

**Rubric for Essays (Informative or Persuasive)**

Criteria	Exceptional (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
<b>Thesis/Focus</b>	Clear, compelling thesis directly addressing the prompt.	Clear thesis addressing the prompt.	Thesis is unclear or only partially addresses the prompt.	No clear thesis or focus.
<b>Evidence &amp; Support</b>	Extensive, well-researched evidence supports all claims.	Sufficient evidence supports most claims.	Limited or inconsistent use of evidence.	Little to no evidence provided.
<b>Historical Accuracy</b>	Facts are accurate and thoughtfully integrated.	Mostly accurate facts with minor errors.	Some inaccuracies or lack of depth.	Major inaccuracies or minimal historical content.
<b>Organization</b>	Logical, cohesive structure with smooth transitions.	Logical structure with minor lapses in flow.	Organization is inconsistent or unclear.	Disorganized and difficult to follow.
<b>Analysis/Insight</b>	Offers deep, original insights and connections.	Some thoughtful analysis and connections.	Analysis is superficial or lacks depth.	Minimal analysis or reflection.
<b>Engagement</b>	Engages and educates the reader powerfully.	Holds the reader's interest throughout.	Partially engaging or inconsistent tone.	Lacks engagement or interest.

Entry # \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_/24

Not scorable:

- ☐ No artist statement
- ☐ Artist statement does not answer questions asked
- ☐ Off topic

Judge's comments:

**Rubric for Creative Writing (Poetry, Fiction, or Memoir)**

Criteria	Exceptional (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
<b>Theme/Message</b>	Strong, clear connection to Holocaust themes.	Clear connection to Holocaust themes.	Connection to themes is implied or unclear.	Weak or no connection to Holocaust themes.
<b>Creativity</b>	Highly original and imaginative; unique perspective.	Some originality and imaginative elements.	Limited originality; relies on familiar ideas.	Lacks creativity or originality.
<b>Emotional Impact</b>	Deeply moving and impactful; stirs strong emotions.	Evokes some emotion and thoughtfulness.	Limited emotional resonance.	Fails to evoke emotion or engagement.
<b>Character/Voice</b>	Strong, authentic voice and character development.	Clear voice and some character development.	Voice is inconsistent or lacks authenticity.	Weak or no sense of voice or character.
<b>Historical Accuracy</b>	Facts are accurate and thoughtfully integrated.	Mostly accurate facts with minor errors.	Some inaccuracies or lack of depth.	Major inaccuracies or minimal historical content.
<b>Language/Imagery</b>	Rich, vivid language enhances the piece.	Descriptive language supports the narrative.	Limited or clichéd imagery.	Simple or ineffective language.

Entry # \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_/24

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- ☐ Artist statement does not answer questions asked
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Judge's comments:

### Rubric for Film

Criteria	Exceptional (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
<b>Theme/Message</b>	Strong, clear connection to Holocaust themes; powerful message.	Clear connection to themes with a coherent message.	Connection to themes is implied or unclear.	Weak or no connection to Holocaust themes.
<b>Historical Accuracy</b>	Facts are accurate and thoughtfully integrated.	Mostly accurate facts with minor errors.	Some inaccuracies or lack of depth.	Major inaccuracies or minimal historical content.
<b>Cinematography</b>	Creative, professional camera work enhances storytelling.	Good camera work with minor inconsistencies.	Basic camera work with limited creativity.	Poor or distracting cinematography.
<b>Editing</b>	Seamless transitions; pacing enhances the film's impact.	Smooth editing with minor issues in pacing.	Editing is uneven or detracts from the story.	Poor editing disrupts flow or clarity.
<b>Sound &amp; Music</b>	Exceptional use of sound/music to enhance mood and theme.	Effective sound/music with minor issues.	Sound/music is inconsistent or distracting.	Poor sound quality or inappropriate music.
<b>Emotional Impact</b>	Deeply moving; evokes strong emotions and reflection.	Evokes some emotional engagement.	Limited emotional resonance.	Fails to evoke emotion or engagement.

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Judge's comments:

**Rubric for 2D Art (Drawing, Painting, Digital Art, etc.)**

Criteria	Exceptional (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
<b>Theme/Message</b>	Strong, clear connection to Holocaust themes; thought-provoking.	Clear connection to themes with some depth.	Connection to themes is vague or unclear.	Weak or no connection to Holocaust themes.
<b>Composition</b>	Balanced, visually striking; elements work harmoniously.	Strong composition with minor issues.	Composition is inconsistent or lacks focus.	Disorganized or poorly composed.
<b>Technical Skill</b>	Highly skilled, precise use of tools and techniques.	Competent skill with minor technical flaws.	Basic skill; some technical challenges.	Minimal skill or effort evident.
<b>Creativity</b>	Unique, imaginative approach; original perspective.	Some creativity and original ideas.	Limited creativity; ideas feel familiar.	Lacks creativity or originality.
<b>Use of Color/Value</b>	Masterful use of color, shading, and contrast.	Effective use of color and contrast with minor flaws.	Basic use of color; lacks depth or contrast.	Poor use of color or value; lacks impact.
<b>Historical Accuracy</b>	Facts are accurate and thoughtfully integrated.	Mostly accurate facts with minor errors.	Some inaccuracies or lack of depth.	Major inaccuracies or minimal historical content.

Entry # \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_/24

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- ☐ Artist statement does not answer questions asked
- ☐ Off topic

Judge's comments:

**Rubric for 3D Art (Sculpture, Installation, etc.)**

Criteria	Exceptional (4)	Proficient (3)	Developing (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
<b>Theme/Message</b>	Strong, clear connection to Holocaust themes; powerful message.	Clear connection to themes with a coherent message.	Connection to themes is vague or unclear.	Weak or no connection to Holocaust themes.
<b>Design &amp; Form</b>	Masterful design; form enhances the overall impact.	Strong design with minor inconsistencies.	Basic design; lacks refinement or cohesion.	Poorly designed or disjointed form.
<b>Craftsmanship</b>	High attention to detail; materials expertly used.	Careful craftsmanship with minor flaws.	Craftsmanship is inconsistent or basic.	Poor craftsmanship; lacks effort or care.
<b>Creativity</b>	Unique, innovative approach to the theme.	Some originality and thoughtful execution.	Limited creativity; ideas feel familiar.	Lacks creativity or originality.
<b>Use of Materials</b>	Exceptional, innovative use of materials.	Effective use of materials with minor issues.	Basic use of materials; lacks innovation.	Poor or ineffective use of materials.
<b>Historical Accuracy</b>	Facts are accurate and thoughtfully integrated.	Mostly accurate facts with minor errors.	Some inaccuracies or lack of depth.	Major inaccuracies or minimal historical content.

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- ☐ Off topic

Judge's comments: