

 **Omaha**
Spring 2024



USC Shoah
Foundation

&

 **Hold On To
Your Music
FOUNDATION**

Presents:

WILLESSEN READS

THE PROGRAM

Stay tuned! Coming Spring 2024 educators and students are invited to join thousands of their peers across Omaha for the **Willesden READS**.

Join this 50-minute **theatrical performance** based on the best-selling book, *The Children of Willesden Lane*. Author, performer and virtuoso concert pianist Mona Golabek offers uplifting messages of resilience and hope for students at a time when they most need it.

Watch [this three-minute video](#) to see how the program has reached students around the world.

In advance of the live event, educators will be invited to participate in **professional development**, provided by [Echoes & Reflections](#), to deepen understanding of the historical context of *The Children of Willesden Lane* books and to learn to incorporate The Willesden Project's [companion resources](#) found in IWitness, USC Shoah Foundation's educational website, into their teaching.

THE STORY

The Children of Willesden Lane is the best-selling book about the power of music and how one teenage refugee, Lisa Jura, Mona's mother, held onto her dreams, survived the Holocaust and inspired a generation of her contemporaries.

SNEAK PEEK!

Register today to see the [Willesden READS](#) virtual performance for San Diego premiering on May 23rd at 9 am PT (you will have 1 month to view). This will give you a window into our exciting program coming to Omaha spring 2024!


ECHOES & REFLECTIONS
TEACHING THE HOLOCAUST INSPIRING THE CLASSROOM


IHE
Institute for
Holocaust Education


JCRC
Jewish Community Relations Council
OMAHA


The Jewish Federation
OF OMAHA

*This program is generously sponsored by
the Henry Davis Family Foundation and Rich & Fran Juro.*

**Echoes &
Reflections**



**Companion
Resources**



**3-Minute
Video**



**Sneak
Peek!**





The Jewish Community Relations Council, the Jewish Federation of Omaha, and the Institute for Holocaust Education are proud to offer you and your students an amazing opportunity coming Spring of 2024 at no cost to you or your school!

COMING SPRING OF 2024!

We are offering interested middle school language arts classrooms a complete curriculum based on the book "The Children of Willesden Lane," the true story of Lisa Jura, a 14-year-old piano prodigy living in Vienna during the Nazi invasion. The book is written by Lisa's daughter, Mona Golabek, herself an accomplished concert pianist. The amount of time needed to present the curriculum in the classroom will vary, but we estimate teachers will spend approximately 20 hours on this unit.

The climax of the project is a live theatrical performance by author, performer and virtuoso concert pianist Mona Golabek who offers her uplifting messages of resilience and hope for students at a time when they most need it. The performance is offered free to participating schools.

WHY SHOULD YOUR SCHOOL BE PART OF THIS PROJECT?

- The project meets the mandate of Nebraska LB 888, which requires education on the Holocaust and other acts of genocide
- To help combat antisemitism
- The project presents themes of diversity and identity, moral responsibility, acceptance of different cultures and enhance students' appreciation of the arts

HOW WILL WE SUPPORT YOU?

- We will provide and facilitate the professional development training
- We will provide access to the curriculum
- We will provide a copy of the book for each student in the class
- We will provide easy access to a local Holocaust educator for guidance during the project

HOW DOES YOUR SCHOOL GET INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT?

- Teachers will need to attend the Echoes & Reflections' professional development training prior to implementing the project
- Commit to your students reading the book
- Implement the companion curriculum to fit your individual classroom needs

HOW CAN YOU LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS AMAZING PROJECT?

- Fill out the form on our website ihene.org/willesden-reads/ or use the QR Code below so that we can bring a copy "The Children of Willesden Lane" to you and answer any questions you might have about this amazing opportunity!



Scan me to get your free copy of "The Children of Willesden Lane"!