



The Kaddish Project Newsletter

Winter Update

February 2007

Dear Friend,

The Kaddish Project has begun to come alive. Larry Siegel, the composer, and I have just returned from Houston, where we interviewed four more survivors for their testimonies. All four gave stirring, powerful accounts of their wartime experiences. Two were in camps and two managed to survive by pretending, at great peril, to be Christians. As we cried with them at the telling, we began to forge new relationships with these extraordinary human beings, whose words will appear in "Kaddish."

The work will premiere May 3, 2008, at the Redfern Arts Center at Keene State College in Keene, New Hampshire. We have already begun to lay the groundwork for additional performances in the U.S. and abroad.

Larry is hard at work on the composition, which is progressing beautifully. We are beginning to meet with small groups of supporters to share our vision of taking "Kaddish" around the world. The study guide, which will accompany performances, is in its planning stages.

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Piano Quartet on Themes of Kaddish Debuts



A moving new piano quartet, drawing from the musical themes of Kaddish, recently debuted in Keene, NH. Eric Stumacher and the Apple Hill Chamber Players performed the piece before an audience of more than seventy at Congregation Ahavas Achim on Jan. 21, 2007.

Kaddish will premiere in Keene, NH in the spring of 2008 to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Cohen Center for

We've been busy, and the support continues to be very encouraging. Please stay tuned for more information in the coming months. Thank you for your interest in The Kaddish Project!

Warmly,

Jan Cohen
Executive Producer
The Kaddish Project



Eastern European Research Trip

A blog from the recent *Kaddish* research trip to Eastern Europe is currently featured on the Keene Sentinel website. Read about the group's impressions of several Holocaust sites and meetings with survivors whose words will be used in the text of *Kaddish*.

Watch NH Public Television Feature on Kaddish



Kaddish was recently featured on New Hampshire Public Television's "NH Outlook". Watch composer Lawrence Siegel and renowned bass-baritone, David Ripley, perform at the University of New Hampshire's ArtBreak.

The Kaddish Project

The *Kaddish Project* was commissioned by the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies at Keene State College to commemorate the Center's 25th anniversary in 2008 and, to quote Elie Wiesel, "further the cause of remembrance." At the project's heart is an original musical work, *Kaddish*, by composer Dr. Lawrence Siegel.

Cohen Center for
Holocaust Studies at
Keene State College.



The Cohen Center for
Holocaust Studies

visit by going to:

www.keene.edu/cchs



Learn More About
Composer Lawrence
Siegel by going to:

www.tricinium.com

The **Kaddish Project** will take audiences on a musical journey through the words and memories of survivors, bystanders and

perpetrators of the Holocaust. The text of the work will be adapted from testimonies and stories collected in interviews conducted in the United States and abroad. The musical score, written for soloists, chorus, and a large chamber ensemble, will culminate in a message of hope and peace that extends beyond the lines of religion, race, and ethnic background.

By reflecting on the destruction of the vibrant lives and culture of European Jews, the **Kaddish Project** aims to raise awareness and inspire action to prevent injustice and genocide in the world today. The Project will offer an education component in the form of a study guide, providing age-appropriate learning opportunities for children and adults that can be used by schools, community groups and faith-based organizations.

Kaddish will premiere on May 3, 2008, in Keene, New Hampshire, home of the nationally recognized Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies and Keene State College. Performances in a variety of domestic and international cultural and civic centers will follow. Proceeds from the **Kaddish Project** will further this mission of the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies.

The American Composers Forum has awarded a Continental Harmony grant to help underwrite the making of the **Kaddish Project**.

www.KaddishProject.org