

North Carolina's First Women's Holocaust Monument

"She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots"

Greensboro North Carolina

Building upon the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and the end of the Holocaust, "*She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots*" will be **North Carolina's First Women's Holocaust Monument**. This original sculpture by artist **Victoria Milstein** will honor the strength and resilience of all women.

The Monument will be beautifully situated in one of Greensboro's downtown parks, becoming a place for the community to remember the Holocaust and have the impactful opportunity to be a witness to history. The Monument will honor those who perished and make a statement against the murder of women and children, antisemitism and all genocide. It will educate new generations about how the past can inform the present and future.

This initiative can serve as a resource for North Carolina's Holocaust Education Act, which requires the State Board of Education to include instruction of the Holocaust and genocide. Situated near cultural and educational institutions and in the heart of downtown, the monument will offer visual tools for scholars and Holocaust educators. A portion of the monument will be made from EConcrete, an Israeli based technology, that will serve to tie the monument to the land of Israel.

We are proud that the site of this monument will be in Greensboro, a city that recognizes the diversity of our community and is committed to using the Arts as a vehicle to educate and unite in the pursuit of social justice.

Background: https://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/exhibitions/museum_photos/skeden_2.asp
https://www.yadvashem.org/untoldstories/database/murderSite.asp?site_id=572

Liepāja Massacre in Latvia Dec.15th 1941

In Latvia on Monday, Dec. 15, 1941, thousands of Jewish women and children were taken to the women's prison in Liepaja. From there, in the freezing cold, they were marched to a nearby beach called Skede, forced to strip to their underclothes, taken to the edge of a trench and shot dead in groups of 10. After three straight days of methodical slaughter, 2,749 Jews, mostly women and children — had been murdered. Many of the victims were photographed in their final moments by a Nazi photographer. One such photograph serves as the basis for this Monument.



The Artist's story:

We see the strength and the humility of generations of Jewish women from Liepaja, moments before they were murdered by Nazis in 1941. They stand in their innocence; their only crime was that they were Jews. The photo I used as inspiration for the monument was taken by a Nazi photographer to document the victories of the Nazi regime as propaganda for its German citizens. My hope is that each time one views the monument

from that perspective, one becomes witness to exactly the opposite of what the Nazi photographer intended to document.

Standing arm in arm are five women in their last act, looking straight at us today, with grace, humanity and defiance. The older woman asked to strip stands in the center with her boots on as she clutches onto the arms of generations of women in her family. The two figures on the end of the grouping bring us physically into the sculpture, revealing an emotional narrative of their impending death. With a snap of the camera we almost can't comprehend the innocence that we see. One sees the subtle emotions of fear, disbelief, terror and even hope. The youngest, with her head bent, clutches her fists, communicating the human horror of the Holocaust and reminding us of the several million children that were exterminated.

I was very influenced by Rodin's sculpture of the "The Burghers of Calais" where each figure communicates the emotional journey of their impending death. When I first saw the photograph, I saw my sisters, Jewish women, and it changed me forever. You can't unsee what you have seen.

For information on the artist please visit

<http://www.vcmstudio.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GPjR3oCO7gU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RC2bv3v7fsU>

Macquet (study) of what will be in Bronze- NC first Women's Holocaust Monument:

In progress as of Summer, 2020



Carolina Bronze Sculpture- East Coasts Premier Art Foundry will be working with Victoria in the Bronze



Fabrication of the Macquet <https://carolinabronze.com/>

Public and Private Funding:

North Carolina's First Women's Holocaust Monument committee is in formation. Please let us know if you would like to join

A fund has been established at the **Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro** to accept donations for this project. For additional information please make your donation here <https://netcommunity.cfgg.org/HolocaustMonumentFund> or contact Sue Simmons at holocaustmonument@gmail.com

For information on "Place Making" experiential Art & Drama Holocaust Education Workshop built around the Liepāja Massacre and North Carolina's First Women's Monument contact Elizabeth Alberti at 631-897-8300 or e-mail her at triconsultantliz@gmail.com

By supporting the creation of North Carolina's First Women's Holocaust Monument and the place making Holocaust Education Art workshop, participant are witnesses to exactly the opposite of what the Nazi photographer was documenting. We will be honoring the memory of the Jewish women and children who died in the Holocaust and "Bear Witness" to their lives and the hope for a better future.

