

Second Prize Art: High School Division

*Prayer of the Innocent Criminal*

Scott Lee, Grade 10

Servite High School, Anaheim

Teacher: Kristin Berardino

Survivor Testimony: Henry Nusbaum

Through Henry Nusbaum's story, I came to a vision representing my painting, *Prayer of the Innocent Criminal*. My vision is of a person who is in deep prayer while crying with wings. The wings represent his longing for freedom. The tearful prayer represents sorrow, hope, and desperation. The wings and stacks of chairs symbolize innocent Jews that were murdered during this tragic time. I got this vision from Nusbaum's story when he explained that he was very sorrowful and hopeless. The ropes represent victims being captive and tied up during the Holocaust. The gradient background, from dark below to light above, represents the movement from death to hope. I chose watercolor to express an emotional tone through the elements of color.