



Office of College Relations
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington, PA 15301
Contact Person: Rita McConnell
(724) 223-6507
rmcconnell@washjeff.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**WASHINGTON & JEFFERSON COLLEGE MARKS
NATIONAL HOLOCAUST MONTH WITH ART EXHIBITION**

WASHINGTON, Pa. (March 23, 2004) – Washington & Jefferson College marks National Holocaust month with an exhibit by artist Gene Fellner, who’s large, abstract paintings will be displayed in the Olin Fine Arts Gallery April 2 through 30.

Fellner’s works, which consider the effects of genocide in Bosnia, Cambodia, Guatemala, and Rwanda, are based on the long, narrow, Japanese paintings of the Edo period in which figures are overwhelmed by their surroundings. The paintings illustrate vulnerability and the possibility that all humans can become victims of genocide.

“Recent history, including the terrorist attacks on the United States on 9-11, have sparked the realization that everyone, no matter what religion, culture, or heritage is vulnerable to brutal acts of genocide,” says Ron Sherhofer, director of W&J’s Olin Fine Arts Center.

“Fellner’s work gives a new perspective to our remembrance of the Holocaust this month by placing each of us in the context of genocide.”

(more)

W&J Remembers Holocaust - 2

Fellner, an artist and writer, has received numerous grants and fellowships. He was named a "Distinguished Artist of New Jersey" by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for his series about John Brown and Slavery. "A Train Full of Children," his work about his mother's flight from Nazi Germany, has toured nationally.

Fellner will discuss his work during an opening reception and gallery talk, co-sponsored by Beth Israel Synagogue in Washington, Pa., on Sunday, April 4 from 3 to 5 p.m. On April 5, he will offer a slide lecture presentation from 4 to 5 p.m. The exhibit and gallery events are free and open to the public. The Olin Gallery is open daily when classes are in session from noon to 7 p.m. For additional information contact the Olin Fine Arts Center Box Office at 724-223-OLIN (6546).

About Washington & Jefferson College

Washington & Jefferson College, located in Washington, Pa., is a national liberal arts college founded in 1781. Committed to providing each of its students with the highest-quality undergraduate education available, W&J offers a traditional liberal arts curriculum emphasizing interdisciplinary study and independent student work.

For more information about W&J, visit www.washjeff.edu, or call 1-888-W-AND-JAY.

###

(more)

