

SPOTLIGHT PERSON : ELIE WIESEL

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Spotlight Person Article
.....1 & 2

Spotlight Event Article
.....3

Organizations.....4 & 5

On-Campus Events..6 & 7

Off-Campus Events.....7

**On-Campus Support
Groups.....8 & 9**

Discussion Series.....9

Conferences.....10

About Us.....10

Earlier this year, the Shoah Community was saddened to hear about the passing of Holocaust Survivor, novelist, philosopher, humanist, and Nobel Laureate, Elie Wiesel. Throughout his life, Wiesel made many contributions to the preservation of the memory of the Holocaust, and the many people whose human rights were stolen by the Nazis before and during World War II.

Wiesel was born in Sighet, Transylvania, which is now a part of modern day Romania, on September 30, 1928. At the age of fifteen, Wiesel and his family were deported to Auschwitz where his mother and younger sister died shortly after their arrival. Later on in the war, Elie and his father were deported to Buchenwald where his father would perish mere weeks before the camp's liberation in April of 1945. Wiesel documented his experience in the Nazi death camps in his memoir *Night* that has gone on to become a classic and internationally acclaimed example of Holocaust era literature. This memoir was first published in 1956, while Wiesel was working as a journalist in Paris, France. Since its debut, the memoir has been translated

into thirty different languages and has spurred on an international dialogue of Holocaust remembrance. Wiesel wrote sixty published works including essays, novels, and memoirs mostly revolving around his experience in the Nazi death camps.

Throughout his life, Wiesel received countless amounts of recognition for his humanitarian efforts and literary works. He was a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal, the National Humanities Medal, the Medal of Liberty, and he was awarded the rank of Grand-Croix in the French Legion of Honor. He also was the recipient of over one hundred honorary degrees from institutions of higher education. In 1986, Elie Wiesel received the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in literature and human rights activities. A mere three months after he received his Nobel Prize, he and his wife Marion founded the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity (www.eliewieselfoundation.org), which strives to fight intolerance, indifference, and injustice worldwide.

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SPOTLIGHT PERSON : ELIE WIESEL, CONT.

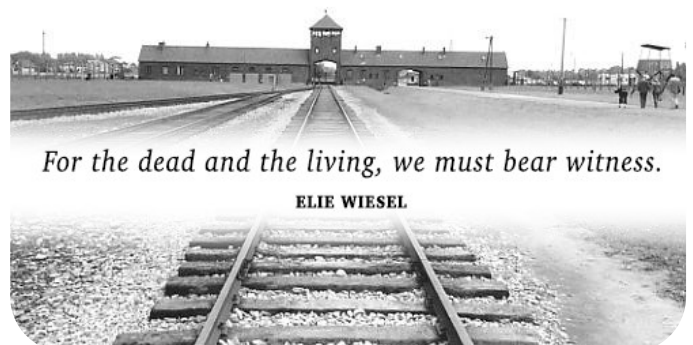
Through his humanitarian efforts, Wiesel defended the cause of many groups who faced persecution. Soviet Jews, Cambodian refugees, victims of famine and genocide in Africa, victims of South African apartheid, and victims of war in the former Yugoslavia are a few of the populations he and his foundation have supported. Wiesel also supported the creation of the Jewish State of Israel, and he tirelessly strove for peace in the Mid-East.

Wiesel always held education in high regard. Beginning in 1976, Elie Wiesel was named the Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Humanities at Boston University, where he served as a faculty member in the Departments of Philosophy and Religion until his death. The Center for Jewish Studies at Boston University is named in his honor. Wiesel also served as a Distinguished Professor of Judaic Studies at the City University of New York from 1972 to 1976 and as the first Henry Luce Visiting Scholar in Humanities and Social Thought at Yale University from 1982 to 1983.

