



Gratz Insider, February 2016 - Story Continuation

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Gratz News in Brief

Ferst Fellowships Awarded in Holocaust and Genocide Studies

Gratz recently awarded scholarships, called the Ferst Fellowships, to four new students planning to pursue our M.A. program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The recipients are full-time educators from Texas, Georgia, Montana and Vancouver, British Columbia. The fellowship provides for a 45% reduction in tuition, which, when combined with the Gratz President's Scholarship for Educators, means that the Ferst Fellows will receive a total tuition break of 62%. Needless to say, these fellowships were filled within a matter of weeks.

Professor Saul Wachs: Scholar in Residence at JEA Conference

Professor Saul Wachs was one of two scholars in residence at the annual Jewish Educators Assembly conference. He spoke on the changing face of Jewish education today and on intertextuality in Jewish liturgy. A number of Gratz alumni figured prominently at the conference, including Hedda Morton, who received the Lifetime Achievement Award. According to Dr. Wachs, there was "quite a Gratz presence."

A Day of Service for Gratz Volunteers



Some of the Gratz volunteers are pictured above. They are, from left to right, Dr. Ruth Sandberg, Len Zimmerman, Ann Perazzelli, Dr. Joshua Gutoff, Debbie Aron, Mindy Blechman and Dodi Klimoff.

This year, Gratz College recognized Martin Luther King Jr. Day by responding to the call for service. Several members of the Gratz faculty and staff donned weekend work clothes and headed over to neighboring Martin Luther King High School in Philadelphia to support a school beautification project.

At the school, the Gratz representatives joined a group of over 200 other community volunteers. After a motivational pep rally, the volunteers got down to work, replacing the school's drab walls and doors with a fresh coat of vibrantly colored paint. In addition to painting, the Gratz group helped distribute lunch to the volunteers. The College also donated some of the painting materials.

Improving the learning environment in a neighborhood school is consistent with Gratz's core commitment to education and community engagement. While at Martin

Luther King High School, Gratz volunteers also had the opportunity to spread the message of education at the adult level. They spoke with teachers about the Gratz Master of Arts in Education program and with volunteers from various nonprofits about the Gratz Master of Science in Nonprofit Management.

The Gratz volunteers included Dodi Klimoff, Mindy Blechman, Ann Perazzelli, Dean Rosalie Guzofsky, Len Zimmerman, Dr. Joshua Guttoff, Debbie Aron, Dr. Ruth Sandberg, and Laura Hughes. For them, this fulfilling day of community service was an opportunity both to carry out the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and to support the mission and values of Gratz College.