



Kaddish Project Newsletter

Summer Update

July 2008



Kaddish Debut

Kaddish debuts to a full house in Keene, NH, home to the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies at Keene State College.

Kaddish in the Media!



Richard Ager of New Hampshire Public Television's NH Outlook interviews Larry Siegel.

New Hampshire Public Television filmed the 5/3 debut of Kaddish and aired it on their "NH Outlook" program on Sunday, June 8th. To view the show online, please visit www.nhptv.org.

Yankee Magazine published a wonderful feature about "Kaddish" in its May issue; it is archived on www.kaddishproject.org if you missed it.

New Hampshire Public Radio's innovative program "Word of Mouth" aired an interview with Larry Siegel recently, and the segment is also archived on the Kaddish website, www.kaddishproject.org.

Dear Friend,

"Kaddish" had its debut performance on May 3rd at the Redfern Arts Center, Keene State College, in Keene, New Hampshire. We have much to report and to celebrate! It was a hugely successful event, an instant sell-out, with 500 people in formal attire attending the Benefit Dinner and close to 600 attending the concert. Composer Lawrence Siegel received a tremendous standing ovation at the conclusion of the piece, and hundreds of audience members stayed for a reception afterwards, which was a chance for supporters to meet Larry, as well as the survivors and Holocaust scholars in attendance.

Among those present were the widow, daughter and son-in-law of the late U.S. Congressman Tom Lantos, a Holocaust survivor and Kaddish Project advisor, who passed away in February. Tom was a champion for human rights around the globe, and a passionate advocate of the Kaddish Project and its mission of healing the world. The November 15, 2008 Twin Cities

performance of "Kaddish" will be presented in memory of Lantos, as well as Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved Tom and his wife

Annette, along with thousands of others Hungarian Jews. It will also be dedicated to Stephen Feinstein, the late director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Minnesota, who passed away unexpectedly in March.

A large contingent from Houston, Texas, the home of Naomi Warren, whose story figures prominently in "Kaddish," made the journey to New Hampshire for the debut. Their enthusiasm and interest may result in a performance of "Kaddish" in their community.

The Project successfully raised over \$50,000 towards the national tour, and we were able to make a contribution of \$30,000 to the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies, which commissioned "Kaddish" in honor of its 25th anniversary. A sincere and heartfelt "thank you" to our hundreds of supporters whose generosity helped make this gift possible. Thanks, too, to the scores of people who worked so hard to make the dinner and concert go off flawlessly.

"Kaddish" succeeded in touching the audience in ways that are still reverberating. We are receiving messages of congratulations and testimonials from so many people about how profoundly affected they were by the piece.

Photos from the May 3rd event and some of these testimonials will be posted on our website, which is now live. Please visit www.KaddishProject.org soon and often for information about how to purchase pictures from the benefit dinner and debut performance as well as tickets for upcoming performances around the country. Performance dates and venues will be added to the site as they are confirmed.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support for the Kaddish Project and for helping make our inaugural performance a success.

Warmest regards,

Jan Cohen
Executive Producer
The Kaddish Project
Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies Keene State College
information@kaddishproject.org

Website Launches



It is with great pride that we announce the launch of our website: www.kaddishproject.org.

Please visit the site to learn more about our accomplishments and plans to take "Kaddish" around the country.

National Tour

The first stop on the national tour of "Kaddish" is Minneapolis, Minnesota on November 15, 2008 at the Ted Mann Theatre on the campus of the University of Minnesota. The performance will be part of the 40th anniversary season of the internationally recognized choral group, VocalEssence.

"Kaddish" will be conducted by Philip Brunelle, Artistic Director and founder of VocalEssence. Tickets will be available beginning July 1 at www.vocalescence.org.



Photo Courtesy of VocalEssence, Minneapolis, MN.

Debut Photos



Jan Cohen, Executive Producer of the Kaddish Project, Linda Hoeschler, former Executive Director of the American Composers Forum and Larry Siegel, Composer of Kaddish.



Composer Larry Siegel and Holocaust survivor Naomi Warren are reunited before the debut performance of Kaddish.

Donate

Please consider supporting the Kaddish Project today.

Revenue from contributions, after expenses, will benefit the expansion of the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies at Keene State College and the Kaddish Project's national and international tour.

Donations may be sent to:

Kaddish Project
c/o Cohen Center for Holocaust
Studies
Mason Library
Keene State College
229 Main Street
Keene, NH 03435-2701

Join Our Mailing List!



Visit the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies at www.keene.edu/cchs

**TRICINIUM
LIMITED**

Learn More About Composer
Lawrence Siegel at
www.tricinium.com



Soloists Ryan Turner, David Ripley, Pamela Stevens and Peggo Horstmann-Hodes respond to a standing ovation with composer Larry Siegel.



Naomi Warren greets Congressman Paul Hodes as his wife Peggo Horstmann-Hodes (who performed in *Kaddish*) and Naomi's son Benjamin Warren look on.



Visit VocalEssence at
www.vocalescence.com



Visit the New Hampshire State
Council on the Arts at
www.nh.gov/nharts



Visit the
American Composers Forum at
www.composersforum.org



(Left to right) Tom White, Education Outreach Coordinator, Paul Vincent, Professor of Holocaust Studies and Hank Knight, Director of the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies accept a ceremonial check on behalf of the Cohen Center in the amount of \$25,000 from Jan Cohen, Executive Producer of the Kaddish Project and Larry Siegel, Composer of Kaddish. This donation was a direct result of the sold out benefit dinner and debut performance on May 3, 2008 and will help the Cohen Center as it expands its curriculum to include Genocide Studies. Inspired by Kaddish, supporters generously donated an additional \$5,000 to the Cohen Center.

For more photos, please visit www.KaddishProject.org and photographer Mark Corliss's site, www.markcorliss.com/kaddish.

Photographs by Mark Corliss.

Kaddish Project Advisors

- Tom Lantos, In Memoriam, US Congress, D-CA, Holocaust survivor
- Annette Lantos, Holocaust survivor
- Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett
- U.S. Ambassador Richard Swett
- Richard & Sarah Bayles, New Hampshire
- H. Neil Berkson, Bragdon & Berkson, P.C.
- Philip Brunelle, VocalEssence
- Richard Cohen, C&S Wholesale Grocers
- Paul Hodes, US Congress, D-NH
- Jack & Linda Hoeschler, Minnesota Commissioning Club
- John & Jean Hoffman, Hoffman Family Foundation
- Dr. Henry F. Knight, The Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies
- Drew Landry, John Burk & Associates
- Charlton & Diana MacVeagh, Raylynmor Opera Company
- James & Judith Putnam, Putnam Foundation
- Bishop Eugene Robinson, Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire
- Eric Stumacher, Keene Chamber Orchestra, SONAD Peace Project
- Richard & Frances Winneg, New Hampshire

Kaddish

**The Mourners' Kaddish is the traditional Jewish prayer for the dead, recited as part of the mourning rituals at funerals and on the anniversary of the death of a loved one. It focuses on the sanctity of life.*

"Kaddish" 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.

"Kaddish" takes audiences on a musical journey through the words and memories of survivors, bystanders and perpetrators of the Holocaust. The text of the work is 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, culminates 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" had its debut performance on May 3, 2008, in Keene, New Hampshire, home of the nationally recognized Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies at Keene State College. Performances in a variety of domestic and international cultural and civic centers will follow. Proceeds from the Kaddish Project will further the mission of the Cohen Center for Holocaust Studies.

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

www.kaddishproject.org