



# KRISTALLNACHT REMEMBRANCE

Monday, November 4, 2024 | 5:30 p.m.  
Keene High School Auditorium



Cohen Center for Holocaust  
and Genocide Studies

KEENE STATE COLLEGE

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# TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

## BLOWING OF THE SHOFAR

Gary Shapiro, *Congregation Ahavas Achim*

## WHY WE ARE GATHERED

Dr. Kate Gibeault, *Director, Cohen Institute for Holocaust  
& Genocide Studies*

## VOICES FROM THE PAST

Erin Bennett '26, *Student, Keene State College*  
and Tom White, *Coordinator of Educational Outreach,  
Cohen Institute for Holocaust & Genocide Studies*

## THE IMPORTANCE OF KRISTALLNACHT REMEMBRANCE: A GERMAN PERSPECTIVE

Dr. Sonja Kreibich, *Consul General of Germany to the New England States*

## *DONA, DONA (1941)*

**By Sholom Secunda | Arr. Dr. Elaine Ginsberg**

Sung by students from the Dublin School, Keene High School,  
and Keene State College

Directed by Dr. Elaine Ginsberg, *Congregation Ahavas Achim and  
Keene State College*, with piano by Zach Redler, *Dublin School*

*Sung in English (translated from the Yiddish)*

On a wagon bound for market  
There's a calf with a mournful eye  
High above him, there's a swallow  
Winging swiftly through the sky

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[Chorus] How the winds are laughing  
They laugh with all their might  
Laugh and laugh the whole day through  
And half the summer's night. Dona, Dona....

"Stop complaining!" said the farmer  
"Who told you a calf to be?  
Why don't you have wings to fly with  
Like the swallow so proud and free?"

[Chorus]

Calves are easily bound and slaughtered  
Never knowing the reason why  
But whoever treasures freedom  
Like the swallow has learned to fly

[Chorus]

## **EL MALEI RACHAMIM**

Rabbi Daniel Aronson, *Congregation Ahavas Achim*

Exalted, compassionate God, grant perfect repose beneath Your sheltering presence, among the holy and pure, whose radiance is like that of the heavens, to the souls of our brothers and sisters who perished in the Shoah—men, women, and children of the House of Israel who were slaughtered, suffocated, and burned to ashes, who gave up their lives in affirmation of Your holy name—and to the souls of Righteous Gentiles and other human beings who perished with them. Let Eden be their resting place. May You, Source of Mercy, protect them in Your loving embrace. May their souls be bound up in the bond of life, God, who is their inheritance. May they rest in peace. And let us say: Amen.

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## **TONIGHT'S PROGRAM** (cont.)

### **CANDLE LIGHTING**

#### **For Victims of Nazism**

Allyson Guertin, *Jewish Federation of New Hampshire*,  
and Dr. Dottie Morris, *Associate Vice President for Institutional  
Equity and Diversity, Keene State College*

#### **For the Children**

Avery Johnson and Chander Archunaraj, *Keene Interact*

#### **For Refugees**

Lochan Sharma '27, *Student, Keene State College*  
and Jenna Carroll and Chuda Mishra, *Keene International Market*

#### **For Righteous Among the Nations**

Kati Preston, *Hidden Child from Hungary*

#### **For Targets of Hate**

Vicky Pittman, *The Colonial Theatre*,  
and Samantha Kristen Belle, *Keene Pride*

#### **For Our Community**

Mohammad Saleh, *Monadnock Diversity Equity and Inclusion Coalition*,  
*Monadnock Interfaith Project*, and *Keene Human Rights Committee*,  
and Daniel Smith, *Keene Family YMCA and Monadnock Diversity  
Equity and Inclusion Coalition*

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**The following individuals will offer statements on behalf of their department or organization:**

Dr. Kate Gibeault, *Cohen Institute for Holocaust & Genocide Studies*  
Captain James Pearsall, *City of Keene Fire Department*  
Chief Steven Stewart, *City of Keene Police Department*  
Ritu Budakoti, *Keene Human Rights Committee*  
and Mindy Olsen, *Monadnock Interfaith Project and the  
Monadnock Baha'i Community*

**COMMUNITY PLEDGE**

Led by Tom White, *Coordinator of Educational Outreach, Cohen  
Institute for Holocaust & Genocide Studies*

**Please join us in lighting your own candle and reciting the following statement together as a community:**

We remember that night as a moral obligation to the victims and the survivors as well as for ourselves, for the sake of our children, and for our community.

We recognize our responsibility to care for others in our midst who might be overlooked, targeted, or victimized in their circumstances.

We remember so that individuals may refuse to become perpetrators, “bystanders” or collaborators.

We remember in the hope that present and future generations take responsibility for building a world free of antisemitism, bigotry, intolerance, and hate.

Therefore, we remember Kristallnacht to remind ourselves to care for one another, to build peace, and be a community in which compassion, respect, and justice thrive.

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## **ANI MA'AMIN**

**Attributed to Azriel David Fastag, composed during the Shoah  
based on the text by Moses Maimonides (1138-1204)**

Sung by Dr. Elaine Ginsberg, *Congregation Ahavas Achim and  
Keene State College*

*Sung in Hebrew (English translation below)*

I believe with complete faith  
In the coming of the Messiah  
And even though he may tarry  
Nonetheless I will wait for him

Context: *Ani Ma'amin* means “I believe” and it refers to the belief that one day the “messianic era” will come. It is based on one of the thirteen principles of Jewish faith according to Moses Maimonides, the tune is described as a somber melody, and it was written during the Holocaust (the composer unknown). According to popular legend, Reb Azriel David Fastag was divinely inspired to sing this song on a train headed to Treblinka. A fellow captive jumped out of the train and escaped, eventually teaching the tune to Modzitzer Rebbe, Rabbi Shaul Yedidya Elazar.

**As we conclude tonight's program, we invite attendees to keep their candle as a reminder of this evening's program—and our shared commitment to being a community that stands against hatred and violence.**

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## WITH GRATITUDE

Many individuals have contributed their talents and time to the behind-the-scenes planning of this event. The Cohen Institute team—Dr. Kate Gibeault, Tom White, Michele Kuiawa, and Dr. Catherine Winters-Michaud—wish to express special gratitude to the following partners:

Congregation Ahavas Achim, *especially Rabbi Daniel Aronson and Dr. Elaine Ginsberg*

Keene Interact, *especially Ranae O'Neil*

Keene State College's Office of Marketing & Communications, *especially Katie Arsenault and Paul Miller*

Monadnock Interfaith Project, *especially Tom Julius, Angela Pape, and all faith leaders*

The Colonial Theatre, *especially Vicky Pittman*

And, a huge thanks to all of the community members, local leaders, and students who participated in this event itself by offering readings, prayer and song, and other statements as representatives of their groups/organizations!

The Cohen Institute's Kristallnacht Remembrance is made possible each year due to the donations, both small and large, from our supporters. If you feel moved by our program this year and wish to make a tax-deductible donation to support our future programs, please visit [giving.keene.edu/cchgs](https://giving.keene.edu/cchgs).



**Cohen Institute for Holocaust & Genocide Studies**  
229 Main Street, Keene, NH 03435

***COVER IMAGE: Germans pass by the broken shop window of a Jewish-owned business destroyed during Kristallnacht.***