Elie Wiesel spent a majority of his adult life teaching others about the atrocities of the Holocaust to keep the memory alive and prevent such large-scale genocide from happening anywhere else in the world. In 1978, President Jimmy Carter appointed Wiesel as Chairman of the President's Commission on the Holocaust. Two years later, he became the Founding Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, which would eventually spur the creation of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. (which opened its doors in 1993). Wiesel authored the framework of the Museum's mission in a simple

sentence on his first day as Chairman; "for the dead and the living, we must bear witness." This simple sentence, carved in stone, appears above the entrance of the Museum where his life's work has manifested.

On July 2, 2016, Elie Wiesel passed away at his home in Manhattan, New York at the age of eighty-seven. While he is no longer with us, his legacy of fighting for peace and human rights still lives on through the work of his namesake foundation and the United States Holocaust Museum that actively participates in supporting victims and survivors of genocide, and assists with other human crises.



Auschwitz Concentration Camp in Poland

VOTER IDENTIFICATION

Throughout the run up to the 2016 U.S. presidential election, there has been intense discussion about voter identification laws and how these requirements can help or hinder candidates. Some states require voters to bring specific types of identification in order to cast their ballot; however, this poses problems for different groups of people. Thirty-three states have voter ID laws, but since 2012, seventeen states have passed new legislation in a wave of stricter laws. Proponents of these laws claim it is a common sense effort to reduce voter fraud and ensure accountability. However, opponents say that the laws isolate minority groups and low-income households who cannot afford, or have no use for a passport or driver's license.

According to the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University, about twenty-five percent of eligible Black voters and sixteen percent of Hispanic voters do not have a photo ID, compared with nine percent of White voters. This is where the issue becomes political, as low-income and minority groups tend to vote democrat. In a recent opinion condemning Wisconsin's voter ID law, U.S. Circuit Judge Richard Posner compared the laws to the poll tax implemented to stop Blacks from voting in the South during the Jim Crow-era. The only reason to impose voter ID laws, said Posner, "is to discourage voting by persons likely to vote against the party responsible for imposing the burdens."

However, republicans and supporters of voter ID laws say that it is necessary to make sure voters are who they say they are. Mark Obenshain, a Republican Virginia state senator, stated, "There's only one class of people who are going to be discouraged from voting, and that's

fraudulent voters." Is voter fraud really, that big of an issue? The available resources indicate that it is not. In early 2016, the Loyola Law School in Los Angeles discovered thirty-one credible instances of voter impersonation among the one billion ballots cast in all U.S. elections since 2000. Experts say it would be very difficult to skew an election through voter impersonation, as hundreds or thousands of illegal voters would be necessary.

Some of the strictest voter ID laws are in Texas, where only certain forms of identification are accepted. For example, a handgun permit is valid while a student ID is not. Mail-in ballots are not required to show an ID at all, which brings up another question posed by Frontline in a story investigating voter fraud. The story reports that most voter fraud happens through mail-in ballots. Of the thirty-one instances of voter fraud mentioned before, fourteen percent of those were through absentee ballots, in which case voter ID laws have no effect. Texans may acquire a "free" election ID; however, obtainment requires government identification such as a birth certificate (that would still require purchasing).

Currently in Indiana, a state or government issued form of identification is required to vote. This can include a driver's license, military ID, or passport. Indiana voter registration ends October 11, 2016. You can download the Indiana Voters app to register and check your voter status. You can also register online at www.indianavoters.in.gov. Further, you may request a paper registration form.

STUDENT ACTIVISTS: GETTING STARTED & STAYING INVOLVED

On September 28, the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies hosted a panel discussion featuring four BSU students that discussed their own activism and what it meant to them. In specific, Quintin Thompson, Mitchell Lykins, Vivian Edwards, and Jonathan George talked about how and why they became activists, the role social media plays in activism, and the differences between advocacy and activism. The panelist also shared the challenges of being a student and an activist, and the work required to make a difference. Audience members posed questions as well about on-campus activist organizations, ways to become more involved in these organizations, and advice for persons wanting to become activists.