Please JOIN US!

Who we are:

- **Victoria Carlin Milstein- Painter, Teacher, Social Practice Artist**



Originally from New York, Victoria Carlin Milstein has lived and traveled around the world, and now resides in Greensboro, NC. Victoria studied at The School of Visual Arts in New York City, and The Bezalel Academy of Art in Jerusalem. Victoria's portraits hang in private and public collections globally including The Jewish Theological Seminary and the Supreme Court of North Carolina. Her works have been featured in important international exhibitions including the Hecksher Museum of Fine Art, The Greensboro Historical Museum, The African America Atelier, The University of North Carolina Greensboro's Archival Library, The Greenhill Gallery, and the Menachem Begin Heritage Center Museum in Jerusalem. Currently, when not working on this project, she serves on numerous community boards and organizations, and is a recent recipient of the Anne Hummel YWCA Mission Award for her work in establishing Victoria's House a art center for children experiencing homelessness. Victoria was a 2018 TedX Greensboro Speaker and operates VCM Art Studio a place of mentorship and fellowship, with model drawings, workshops, and community events for all demographics.

visit: <http://www.vcmstudio.com/>

- **Elizabeth Alberti MA- Advancement Professional, Jewish Educator**



Elizabeth Alberti, MA is a seasoned philanthropy professional with broad experience in government affairs, communications, advocacy, and Jewish education. With a dynamic career in institutional advance spanning over 20 years, she has led Institutional advancement and external affairs management for the country's most prestigious Jewish communal and higher education institutions such as, New York Federation (UJA), The Simon Wiesenthal Center, American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), and Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University. Elizabeth has recently moved from her role as the Senior Director of Institutional Advancement at Touro College to work full time at her firm TRIConsultants a full-service advancement, external affairs, and community engagement firm. Liz is fluent in Dutch and Hebrew and loves to spend her free time visiting her four children who live in Manhattan, Vermont, and Colorado.

- **Sue Simmons – Development Professional, Community Volunteer**



Sue Simmons has been working in the nonprofit sector for over 25 years, as a professional and volunteer. Sue was the Director of the Advancement Group at the Center for Creative Leadership and is currently a Managing Director of S&G Consulting, working in the nonprofit sector. In March of 2015, Sue presented on nonprofit leadership at the International Jewish Funders Network conference in Tel Aviv. In her volunteer capacity, she served as board chairs of Family Service of the Piedmont Greensboro Foundation, Jewish Family Services of Greensboro, and B'nai Shalom Day School. Sue is immediate Past President of the Greensboro Jewish Federation and a past campaign chair. and currently serves as the Chair of the Jewish Community Relations Committee at the Federation. Sue holds a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Communications from the University of Cincinnati and lives in Greensboro, NC with her husband Gary. Sue enjoys travel, reading, engaging in philanthropy and community service using her voice and time to work toward a more equal and just society.

Community Outreach

North Carolina's First Women's Holocaust Monument "She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots"

- I. Greensboro Downtown Parks Inc. is a non-profit organization in partnership with the City of Greensboro.

- II. **Ad-Hoc Committee for the North Carolina's First Women's Holocaust Monument Project**

Marilyn Chandler-Executive Director, Greensboro Jewish Federation

Nancy Hoffman-City Council Representative, City of Greensboro

Amanda Loflin-Director of Special Events, Greensboro Downtown Parks, Inc.

Gene and Gail LeBauer and Family - Board Member, Greensboro Downtown Parks Inc.

Hillary Meredith-Board Member, Greensboro Downtown Parks, Inc.

