

Scottsdale Community College presents 5th Annual Genocide Awareness Week program April 17-22



5TH ANNUAL GENOCIDE AWARENESS WEEK
NOT ON OUR WATCH
APRIL 17-22, 2017

Opening Night
 April 17, 2017
 6:30 pm
 Turquoise Room

Lectures, exhibits and events by distinguished survivors, scholars, politicians, activists, artists, humanitarians and law enforcement.

1901	GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA	65,000
1915-23	ARMENIA	1,500,000
1933-45	HOLOCAUST	11,000,000
1975	CAMBODIA	1,700,000
1994	RWANDA	1,200,000
2016+	SYRIA	> 470,000

Banner design influenced by artist Ruben Malayan

(SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., March 13, 2017) -- An impressive lineup of lectures, exhibits and events are on tap for the 5th Annual Genocide Awareness Week: Not on our Watch, April 17-22, at Scottsdale Community College. Several presentations will be held daily starting at 9 a.m., as well as an evening lecture or event each day at 6:30 p.m.

Once again, Oskar Knoblach, one of the most active Holocaust survivors in Holocaust education, will share his story of survival and forgiveness from his experiences during one of the darkest times in our history. Knoblach's talk is scheduled for opening day (April 17) at 10:30 a.m., following a presentation on Native American Genocide at 9 a.m. by Dr. Jaakko Puisto, a history professor with Scottsdale Community College.

"This year is very special because it's our fifth annual Genocide Awareness Week and that's a very significant milestone," said John Liffiton, professor and co-founder of Genocide Awareness Week at SCC. "We learn something each year and keep improving to give those who attend an experience that will help them grow in their knowledge and understanding of genocide and how to prevent these atrocities.

"We say 'never forget' and 'never again' but we need to keep striving for that," said Liffiton. "Some people still have the idea that this happened 80 years ago only. That's not the case. It continues to happen today."

A new topic and focus added this year is the 1936 Olympics, with lectures, a panel discussion and an exhibit that will be on display for the entire week.

Another exhibit, Genocides of the 20th Century, is on display in the Student Center Lobby. The traveling exhibit delves deeply into the Armenian mass murders, which occurred in the early part of the century, the Holocaust perpetrated by Nazi Germany in the 1930s-40s, and the Rwandan

genocide in the mid-1990s. It features photos, archives and historical context of each period. The SCC display is the U.S. premiere of the exhibition. It opened at the Mémorial de la Shoah in Paris in 2015.

Throughout the week, topics to be covered by survivors, scholars, humanitarians and activists, include: The Armenian Genocide, Native American Genocide, Genocide in the Renaissance, Violence and State Repression in the Midst of Refugee Crises, and Genocide in the Age of Climate Change. Also, the Theatre Department, under the direction of Randy Messersmith, will present the play "Kindertransport" at Two Waters Circle on Friday and Saturday evening.

For the full schedule of events go to www.scottsdalecc.edu/genocide.

If you go

When: April 17-22.

Daily, starting at 9 a.m., and evening presentations starting at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Turquoise Room, Scottsdale Community College, 9000 E. Chaparral Road. See campus map.

Admission: Free and open to the public

Scottsdale Community College is nationally recognized for its quality academics, service learning & leadership, civic engagement and innovative educational programs, which include university transfer, undergraduate research, career and technical programs and workforce development. The college offers more than 80 degree and certificate programs. SCC is the only public community college located on tribal land, thanks to a partnership with the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community. SCC is one of 10 colleges that comprise the Maricopa County Community College District. The District also includes technical and skilled workforce training programs. For additional information, visit www.scottsdalecc.edu.

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