



The Butterfly Project

The Butterfly Project is an international memorial project to honor the 1.5 million children who perished in the Holocaust. The Butterfly Project was inspired by the art and poetry created by the children interned by the Nazis at the Terezin Concentration Camp; ultimately their work, which was discovered upon liberation, was published in a book entitled *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. The book's title draws its name from a poem written by Pavel Friedmann

The Butterfly Project at CCLCS



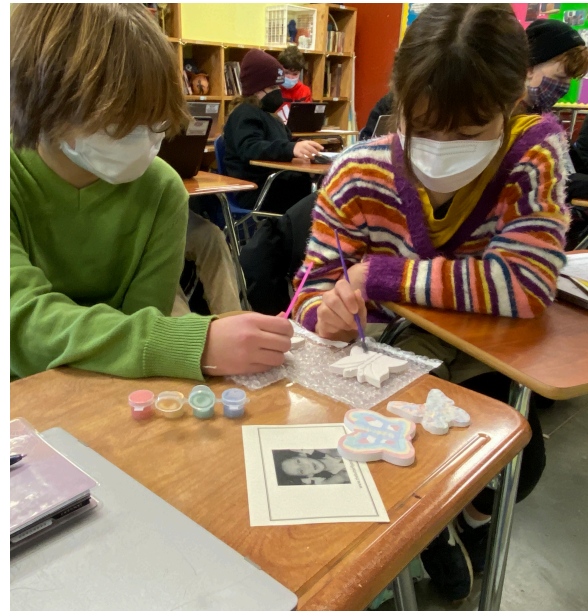
Each year, the seventh grade at CCLCS engages in an interdisciplinary study of the Holocaust across the social studies, art and language arts curricula. Each January, we have a day-long Holocaust memorial program which culminates with students painting a ceramic butterfly in honor of a young victim whose story they read on identity cards distributed by The Butterfly Project as part of the kits.

With Gratitude

CCLCS wishes to thank:

- Am Hayam
- Cape Cod 5 Educational Mini-Grants
- The Cape Cod Foundation
- Mid-Cape Home Centers
- Harwich Paint & Decorating
- The Butterfly Project

Without whom this project would not have been possible.



Butterflies of Brundibar

A Holocaust memorial to the children of Terezin at the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School



Brundibar: The Opera

While imprisoned in Terezin, many of these children also were enlisted to perform the Czech opera *Brundibar* for the International Red Cross' visit to the camp as well as for a propaganda film later used by the Nazis. In post-liberation interviews, the performers explained that they felt empowered by the music which they sang as a form of resistance. Since the opera was performed in Czech and the Nazis spoke German, they did not realize that the children were singing about the end of tyranny. The opera's finale is a celebration of victory over Brundibar and a symbol of hope for the victory that those interned hoped and prayed for.



The Mural at CCLCS

Thanks to our generous funders, we have been able to create and install a mural honoring the children who perished in the Holocaust and specifically those who died at Terezin.

Each butterfly represents a music note in the finale of *Brundibar*. Our mural gives these children a voice through the opera's finale and wings through their representation as butterflies.

The last butterfly in our mural was painted by Martin Owens z"l, the grandfather of three CCLCS graduates. Mr. Owens escaped Austria on the Kindertransport and spent several years at a boarding school for refugees in England. Mr. Owens was reunited with his mother after the war and eventually emigrated to the U.S. He spoke to our students about his experiences shortly before his death in 2018.



Dedication of the Mural

The mural was dedicated at CCLCS on May 10, 2022, the 77th anniversary of the liberation of Terezin. We feel that this date signifies a celebration of the end of tyranny and hope for the children of the future in addition to remembering and honoring those who were lost to a dark time in our world's history.

We at CCLCS will remain committed to the cause of educating our students about difficult histories while inspiring them to affect positive change in their world.



The panels representing the musical score were created by students in a 2019 seminar while the panel showing a scene from *Brundibar* was painted by students Marz Messina, Jojo Sader and Amelia Stoots. Francesca Savage and Sophie Grant designed the clefs.