JUSTICE 2016: PARTIES, PLATFORMS, & PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES October 26 (Wednesday) 5pm – 6pm; AJ 175

- Program features representatives of the Republican, Democrat, Green, and Libertarian Parties
- Panelists will discuss their party's and presidential candidate's platform concerning social, criminal, and environmental justice
- BSU Professor Beth Messner will moderate the discussion and Q&A
- BSU and Muncie community members are encouraged to attend
- Increase your awareness and ask questions about the political parties and candidates' positions on social, criminal, and environmental justice
- Hosted by BSU Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE NOVEMBER 8, 2016!



ORGANIZATIONS

International Justice Mission

Tuesdays @ 6 p.m. in the Student Center, Rm. 301

November 17 - 6-8 p.m. - Documentary Night @ Student Center Ballroom

November 21 - 6 p.m.-Midnight - Benefit Concert @ The Living Room

IJM is a global organization that protects the poor from violence in the developing world. Ball State's chapter is a group of students who are passionate about ending slavery & human trafficking around the world. They believe that through Jesus Christ, they can create tangible change in the lives of slaves through prayer, educating people, changing our behavior, & volunteering. IJM fights by rescuing victims, bringing criminals to justice, restoring survivors, & strengthening justice systems.

Feminists for Action

Tuesdays @ 6pm in Burkhardt Building Rm. 220.

A group dedicated to the empowerment of women, men, & children through advocacy & education. They strive to educate others about issues in the global, national, & community level. They encourage thought-provoking discussions & work to organize events to benefit feminist causes.

Ball State University Social Justice League

Wednesdays @ 5pm at the Center for Peace & Conflict Studies.

SJL seeks to promote awareness, equality, & justice on the BSU campus, in the state, in the country, & in the global community. SJL desires to educate & discuss modern injustices & social justice topics, promote the distribution of advantages to be fair & equitable to all, & actively work to change current injustices.

Cardinal Kitchen

Cardinal Kitchen is Ball State University's campus food pantry. The pantry is located on the second floor of the Multicultural Center & is available for use to all undergraduate & graduate students. The pantry is open the first three Wednesdays of every month from 5:00 - 8:00pm. The mission is to ensure that no Ball State student goes hungry on our campus.

Ethnic Theatre Alliance

Mondays @ 5:00 p.m. in Arts & Communications Building Rm. 308.

ETA uses theatre to explore cultures, diversity, & racial-discrimination to develop worldviews in BSU students, & create well-rounded artists.

Global Brigades

Global Brigades is an international non-profit organization that empowers communities to meet their health & economic goals through university volunteers & local teams. GB offers skill-based 1-3 week brigades to Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, & Ghana. Each of these programs meets an aspect of GB's holistic model to strengthen the health & economic development of communities. Social Media: Twitter; Instagram; Facebook

ORGANIZATIONS, CONT.

MOSAIC

MOSAIC is a social justice peer education program whose mission is to engage undergraduate students in open dialogues focused on diversity and social justice topics to promote awareness, change, and inter-group understanding.

ALIVE Campaign

Wednesdays @ 9 p.m., in the Student Center Rm. 308

The Alive Campaign is a student-ran group at Ball State that is dedicated to raising awareness towards Suicide Prevention by representing as a "Life Appreciation Organization."

OXFAM America

Oxfam America is a global organization working to right the wrongs of poverty, hunger, & injustice. Oxfam saves lives, develops long-term solutions to poverty, & campaigns for social change.

Call to Action

Wednesdays @ 7:30pm in Teacher's College Room 108

CTA is a student organization at Ball State looking to educate & create awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual, & transgender (LGBT) political issues at the local, state, & federal levels in order to empower students to take positive action to-wards equality for LGBT individuals & to influence others to take positive action.

Students for Life

Every 1st, 3rd, & 5th Monday of each month @ 7:30pm in Bracken Library, Educational Resource Rm. 1 Ball State Students for Life (BSSFL) is committed to the protection of all human life; from conception until natural death. We strive to educate our members & the Ball State University community about why we value life in all its forms. We strive to respond with love, compassion, & support to those who suffer from restrictions of life.

Timmy Global Health

Wednesdays @ 8:00pm in Bracken Library Schwartz Complex.