Victoria Carlin Milstein-Artist, VCM Art Studio, Greensboro, NC

Amanda Miller-Director of Programming & Marketing, Greensboro Downtown Parks, Inc

Rob Overman-Executive Director, Greensboro Downtown Parks, Inc.

Cheryl Stewart-Public Art Endowment

Judy Magier, family of Holocaust Survivor

Elizabeth Alberti -Executive Director, NC Women's Holocaust Monument "She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots"

- III. **Community Support**

The following community leaders are supporting this initiative:

- Congressman Mark Walker (6th District, NC)
- Congressman Ted Budd (13th District, NC)
- Julie Emmons, Chief of Staff, Congressman Mark Walker
- North Carolina State Senator Jon Hardister (Guilford County)
- Ms. Ramona Bartos, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
- Rabbi Fred Guttman- Temple Emanuel
- Rabbi Mendy Minkowitz of Elon University's Chabad
- David Crowe- David M. Crowe, PhD, Presidential Fellow, Professor Emeritus of History & Law
Elon University

- Michael Abramson of the North Carolina Council on the Holocaust
- Elan S. Carr, United States Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism
- Zack Matheny DGI President at Downtown Greensboro Incorporated
- Kathy Manning (Candidate for Congress) Philanthropist, Community and Jewish leader
- Randell Kaplan Philanthropist, Community and Jewish leader
- John Swaine CEO International Civil Rights Museum
- Ron Milstein -Philanthropist, Community volunteer
- Anne E. Parsons, Director of Public History Associate Professor Dept. of History,
- Ellen Haskell, Director of Jewish Studies Professor, Dept. of Religious Studies
- Teresa Walch, Holocaust Historian, Assistant Professor, Dept. of History
- Adam Carlin, Director Greensboro Project Space
- Michael Oren- Former Ambassador of Israel to the United States
- Avi Cohen- NBC producer
- Shimrit Perkol-Finkel – Co-Founder & CEO, EConcrete Tech LTD
- Melissa and Ed Walker of Carolina Bronze Sculpture
- Roy Schwartzman, Professor, USC Shoah Foundation Teaching Fellow, Dept Head, Dept of Communication Studies
- Jessica Viggiano-United States Holocaust Museum Director, Council Relations
- Susanne Sanders- Deputy Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues
- Mark and Debbie Meadows- Chief of Staff State Department
- Sherri Daniels Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues
- Rabbi Abraham Cooper Dir-Global Social Action the Simon Wiesenthal Center
- Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon, Beth David Synagogue

Summary Letters of Support

August 16, 2020

The following is a list of the people who have sent letters of support for this Monument to be placed in one of our downtown parks. We respectfully submit these for your consideration.

Representatives Mark Walker and Ted Budd – Members of US. Congress Washington, DC

Mr. Michael Abramson – Chairman, NC Council on the Holocaust, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Raleigh, NC

Gail and Gene LeBauer - Family of Carolyn LeBauer and community leaders, Greensboro, NC

Mr. John Swaine, CEO International Civil Rights Center and Museum, Greensboro, NC

Mrs. Shelly Weiner – Holocaust Survivor, Former board member, NC Council on the Holocaust. Greensboro, NC

Mr. Randall Kaplan – Community Leader, Philanthropist- Greensboro, NC

Rabbi Fred Guttman – Senior Rabbi Temple Emanuel, Holocaust Educator, Greensboro, NC

Rabbi Joshua Ben Gideon – Rabbi Beth David Synagogue, Greensboro, NC

Joint letter from UNCG faculty:

- Anne E. Parsons, Director of Public History Associate Professor Dept. of History,
- Ellen Haskell, Director of Jewish Studies Professor, Dept. of Religious Studies
- Teresa Walch, Holocaust Historian, Assistant Professor, Dept. of History
- Adam Carlin, Director Greensboro Project Space
- Roy Schwartzman, Professor, USC Shoah Foundation Teaching Fellow, Dept Head, Dept of Communication Studies

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 2020

Mayor Nancy Vaughn
Greensboro City Council
303 West Washington Street
Greensboro, NC 27401

Dear Mayor Vaughn and the Greensboro City Council,

We the undersigned, write to you in support of the proposed Women's Holocaust Memorial "She Wouldn't Take Off her Boots," to be located in a public park in downtown Greensboro. The proposed monument would be the first memorial to Women's Holocaust victims in the entire state. It is only right that Greensboro -the site of the International Civil Rights Museum- would host such a historic memorial dedicated to the fight against bigotry.

