas, the Holocaust was a crime of shocking inhumanity, targeting for persecution and death, Jews and also Roma and Sinti people, those with mental illness and physical disabilities, homosexuals, Slavs, Poles, and members of anti-Nazi networks from throughout Europe; and

Whereas, this year's guiding Holocaust Remembrance theme of "*Remembrance and Resilience*" emphasizes the need to remember and acknowledge the atrocities of the past to heal and thrive in the present; and

Whereas, false information on the Holocaust continues to deny and trivialize the truth of what took place during the Nazi regime and, for the benefit of past, present and future generations, we must never forget the appalling crimes of the Holocaust; and

Whereas, the purpose of Berkeley's Holocaust Remembrance Day is to join together as a community to remember the Holocaust, honoring survivors who chose to rebuild their lives in Berkeley and the Bay Area, and to reflect on the need to respect all people.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Jesse Arreguín, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby proclaim April 16, 2023 as

Holocaust Remembrance Day

In the City of Berkeley, in memory of those who perished and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the City of Berkeley is committed to never forgetting the events of the Holocaust and to working actively to combat antisemitism, racism, bigotry, and hatred in all forms, and to the promotion of human rights and dignity for all.