Timmy Global Health expands access to healthcare & empowers students & volunteers to tackle today's most pressing global health challenges.

Student Action Team

Mondays @ 4:00pm in the Kinghorn Multipurpose Room.

SAT is an organization made up of general members & housing and residence life representatives. This organization is dedicated to volunteering & supporting Ball State University

ON CAMPUS EVENTS

GRADUATE STUDENT EXPO

Cardinal Hall Student Center October 5, 2016 11am-2pm

Benefits of attending the Graduate School Expo include: learning if graduate education is for you, finding answers to graduate school questions, obtaining application materials and learning how to apply, and discovering sources of funding you may not have known about previously.

ARTS ALIVE CONCERT SERIES: TZU-YIN HUANG, PIANO

Sursa Performance Hall October 6, 2016 7:30pm

Winner of the 12th Hastings International Piano Concerto Competition, Tzu-Yin Huang began playing the piano at the age of four. She also recently won the National Taiwan Normal University Piano Concerto Competition and the Yamaha Piano Competition. Huang has performed with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (UK), is a performing artist of Chamber Music Michigan, and is currently pursuing her doctoral degree at the University of Michigan.



HALLOWEEN: CELESTIAL ORIGINS

Charles W. Brown Planetarium

Fridays: October 7, 14, 28 @ 6:30pm and Saturdays: October 8, 15, 29 @ 6:30pm and 8pm

What do you associate with Halloween? Trick-or-Treating, costumes... astronomy? After all, Halloween *is* an astronomical holiday! Learn the history of Halloween and how it fits into the seasons as a "cross-quarter day" during this new production. We will also explore the night sky and learn what planets, constellations, and stars will be out on your Halloween evening.

FALL BREAK

Saturday October 8- Tuesday October 11

Enjoy time off from classes!

ENRA: A FUSION OF LIVE DANCE AND CINEMA

Emens Auditorium October 13, 2016 7:30pm

Japanese super group **enra** defies conventions of space, time, gravity, and physics, through seamless synchronization of digital projection and physical movement. Using vibrant swatches of primary colors, Tetris-like geometry in multiple dimensions, and contrasts between human silhouette enra's performances are futuristic and otherworldly.



ADAM BRAUN, THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING A GLOBAL CITIZEN

Pruis Hall Monday October 17, 2016 7:30pm

Adam Braun is a New York Times bestselling author and Founder of "Pencils of Promise." As one of the nations leading speakers on purpose-based leadership and innovation, he has been featured as a speaker at The White House, the United Nations and the Clinton Global Initiative. Adam empowers his audiences to discover their next big idea.



ON-CAMPUS EVENTS, CONT.

BALL STATE HOMECOMING

October 22

9:15am Homecoming 5K Run/Walk Downtown/Campus

9:30am Homecoming Parade Downtown/Campus

Noon-3pm CharlieTown Tailgate Alumni Center

3pm Game vs. Akron Zips Scheumann Stadium

OFF CAMPUS EVENTS

FARMERS MARKET

Saturdays 8am-12pm

1200 North Minnetrista Parkway

Join friends and families in exploring the market-fresh finds and homemade treats, brought to you by the local community.



THROUGH AN OPEN WINDOW, A LIGHT SHINES ART EXHIBIT

September 9-October 31

1200 North Minnetrista Parkway

Through An Open Window The Light Shines is a fundraiser and juried art exhibition that captures the struggle and pain of mental illness, as well as the subsequent breakthrough into mental health.

OPEN SPACE: ART ABOUT THE LAND

October 15-November 13

1200 North Minnetrista Parkway

Spectacular art inspired by the land. Celebrate the significance of land and its importance in Indiana in an art competition and exhibition, which recognizes and encourages local artists who derive creative inspiration from the land, or whose work celebrates the notion of open space as it relates to the land.