The city of Greensboro has long led the fight for honoring, archiving, and remembering the stories of those who through suffering, fought racism by tapping into the greatest of forces- the indomitable human spirit. Downtown Greensboro is tailor-made to house such a monument. The story behind the intended memorial itself is incredible. Freezing cold, starving and exhausted, the five women depicted represent the boundless capacity of the human spirit to hope in every circumstance. With this memorial, they will now become immortal in their death, multiplied decades after the fall of the hideous Nazi regime.

The messages contained in this memorial are timeless: the necessity of hope in times of terror, the strength of family bonds, the denouncing of monsters who kill women and children, common humanity, and horror at genocide and anti-Semitism. The memorial combines artistry with pedagogical purpose, fulfilling requirements from North Carolina's Holocaust Education Act by functioning as a visual resource for learners. We hope you will take particular note of the artist's inclusion of the camera directly facing the memorial's observers. The inclusion of the camera challenges and confronts us all with our response to injustice we observe, especially in these troubled times.

We urge your support for this memorial's installation in a public park in downtown Greensboro. This memorial pushes us to stand up against bigotry, injustice, and genocide everywhere it is found with the same courage and fortitude shown by these women many years ago.

Sincerely,



Mark Walker
Member of Congress



Ted Budd
Member of Congress



NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON THE HOLOCAUST

N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction
301 N. Wilmington St.
Raleigh, NC 27601
919-807-3436

www.ncpublicschools.org/holocaust-council

Michael Abramson
CHAIRMAN
mabramson919@gmail.com
919-787-9939

State of North Carolina
Roy Cooper
GOVERNOR

**North Carolina Department
of Public Instruction**
Mark Johnson
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

July 23, 2020

Mayor Nancy Vaughan & Greensboro City Council Members
P.O. Box 3136
Greensboro, NC 27401-3136

Dear Mayor Vaughan,

I believe the Holocaust monument, "She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots," is critical to further racial and ethnic understanding in North Carolina. I feel the monument will prompt North Carolinians to study the impact of bigotry and intolerance on society similar to the Woolworth's lunch counter at the International Civil Rights Center & Museum.

The Holocaust occurred because good people did not take action against hate. This monument will prompt individuals to consider how their behavior affects others and will motivate individuals to work together with the goal to eliminate the negative misconceptions we have of each other.

The monument will be a positive addition to downtown Greensboro and will be placed in a strategic location so that students and other groups can have easy access to view it.

The monument will serve as a focal point where individuals and classes can initiate frank and honest dialogue about pluralism, tolerance and acceptance. A key lesson of the Holocaust is that hate will thrive when ignorance and indifference exist in a community.

The monument will serve as beacon to understanding and education among all people.

Sincerely,

Michael Abramson
Chairman, NC Council on the Holocaust
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction

Gail and Gene LeBauer
4501 BlueViolet Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410

November 12, 2020

Mayor Nancy Vaughan and Members of the Greensboro City Council
303 West Washington Street
Greensboro, NC 27401


Dear Mayor Vaughn and the Greensboro City Council,

Our family has been deeply entrenched in multiple aspects of the development of our city, and in addition to the musical, medical, and municipal foci, we are now totally embracing the proposition of a Women's Holocaust Memorial "SHE WOULDN'T TAKE HER BOOTS OFF" to be placed in the Carolyn's Garden in the Carolyn and Maurice LeBauer Park. It was 4 years ago this month that this extraordinary park was dedicated and first opened, and it is a living tribute to the commitment and values of the LeBauers and their legacy of creating safe and open spaces in order to build bridges between all members of our community. This has been a passion of the personal as well as public lives of the family who gave this extraordinary park to our city so that all could come together and laugh, play, walk, eat, and celebrate our ability to live open and free lives with one another in freedom and joy.

