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Twenty-Fourth Annual Federal Inter-Agency Holocaust Remembrance Program To be Held April 26, 2017 at the Lincoln Theatre

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Federal Inter-Agency Holocaust Remembrance Committee will hold its 24th Annual Holocaust Remembrance Program at the Lincoln Theatre, located at 1215 U Street, NW, Washington, DC, on April 26, 2017 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

The program, "Evade and Endure: Survivors' Stories, Lessons Learned," will present eyewitness testimony from the Holocaust, the systematic, state-sponsored murder of six million Jews by Nazi Germany and its collaborators. The Holocaust was part of the "Final Solution" – the Nazi plan to annihilate all nine million Jews in Europe. Five million non-Jews from such groups as Roma, Communists, homosexuals, and the disabled were also murdered. This year, we are honored to feature two survivors of the Holocaust:

- Roman Kent, born in Lodz, Poland, survived the Lodz Ghetto, Auschwitz, and other concentration camps, but lost his parents, a sister, and other family members. After coming to the United States and becoming a successful businessman, he became a philanthropist and one of the leading voices and advocates for justice for Holocaust survivors throughout the world. Roman has written books and produced a documentary on the Holocaust, and has received countless honors for his tireless Holocaust-related work and accomplishments.
- **Renée Fink**, born in Holland, went into hiding at age four with a Catholic family until after World War II ended. She lost her parents during the war. While in hiding, she lived in an occupied and heavily bombed part of Holland. Later, she was reunited with her grandmother and aunt, eventually coming to the U.S. in 1948. Renée speaks about the resistance, goodness, and courage of people in those times and why those traits remain so important. Renée has spoken frequently about her experiences in her home state of North Carolina.

Our distinguished moderator is the *Washington Post's* **Ruth Marcus**. Ruth is a reporter, columnist and the Deputy Editorial Page Editor for the *Post*, as well as a television political commentator. She was a finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in Commentary. Our program will feature a tribute to the late **Elie Wiesel**, probably the best known Holocaust survivor, Nobel peace laureate, and author of *Night*. The program also includes the **6**th **in the City Chorus**, a Jewish and Sacred music choir that features members from the Sixth & I Historic Synagogue and the Turner Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The program is open to the public and admission is free. For more information, please visit: <u>http://holocaustremembrance.org/</u>

The Holocaust survivors, rescuers, liberators, resisters or witnesses or relatives of these individuals remind us of what can happen if prejudice, hate, and intolerance against any individual or group of people are not challenged by each one of us.