



32nd Annual  
Federal Interagency  
Holocaust Remembrance  
Program



**Courage  
Cannot Be Silenced**

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**Wednesday**  
**14** May 2025  
11:30am - 1pm

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**U.S. Department  
of Justice  
Great Hall**  
**Washington, D.C.**



**Federal  
Interagency  
Holocaust  
Remembrance  
Committee**

The Federal Interagency Holocaust Remembrance Program started at the Department of Education in 1994, and the organizing committee now includes representatives from dozens of federal agencies. The Program combats antisemitism by educating federal employees, students, and the public about the Holocaust. Emphasizing the courageous stories of survivors, the Program shows what can happen if prejudice, hate, and intolerance go unchallenged.

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## Dr. Eugene Bergman

Eugene Bergman was born in Poznan, Poland. He was nine years old when the war started in 1939. His experience through World War II and the Holocaust is documented in his book: *Survival Artist: A Memoir of the Holocaust*. As a child, he was struck deaf by the butt of a German soldier's rifle while playing in the street with other children. Though traumatic, disabling, and life-threatening, this vicious attack would ultimately save his life several times. His story continues with vivid accounts of his family's narrow escapes to (and from) the Lodz, Warsaw, and Czestochowa ghettos. He also shares his account of surviving the Holocaust in the movie *Memories of the Warsaw Ghetto*, available on [YouTube](#).

After immigrating to the United States, he earned his B.A. at Gallaudet University, received his M.A. from Georgetown University, and obtained his Ph.D. from George Washington University. Dr. Bergman lives in North Bethesda, MD with his family.



## PROGRAM

### Prelude

Maurice Ravel's Kaddish from Two Hebrew Melodies (1914)  
John Kaboff, cellist

### Presentation of Colors

United States Armed Forces Color Guard

### National Anthem

Wendy Doernberg, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
John Kaboff, cellist

### Welcome

Brant Levine, Chair, Federal Interagency Holocaust Remembrance Committee

### Remarks from the Department of Justice

Harmeet K. Dhillon, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division

### Remarks from the Department of State

Ellen Germain, Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues

### Discussion

Eugene Bergman, Holocaust Survivor  
Ellen Germain, Moderator

### Remarks on behalf of Descendants of Holocaust Survivors

Ronald Zenon Piaseczny, Department of Veterans Affairs

### Candle-lighting Ceremony

Andrea Lucas, Acting Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Leo Terrell, Senior Counselor to the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights and  
Leading Member of the Federal Task Force to Combat Antisemitism

Henry Kerner, Acting Chair, Merit Systems Protection Board

Alana Kuhn, Department of Transportation, and Daniel Kuhn, Government  
Accountability Office

Sara Vogler, Department of Health and Human Services

Steven Miller, Department of Energy

Eva Fontheim, Department of Housing and Urban Development (ret.)

Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, that turned my life into one long night seven times sealed.  
Never shall I forget that smoke.  
Never shall I forget the small faces of the children whose bodies I saw transformed into smoke under a silent sky.  
Never shall I forget those flames that consumed my faith for ever. Never shall I forget the nocturnal silence that deprived me for all eternity of the desire to live.  
Never shall I forget those moments that murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to ashes.  
Never shall I forget those things, even were I condemned to live as long as God Himself.  
Never.

Never Shall I Forget from Night by Elie Wiesel.  
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## Executive Committee Leadership

Chair:	Brant Levine, Department of Justice
Vice Chair:	Karen Crump, National Institutes of Health
Vice Chair:	Michael Orlove, National Endowment for the Arts
Secretary:	Ronald Piacoczny, Department of Veterans Affairs
Chair Emeritus:	Wendy Doernberg, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Please visit our website, [HolocaustRemembrance.org](http://HolocaustRemembrance.org), to learn more about the Committee's work and to view additional resources on the Holocaust.