To create a Holocaust Memorial in this beautiful garden space would powerfully add to the importance of the celebration of Carolyn's life and commitments; her indomitable spirit would be so aptly represented by these women who stood up in the only way they had available –and the woman who refused to take off her boots shows that we each can have a way to stand up and resist that which is insufferable, intolerable, and inhumane. It truly speaks volumes for the power of human resistance to forces of evil and injustice and helps us all understand that each of us has the power to find our voice in actions and deeds.

The messages contained in this memorial are timeless and are a tribute to the commitment to not look away, to show up and be counted for fighting discrimination and racism and that even in the presence of unspeakable evil, we can each of us find our voice for good. Placing this Holocaust Memorial in Carolyn's Garden of the LeBauer Park will remind us to stand up against bigotry, injustice and genocide everywhere. We fully encourage and applaud this monument's placement to remind us of the responsibility that each of us have to build a more equitable and tolerant society. This is the Legacy of the Carolyn and Maurice LeBauer Park, on the 4th anniversary of this incredible gift to our city.

Most sincerely,
Gail and Gene LeBauer



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL RIGHTS CENTER & MUSEUM

August 11, 2020

Mayor Nancy Vaughan
Members of the Greensboro City Council
P.O. Box 3136
Greensboro, NC 27402-3136

Dear Mayor Vaughan and Members of Council,

I have recently been in discussion with Victoria Milstein about an extraordinary sculptural creation for the first Women's Holocaust Monument in North Carolina, "She Wouldn't Take off her Boots," planned for placement in one of the downtown Greensboro parks.

From the many accounts that we have discussed often, from the perspective of the landmark F.W. Woolworth's, Greensboro has a widely respected reputation as a place with a long history of social justice activities on behalf of recognizing the dignity of every human being. It is the most fitting place that I can imagine, for expanding the civil and human rights dialog that might be focused on such a powerful monument. The opportunity for a prominent placement of this sensitively conceived sculpture adds to the potentially enlightening character of internationally recognized conversations, enriched with reminders of Greensboro's lessons to the rest of the world and its status as a "Civil Rights City."

During my meeting with Ms. Milstein, we discussed the possibility of expanded exhibits and educational programming for the community designed not only to remember the victims of the Holocaust, but also to educate the community forward in the direction of a more just and tolerant society. As a city distinguished as the site for six universities and colleges, this timely memorial can give both warning and hope to future generations who will also consider the past, honor the victims of all genocides, and situate the Greensboro at the forefront of enhancing respect for all people. As the proponents of this elaborate work of art explain, it will take the same courage as the women of the monument portray, for us to build a more equitable and resilient society for all.

The International Civil Rights Center & Museum very enthusiastically supports this wonderful addition to the Greensboro landscape and its reflective potential for ongoing programming and community interactions.

Please feel free to contact me directly at (336) 274-9199 if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,



John L. Swaine, CEO

International Civil Rights Center & Museum

Mayor Nancy Vaughan and members of the Greensboro City Council

P.O. Box 3136

Greensboro, NC 27402-3136

My name is Shelly Weiner. I am a Greensboro resident since 1972. I am also a Holocaust survivor. I was 4 years old when the Nazis came to our town in the then Poland/Ukraine. My mother, me, my aunt, and my 5 years old cousin were hidden by a Ukraine farm family in the attic of their barn. If it were not for the strength of our mothers, we would not have survived for those 28 months in hiding.

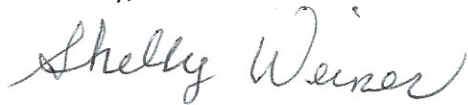
I have served the last forty years as an advocate and speaker in the schools of NC many, many times each year. I have also used my voice to promote the appreciation of differences and against the horrors of the holocaust and all abuses of human rights.

