

*Darkness*



*Life*

Alabama Holocaust Survivors Through Photography and Art

**Schedule  
of Events**

**BSC**

Birmingham-Southern College

## Office of Multicultural Affairs

*The Office of Multicultural Affairs strives to make cultural awareness an integral part of the students learning experience as it helps create citizens who can work, live, function and thoughtfully participate in the global age. In addition, we work to affirm the diversity of the campus community in its many forms by embracing broad definition of culture to include world views formed by race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, abilities, religion and sexual identity.*

# Exhibits

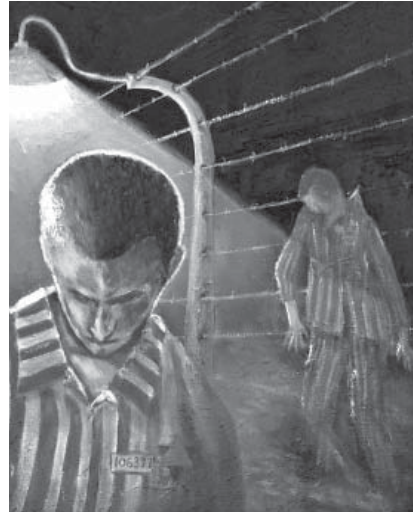
Wednesday, February 6 through Friday, February 24,

**Durbin Gallery of the Doris Wainwright Kennedy Art Center and Azar Art Studios**  
*Darkness into Life: Alabama Holocaust Survivors Through Photography and Art*

This 78-piece educational exhibit features the stories of 20 Alabama Holocaust survivors. It teaches the history of the Holocaust and offers a rich understanding of its impact on these individuals and their families.

**Charles Andrew Rush Learning Center / N.E. Miles Library**  
*The Courage to Remember Poster Exhibit*

*The Courage to Remember*, a 40-piece full-color poster exhibit, is both a tribute and warning—a tribute to 6 million Jews and millions of others, including Gypsies, Slavs, and political dissenters, homosexuals, and prisoners of war who were murdered by the Nazis between 1933 and 1945; and a warning that the root causes of the Holocaust still persist. Racial hatred, economic crisis, human psychological and moral flaws, the complacency or complicity of ordinary individuals in the persecution of their neighbors are still ominously common. Remembrance, vigilance, and moral commitment are required if the lives of the victims of the Holocaust are to have an enduring meaning.



Mitzi J. Levin "Bass—The Fence"

**Charles Andrew Rush Learning Center / N.E. Miles Library**  
*Children of the Holocaust*

When World War II began in September 1939, there were approximately 1.6 million Jewish children living in the territories that the German armies or their allies would occupy. By war's end, over 1 million of them, and perhaps as many as 1.5 million, were dead—targeted victims of the Nazis' calculated program of genocide.

*Children of the Holocaust* is a collection of literature published for children and young adults on the Holocaust and genocide. The exhibit includes picture books, memoirs, graphic novels, and comics. As the events of the Holocaust fade into "history," it is vital that we remember this delicate, often controversial, yet watershed event with young readers.

Docents will be available to guide visitors.

# Speakers

Thursday, February 9, Common Hour 11 a.m.  
Norton Theater  
*Darkness into Life*

## Becky Seitel, Photographer

Becky Seitel was born in Carbon Hill, Ala., and graduated cum laude from the University of Alabama. She spent the early part of her career at UAB in the field of instructional technology. Since then, she has worked in the marketing area of financial services and is vice president for marketing and web development at Sterne Agee, a national financial services firm. Since Becky first picked up a 35mm SLR digital camera, she hasn't stopped taking photographs of people, places, and things. She studied photography at Samford University, is a member of the Shades Valley Camera Club, and is a self-taught Photoshop addict. She and her husband, Alan, have four children and enjoy spending time with their grandchildren.



## Mitzi J. Levin, Artist

Mitzi J. Levin was born in Savannah, Tenn. She graduated with a degree in art from Freed-Hardeman College, and a degree in fashion design from the Atlanta School of Fashion and Design. After too many years of not holding a paintbrush, Mitzi returned to her love of art. She now paints professionally and has found that her unique Expressionist style has gained acceptance and success. Mitzi and her husband, Barry, reside in Birmingham, where they own and operate David Barry's Tall and Big Clothing Store. "When the

opportunity to help create the exhibit *Darkness into Life* came, it was a way for me to incorporate my love of art and history," shared Mitzi.