MEMPHIS



October 14-29, 2016 7:30-10pm

Muncie Civic Theatre

From the underground dance clubs of the 1950s Memphis, TN, comes a hot new musical that bursts off the stage with explosive dancing, irresistible songs, and a thrilling tale of fame and forbidden love, inspired by the actual events. MEMPHIS is about a white radio DJ who wants to change the world and a black club singer who is ready for her big break. Come along on their incredible journey to the ends of the airwaves. \$13 for students.

ON-CAMPUS SUPPORT GROUPS

INTERNATIONAL CONVERSATION HOUR

TUESDAYS from 6:00-7:30 pm – STUDENT CENTER MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

This program is designed to help international students practice English, learn studying skills and classroom culture, and make American friends. Through interactive discussion, they can normalize their experiences and decrease their isolation, worries, and stress as well as get support from American students. ICH begins September 8th, 2015.

COUNSELING CENTER THERAPY GROUPS:

(Therapy groups require appointment at counseling center before joining. Call 285-1736 or let your intake counselor know you are interested in a group.)

UNDERSTANDING SELF & OTHERS

Group members explore patterns of relating to self and others by discovering understanding and acceptance of themselves and others. Discussions vary greatly from depression, anxiety, relationships, family concerns, eating issues, alcohol abuse and/or personal growth. The groups thrive on diversity as members discover the common bond through emotional experiences.

Mondays 1:30-3:30; Wednesday 3:00-4:30; Thursday 1:00-2:30

WEIGHT NOT, WANT NOT

Supportive group for women with eating disorders or body image struggles who want to explore effective ways of coping. Time to be determined by availability of group members.

SAFE HAVEN: GLBQ SUPPORT GROUP

This therapy group provides a safe place for GLBQ students to explore and discuss patterns of relating to self and others by discovering understanding and acceptance of themselves and others. Topics of discussion vary greatly from coming out, finding support, relationships, family concerns, depression, anxiety, and/or personal growth. Mondays 10:00-11:30

C.A.L.M.:

Care for myself, manage my Anxiety, Live in the moment, practice Mindfulness - This group offers a secure space for students struggling with anxiety to not only explore their fears and worries, but also receive feedback and support from others with similar concerns. The group also focuses on teaching students about a variety of techniques, including mindfulness meditation, which can be particularly helpful in managing anxiety. Another benefit of being in a group is having a place to experiment applying new skills and ways of relating to others, in a safe and supportive environment. Tuesdays 3:00-4:30

L.I.F.E. SKILLS

Are you struggling with how to deal more effectively with stress? Are you your own worst critic? Do you ever wish you had some better ways to take care of yourself? This group can help teach you tangible coping skills to take with you, and from the very first session, you can begin taking active steps toward change. These brief, 4-session workshop style groups will be running at different times throughout the semester.

CONFERENCES

2016 Annual International Conference on Ethnic and Religious Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding

One God in Three Faiths: Exploring the Shared Values in the Abrahamic Religious Traditions —
Judaism, Christianity and Islam
The Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115- November 2-3, 2016
<http://www.icermediation.org/featuredevents/2016-annual-international-conference/>

2016 Because KIDS COUNT Conference—Indiana Convention Center

100 S Capitol Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46225—November 28-30, 2016

<https://www.iyi.org/professional-development/conferences/2016-because-kids-count-conference>

Peace Science Society (International)

Fiftieth Annual North American Meeting Preliminary Program

University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana- October 20-22, 2016

ABOUT US

The Center for Peace and Conflict Studies is an interdisciplinary center whose mission is to pursue research on structural and direct forms of violence and conflict; to implement nonviolent strategies to resolve conflict; to offer mediation services to individuals, groups, and organizations; and to train people in conflict resolution, mediation, peace-building, leadership, meditation, and sportsperson-ship skills. The center also pursues public diplomacy, sports diplomacy, and cultural exchange as part of local, regional, national, and international projects designed to promote mutual understanding, appreciation, cooperation, and respect.

If you'd like us to include your events in the newsletter, please contact:

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Our Programs Include:

Mediation training and services
Mediation classes
The Brown Bag lunch speaker series
The Muncie Interfaith Fellowship
The Social Justice League
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