I have been made aware of the creation of the first Women's Holocaust Monument in North Carolina., "She wouldn't Take Off her Boots" slated to be placed in one of the Greensboro's Downtown Parks. Greensboro's reputation as a city with a long history of social justice support makes it the perfect place for this monument. I cannot think of a better or more fitting tribute than this sculpture to continue this tradition.

Remembering the victims of the Holocaust, especially women and children is especially timely as we all seek a more just and tolerant society. It gives us hope for the future while we remember the past and honor the victims of not only the Holocaust, but of all genocide.

I am fully supportive of this wonderful addition to Greensboro. The monument will remind us to stand up against bigotry, injustice, and genocide everywhere. It will take the same courage as the women of the monument portray for us to build a more equitable and tolerant society.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelly Weiner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Shelly Weiner

July 27, 2020

Mayor Vaughan and Members of the City Council,

I am aware of the creation of the first Women's Holocaust Monument in North Carolina, "She Wouldn't Take off her Boots", that is proposed to be placed in one of Greensboro's Downtown Parks. Greensboro's reputation as a city with a long history of social justice makes it the perfect place for this monument. Moreover, the sculpture is being created by a renowned artist that lives in our community. I cannot think of a better or more fitting tribute than this sculpture to continue Greensboro's legacy of equality and social action.

Remembering the victims of the Holocaust, especially women and children is especially timely as we all seek a more just and tolerant society. The message of this memorial is timeless and it gives us hope for the future while we remember the past and honor the victims of not only the Holocaust, but of all genocide and government sponsored terror.

This monument will be a place of learning and growth for all the citizens and tourists of Greensboro. The monument will ground the learning that will take place at workshops at the site. With the placement of the camera looking at the monument, it will enable participants to experience part of the story and look at it from many perspectives, bringing this history to life.

I believe that the community will be fully supportive of this wonderful addition to Greensboro. The monument will remind us to stand up for bigotry, injustice, and genocide everywhere. It will take the same courage as the women of the monument portray, for us all to build a more tolerant and just society.

Sincerely,

Randall R. Kaplan

Randall R. Kaplan

JEFFERSON ROAD CAMPUS

1129 Jefferson Road
Greensboro, North Carolina 27410
Phone: (336) 292-7899 Fax: (336) 292-6527
www.tegreensboro.org



HISTORIC DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

713 North Greene Street

FRED GUTTMAN
M.H.L., M.ED., D. DIV
SENIOR RABBI

ANDY KOREN,
M.H.L., D. DIV
SENIOR RABBI ELECT / DIR.
OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LAURA DENHARDT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LOUISE VAN SCHAAK
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CHILDHOOD ENGAGEMENT
CENTER

BRENDA HENLEY
DIRECTOR OF
CONGREGATIONAL SERVICES

NATALYA KOBELEVA
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JESSICA BALOGH
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

ELIZABETH ELLIOTT
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ERIKA LEVITAN-BROWNE

ERICA LEVY-RINGEL

TODD LEWIS

RONALD MILSTEIN

ANNE PARSONS

GERALD PLOVSKY

SUSAN ROSS

AMY THOMPSON

GARY WOLF

August 10, 2020

Mayor Nancy Vaughan & the Greensboro City Council
P.O. Box 3136
Greensboro, NC 27402-3136

Dear Mayor Vaughan & City Council Members,

I have been a Holocaust history educator for more than 40 years and have seen countless Holocaust Memorials throughout the world, from North America to Europe to Israel. It is generally accepted that the two most impressive and moving monuments are the "Warsaw Ghetto Monument," by Natan Rapoport in Warsaw, and the "Janusz Korczak and the Orphans" monument in Jerusalem.

It is not an exaggeration, in my opinion, to say that Victoria Milstein's proposed monument, "She Wouldn't Take Off Her Boots" will take its place among the most important Holocaust Memorials in the world.

