

From the Holocaust

Workshop Presentation on Holocaust Education

Performance piece followed by question and exploration

Molly Seale Edwards

1001 W. Kennicott  
Carbondale, Illinois 62901

[MollyE@siu.edu](mailto:MollyE@siu.edu)

<http://colanmc.siu.edu/mollyedwards>

618-549-4272

618-559-5041

618-453-3734

618-453-1117

FAX: 618-453-1111

---

Early notification requested

---

FROM THE HOLOCAUST, a one-woman performance piece targeted at middle school and high school audiences, is written, directed and performed by Molly Seale Edwards, a theater artist who works extensively in the area of creative drama and theater for youth.

Ms. Edwards created this piece in 1996 with a grant from the Southern Illinois Cultural Alliance. She collaborated with a visual artist to tour the piece to middle schools throughout the southern Illinois region. After the performance of the piece, and after a thirty-minute question and answer period, the visual artist led the students in an abstract painting workshop, in response to the piece.

In 1999, Ms. Edwards re-wrote and re-staged the piece and began to perform it to a variety of audiences, child and adult alike. In 2001, she was rostered on the Illinois ARTSTOUR roster for performance of the piece, as well as others, through the Illinois Arts Council.

The piece runs approximately one hour, providing a chronological overview of the events of the Holocaust, including the artist's own narrative perspective, and drawing from the experiences and writings of Etty Hillesrum, Nehatma Tec, and Elie Wiesel, as well as other Holocaust survivors.

The proposal for this workshop is a performance of the piece, followed by a question and answer period in which the potential for use of this piece, and others like it, is explored in regard to Holocaust education at the middle school and high school level.

Molly Seale Edwards has performed in professional, university, and regional theater since childhood. She has taught classes in acting, movement, creative drama, and theater for youth at the university, high school, and elementary school levels. She was the artistic and managing director of THE JABBERWOCKY PLAYERS, a professional troupe that performed original work for youth in the Austin, Texas area. For many years she was a certified artist-in-education with the Texas Commission on the Arts and was a rostered artist-in-education with the Illinois Arts Council from 1994 – 2000. In recent years she has conducted workshops and residencies throughout the southern Illinois region, having been the recipient of numerous grants to develop programs and performance pieces for young people. She continues to serve as both an adjunct and visiting professor in the Department of Theater at Southern Illinois University, teaching courses in creative drama and youth theater. She is listed on the 2001 – 2003 Artstour Roster with the Illinois Arts Council, performing her one-woman pieces, FROM THE HOLOCAUST and HOLY GROUND, to a variety of audiences. Ms. Edwards holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in

Theater from The University of Texas at Austin and was a recipient of a Fulbright-Hays grant in the Performing Arts to study and conduct research at the Moscow State Theater Institute and the Moscow Theater for Children in the former Soviet Union.