



2025 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL LECTURE

ENEMIES OF THE STATE:

The Nazi Persecution
of LGBTQ+ People

with **DR. JAKE DESAI-NEWSOME**

Tuesday, September 16 | 6 p.m.

Keene
STATE COLLEGE

 **COHEN
INSTITUTE**
FOR HOLOCAUST &
GENOCIDE STUDIES

Tonight's Program

2025 HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL LECTURE

Tuesday, September 16 | 6:00 p.m.

Hosted online via livestream

Institutional Welcome

Dr. Dottie Morris

*Associate Vice President for Community and Belonging,
Keene State College*

Introductory Remarks

Dr. Kate Gibeault

Director, Cohen Institute for Holocaust & Genocide Studies

Lecture

"Enemies of the State: The Nazi Persecution of LGBTQ+ People"

Featuring Dr. Jake Desai-Newsome

Questions & Discussion

About Tonight's Featured Speaker

Dr. Jake Desai-Newsome is an award-winning scholar of German and American LGBTQ+ history whose research and resources educate global audiences.

Jake is the author of *Pink Triangle Legacies: Coming Out in the Shadow of the Holocaust*, which traces the transformation of the pink triangle from a Nazi concentration camp badge into a global symbol of LGBTQ+ pride.

Since earning his Ph.D. in history, Jake has published in academic journals as well as popular outlets like the *Washington Post*, and often appears as a guest on podcasts, including *Getting Curious with Jonathan Van Ness*. Jake is also the Founder and Director of the Pink Triangle Legacies Project. In addition to serving as a historical advisor for film projects, exhibits, and plays, Jake has been invited by the French, UK, and US governments about the important lessons that LGBTQ+ history has for all of us today.



Photo courtesy of Melanie Weiland

With Gratitude

Tonight's lecture is made possible in part due to an endowed gift that was established by **Norma and Lester Cohen**.

The Cohen Institute would also like to thank the **Keene State College Office of Community and Belonging** for supporting this event.

Additional funding from the **Keene Endowment Association** supported the event itself and also allowed the Cohen Institute to provide copies of Dr. Desai-Newsome's book, *Pink Triangle Legacies: Coming Out in the Shadow of the Holocaust*, to faculty and students. These groups were also invited to submit questions for tonight's speaker in advance of the lecture.

If you are part of a book group that would like to partner with the Cohen Institute for future opportunities, please email us at coheninstitute@keene.edu.

Additionally, many individuals have contributed their talents, time, and support to the planning and implementation of this event.

The Cohen Institute team—Dr. Kate Gibeault, Michele Kuiawa, and Hannah Eliason—wish to express special gratitude to the following partners on campus:

Katie Arsenault

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Samantha Goldblatt

Ian Kaplan

Misty Kennedy

Dottie Morris

Trinity Nay

Marty Testo and our
student athlete volunteers

Celia Rabinowitz

Andrea Vickers-Sivret

Will Wrobel

Future Offerings

Please join the Cohen Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies for other offerings in our year-long series on “Gender and Genocide” or at our other events and programs throughout the year.

**Save the date for the 2026 Genocide Awareness Lecture:
“Srebrenica: Genocide Gendered” with Professor Patricia Viseur
Sellers on Wednesday, April 8!**

A full list of public events can be found on our [events calendar](#). We also encourage you to [sign up for our monthly e-newsletter](#) to receive event notifications and resources throughout the academic year.

Support Our Mission

The Cohen Institute's mission is sustained financially by our supporters and benefactors, without whom we could not maintain or grow our offerings. If you wish to make a tax-deductible charitable gift, please visit giving.keene.edu/cihgs to learn more about the impact your gift can have.



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