The monument will be based upon a picture which shows five women waiting to be shot by the Nazis in Liepāja, Latvia on December 15, 1941. These women were killed as part of the mobile killing operations from 1940 to 1943. It is estimated that 2,000,000 people, mostly Jews, were killed in this way. These operations took place primarily in Eastern Europe. Amazingly, one of the women refused to take off her boots. This was an expression of her desire to maintain some semblance of humanity, even as the end approached.

This monument is an example of what is called "spiritual resistance." It shows the indomitable spirit of these women in the face of incomprehensible evil.

The other thing that was amazing about this picture is that it was taken by a Nazi photographer. One can only wonder what was in that photographer's mind as other people were being callously murdered and these five women were waiting their turn.

The monument will also show that there were people who were willing to take pictures as these horrible murders took place. Educationally, this will raise the question as to what constitutes a "collaborator," a "bystander" or an "upstander" in the face of oppression and evil.

The sculpture captures an amazing moment that has enormous educational possibilities for people of all faiths. What makes it so impressive is not only the story that it represents, but the challenge it presents to all of us to take to heart its messages and teachings of human resistance to injustice and evil.

Greensboro has a magnificent history of Civil Rights. By bringing this incredible sculpture to our community, made by an inspired local artist, Greensboro will proudly possess an incredible artistic testimony to the memory of the Holocaust. The educational potential of this, especially for young people, will be tremendous.

Therefore, I urge you to accept this wonderful sculpture as the opportunity that it is, and to find a prominent place for it within our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fred Guttman".

Rabbi Fred Guttman



Joshua Ben-Gideon August 13, 2020
Rabbi

Corie Hampton
Executive Director

Jason Cathcart
Director of Congregational
Learning

Kathy Clontz
Office Administrator

Steve Schub
Facilities Manager

Philip Silver
Shamesh

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Cheryl Greenberg
Lifelong Learning

Beth Socol
Religious Life

Mayor Nancy Vaughan and members of the Greensboro City Council
P.O. Box 3136
Greensboro, NC 27402-3136

Dear Mayor Vaughan and City Council members,

As you know, our great city of Greensboro has a long history of stepping up early to help lead the way in the fight for human rights, civil rights, and dignity for all. Also, our city has a long-established Jewish community dedicated to the wellbeing of the Piedmont. The intersection of these two pieces of our collective history make Greensboro a perfect place to establish the first Women's Holocaust Monument in North Carolina, "*She Wouldn't Take off her Boots*" slated to be placed in one of Greensboro's Downtown Parks.

The theme of this incredible sculpture is "Resistance to Tyranny", very appropriate for all time, yet perhaps one we are even more in need of today. The way that this theme of resistance is represented by this statue will inspire all Greensboro citizens and visitors. It deserves a special place in a central park downtown.

With plans to connect the theme represented in this powerful statue to other struggles for dignity and equality in our own city, state and country, it will be an essential element inspiring generations to come to continue to help our beloved Greensboro bend the arc towards justice.

Sincerely

Rabbi Joshua Ben-Gideon



2137 MHRA Building
1111 Spring Garden Street
Greensboro, NC 27412

August 13, 2020

Greensboro City Council
P.O. Box 3136
Greensboro, NC 27401

Dear Mayor Vaughn and Members of the City Council:

We are writing to state our wholehearted support for the **Women's Holocaust Monument** *She Wouldn't Take off Her Boots* by artist Victoria Milstein. The monument honors the deaths of six million Jews by honoring the strength of women photographed and killed by the Nazis in Liepaja, Latvia in 1941.

Why is it important to remember the Holocaust here in Greensboro? There are three main reasons our city needs a Holocaust memorial now more than ever. First, many survivors and their family members settled in Greensboro in the decades after World War II. For these individuals and the Jewish community, the monument will provide a space for reflection, commemoration, and mourning for the lives lost during the Holocaust.