Mitzi J. Levin "Destination Alabama"

**Monday, February 20, 7 p.m.**  
**Munger Auditorium**  
**Dr. Jeffrey Veidlinger**  
*The Shoah in a Soviet Shtetl*

Jeffrey Veidlinger is professor of history, Alvin H. Rosenfeld Chair in Jewish Studies, and director of the Borns Jewish Studies Program at Indiana University. His first book, *The Moscow State Yiddish Theater: Jewish Culture on the Soviet Stage*, won a National Jewish Book Award, the Barnard Hewitt Award for Theatre Scholarship, and was named a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title. His second book, *Jewish Public Culture in the Late Russian Empire*, was published by Indiana University Press in 2009, and won the Abe and Fay Bergel Award in Scholarship at the Canadian Jewish Book Awards as well as the J.I. Segal Award. The catalog of *Chagall and the Artists of the Russian Jewish Theater*, to which he contributed, received the Award for Excellence from the American Association of Museum Curators and was a National Jewish Book Award finalist. Dr. Veidlinger is co-director of the Archives of Historical and Ethnographic Yiddish Memories oral history project, and is currently working on a book entitled *In the Shadow of the Shtetl: Jewish Memory in Eastern Europe*, and a documentary film based on the archives. He has published essays in numerous journals, including *Slavic Review*, *the AJS Review*, *Studies in Jewish Civilization*, *Ab Imperio*, *Kritika*, *Jews in Eastern Europe*, *East European Jewish Affairs*, *Studies in Contemporary Jewry*, *Simon Dubnow Institute Yearbook*, *Cahiers du Monde Russe*, and others. In 2006, Dr. Veidlinger was named a "Top Young Historian" by History News Network. He teaches courses in Jewish History and Russian History.



**Tuesday, February 21, Common Hour 11 a.m.**  
**Norton Theater**  
**Dr. Jeffrey Veidlinger**  
*Eastern European Jewish Life*

**Thursday, February 23, Common Hour 11 a.m.**  
**Norton Theater**  
**Mr. Max Steinmetz**  
*Holocaust Survivor Speaks*

Romanian native Max Steinmetz knows what it's like to lose your identity and your freedom and to have your close family members executed. Steinmetz came face-to-face with the infamous Dr. Josef Mengele, the "Angel of Death," upon his arrival at the dreaded Auschwitz concentration



camp. From 1941, at the age of 17 until 1945 when he was liberated by allied forces, he was forced into ghettos, incarcerated at Auschwitz, imprisoned at Birkenau and Dachau, and escaped from the German Death March—seeking refuge in a farmhouse. Hear his heart-wrenching story.

Max worked his way across the Atlantic in the ship's kitchen and after arriving in New York, found a job paying twenty-four cents per hour. After brief stays in Denver and Albuquerque, he moved to Birmingham in 1955, making his living as a clothing executive. Max married his wife, Betty, in 1962, and they were blessed with three children and six grandchildren.



Thursday, March 8, Common Hour 11 a.m.  
Norton Theater  
Jennifer Lindsay  
*Bystanders from Birth: Genocide, Social Justice,  
and the Process that Transforms Good Citizens  
into Bad Neighbors*

Before accepting a full time teaching position in World History at Faulkner State Community College, Jennifer Lindsay taught U.S. History and World Civilization as an adjunct at the University of South Alabama. In addition to her Master's degree in History, Jennifer has a B.A. in English Literature and a M.Ed. in Secondary Education.

In 2001, Jennifer lived and worked in Mainz, Germany through the Fulbright Teacher Exchange program, teaching both English and history in a German high school. Though her interest in the Holocaust dates back to her childhood, it was her time in Germany that sparked a curiosity within her to learn as much as she could not only about the Holocaust but also about genocide throughout the world, particularly in the twentieth century. Jennifer currently lives in Fairhope, AL with her teenage daughter.



Alabama Holocaust Survivors Through Photography and Art

# Darkness Into Life

*Sponsored by*

Birmingham-Southern College  
Office of Multicultural Affairs  
Department of History  
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Special thanks to the BSC Library



**Birmingham Holocaust Education Center**  
*A Resource Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education*