The monument and its educational workshop will also teach our community about the danger of white supremacy, anti-semitism, and xenophobia. Our city has a history of activism against racism and injustice and this monument will provide another place where people can learn about the past in order to fight against white supremacy today.

Finally, our state legislature recently passed the North Carolina Holocaust Education Act. This law requires that every school in the state teaches the history of the Holocaust. The Women's Holocaust Monument will provide a physical place in the city where teachers can take their students and teach about this history of genocide. Thank you for your support of the Women's Holocaust Monument. When we heal from the past, we forge a better future.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Parsons, Director of Public History
Associate Professor, Dept. of History

Ellen Haskell, Director of Jewish Studies
Professor, Dept. of Religious Studies

Teresa Walch, Holocaust Historian
Assistant Professor, Dept. of History

Adam Carlin
Director, Greensboro Project Space

Roy Schwartzman, Professor
USC Shoah Foundation Teaching Fellow
Dept. Head, Dept. of Communication Studies

Carolyn's Garden LeBauer Park	Across from Library LeBauer Park	Circle across from Cultural Arts Center City Park	Behnd Fountain City Park	Curb facing Elm Street City Park
Rankings				
2		1	x	x
1	5	2	3	4
1			x	x
1	3	2	4	5
1	5	2	3	5
1	3	2	x	x
1		2		
Comments				
Children could be noisy if programming is in the daytime	Negative: Traffic, close to the street. Positive is that it's shady	Great location. Fountain noise could be a problem for programming	Small space Noise from fountain	Positive - shady. Negative close to the street
	No	Water is loud No natural seating		No
I love the sounds of children. The Flora is beautiful. It will have people	Out of the way	Fountain noise could be a problem	Fountain noise could be a problem	Too commercial
Proximity to children's garden - screaming kids		I lke it in this park - more monumental & important site, more seious part of the parks		
The Park was donated by Carolyn LeBauer, a Greensboro Jewish Family. Having the monument nested in this garden would be respectful and appropriate. The space is also perfect for programming		The garden calls for a sculpture- ideal locations - cultural hotspot for the community		
This has a "sacred space energy, peaceful, flowers invite you to enter and explore. Can walk all around to see different angles of sculpture				

Foundry Information

Victoria has developed a relationship with Carolina Bronze Foundry. Their team will be working with the artist to take the 16 x 24-inch clay model and translate into a 5' by 7' bronze sculpture for "She Would Not Take Off Her Boots" Holocaust Monument. Working with this foundry the sculpture will be hand sculpted by the artist at the foundry, located close to Greensboro in Seagrove, NC. Not only is it a world class foundry but its staff is dedicated to the fine artistry demanded by the artist for the final sculpture. a match made in heaven for artist Milstein.

Some of Carolina Bronze Foundry high profile projects include:

Captain Jack, the Spirit of Mecklenburg (Charlotte NC), a 14' bronze rider and horse sculpted by Chas Fagan. Fagan's other works include President HW Bush and President GW Bush at the Bush libraries in TX, the 7' Ronald Reagan that stands inside the Rotunda of the US Capitol in Washington DC, as well as the 12' Reagan that stands opposite then General Eisenhower outside the US Embassy in London, and a sculpture of Pope John Paul II.

We will be utilizing its services from start to end including, as they state on their website:

Complete Installation Services— We can pack, ship and install your sculpture anywhere in the world. Let us handle the engineering for large bases, both stone, concrete and metal, cranes, logistics on the road and final details.

Crating and Shipping— For smaller work and for pieces that you intend to install yourself, our expert packers can ship your work through UPS or a freight company.

Consultation Services— Need advice on any aspect of the business of sculpture? From the beginning sculptor, to the professional, our expert, experienced staff knows the answer. New to the bronze casting experience? Visit our foundry for a behind the scenes tour to see how our sculpture is made.

The work is site specific; final size weight and dimensions will be detailed by an engineer that works with the foundry.

The Monument is being presented to the City as a gift as created and fabricated, and will be fully installed by the foundry at the specific site.