

THE RAOUL WALLENBERG COMMITTEE  
OF THE UNITED STATES

A STUDY OF HEROES

Volume 2, Issue 1: # 2  
Special Edition: 2011 - 2014

CHALLENGES:  
CELEBRATION, COMMEMORATION & CHANGE

"We are small but mighty" is an apt descriptor of the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States.

These five words, coined by President Diane Blake, capture the Committee's spirited thirty - two year history. Yet, never did they ring more true than when overcoming the challenges faced during the past three years.

**Celebration & Commemoration:** The Committee, poised to celebrate its 30th Anniversary in 2011 and the Centenary of Raoul Wallenberg's birth in 2012, encountered



January 17, 2014: The 69th Anniversary of the last day Raoul Wallenberg was seen as a free man; he had been arrested by Soviet troops. The Committee placed flowers at the Raoul Wallenberg Monument (First Ave. by the United Nations). The bronze attaché case symbolically awaits Raoul's return.

economic *uncertainty*, mirroring that confronting organizations nationwide. The Committee's very existence was in peril.

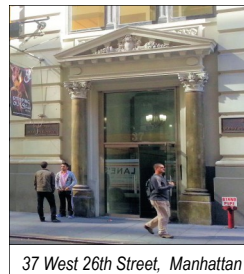
The necessities and rigors of relocating our offices in 2011 and again in 2013 compounded the other challenges we faced.

Characteristically, the Committee responded with spirited determination setting a new goal of *renewal and revitalization*.

**Change:** Under the keen leadership of Chairman Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, President Blake, the Board of Directors, and the dedicated Staff, the Committee maintained its Mission (*see page 2*) while adjusting course and changing locations.

*First*, the Committee regained independence in 2011 by ending an affiliation with another not-for-profit organization.

*Second*, The Honorable David Dangoor, *Swedish Honorary Consul General to New York*, arranged for the Committee to



37 West 26th Street, Manhattan

move to *The Center for Jewish History* in Manhattan in 2011.

Two years later, in 2013, circumstances changed — so did our location — to 37 West 26th Street in the heart of New York's historic Chelsea/Flatiron District.

*Third*, the Committee's dedicated Board welcomed new Directors: Bonnie Kaye and Noah D. Genel, Esq. Cynthia Green Colin, Flora Major, and Hon. David Dangoor, returned to The Board.

*Fourth*, essential lifelines of support have been cast to the Committee by The Fridolin Foundation, The Bernheim Foundation and, of course, the ongoing generosity of Members and Friends.

The Raoul Wallenberg Committee  
of the United States



- **Chairman**  
Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim
- **Vice Chairmen**  
Joel I. Berson, Esq.
- **President**  
Diane Blake
- **Secretary & Treasurer**  
Jeffrey J. Lewis
- **Directors**  
Cynthia Green Colin, New York  
Hon. David E. R. Dangoor, New York  
Noah D. Genel, Esq., New York  
Bonnie Kaye, New York  
Flora Major, Florida  
Dr. Patricia A. McFate, New Mexico  
Carl Nisser, Esq., London  
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- **Chairmen Emeriti**  
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Lena Biorck Kaplan  
Alex Rosenberg  
Jack Gumpert Wasserman
- **Honorary Chairmen**  
Ambassador Per Anger\*  
Dr. Guy von Dardel\*  
Nina Lagergren  
Dr. Krister Stendahl\*  
Jacob Wallenberg\*  
Simon Wiesenthal\*
- **Director of Education**  
Dr. Kathleen Dunlevy Morin

\* Deceased

CENTENARY OF RAOUL WALLENBERG'S BIRTH  
CUNY LECTURE: PASSIONATE & POWERFUL

**BERNHEIM & BLAKE**  
- Share Wallenberg Story -  
- Update Research Findings -

"Riveting" ..... "Essential"  
..... "Compelling" ....

Such comments were overheard as members of the audience departed reluctantly



Raoul and his Mother, Maj von Dardel, 1916

from the Martin E. Segal Theatre at The City University of New York's (CUNY) Graduate Center in midtown Manhattan on the evening of October 10, 2012. The pace of departure

and number of individuals lingering to speak with the featured lecturers were clear indicators of the success of the event.



Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim (l) and Diane Blake (r) join Marianne Balshone (c) who was saved by Raoul Wallenberg in WW II Budapest

**The Event** — A Lecture Series sponsored by The Rosenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies at CUNY.

**The Lecture** — "The Centenary of a Hero".

(Continued on page 3)

## From The Chairman's Desk ...



Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim

### *How do you measure success?*

After 32 years, we are asking the same question. We look back with astonishment, with very limited financial resources, a small dedicated staff, and a supportive Board of Directors—we have accomplished Herculean tasks. We raised the consciousness of the general public and both American and Swedish government officials to the point where the case of Raoul Wallenberg could no longer be ignored. Sweden has finally started to pay full tribute to its most heroic native son. The year 2012

was declared the *Raoul Wallenberg Centenary*. At last, the world is taking notice. In 1990, the Committee assessed how to honor Raoul Wallenberg. A STUDY OF HEROES is our *living monument to Raoul Wallenberg*. It was developed to pass forward the character traits and values of this most heroic of men. It is based on our belief...*that the heroes of a nation reflect the values of its people*. Today, HEROES is recognized as an exemplary character education, social studies, and literacy program. It has reached well over two million students in a multiplicity of educational settings (K – 12 and Adults) that include schools both nationwide and abroad. The positive measurable results achieved in schools have been equally matched by the use of HEROES in adult and juvenile correctional facilities.

Regardless of demographics, educators, counselors, librarians, social workers, parents and students credit HEROES with developing academic skills; building good character; counteracting patterns of violence; and helping to restore hope.

**So, "How do we measure success?"**

Not by our bottom line, but by the extraordinary number of lives we have touched, and by the positive difference we have made and are continuing to make! There are growing numbers of people of every age whose lives have been changed by Raoul Wallenberg.

## ABOUT THE RAOUL WALLENBERG COMMITTEE

The Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States was created as a not-for-profit corporation in 1981. Its mission is:

- To perpetuate, through *A STUDY OF HEROES*, the humanitarian ideals and nonviolent courage of Raoul Wallenberg, a 31 year-old Christian Swede, who at the behest of the United States government at the end of World War II went to Budapest, Hungary and without resorting to violence saved from the Nazis more than 100,000 Jews in six months time. For still unknown reasons, Wallenberg was arrested by the Soviets in 1945; was imprisoned and thrown into The Gulag; and has never been seen as a free man again.

( By a Joint Act of Congress in 1981, Wallenberg was made the Third Honorary Citizen of the United States. )

- To seek the truth surrounding the mystery of the fate of Raoul Wallenberg through *THE NO STONE UNTURNED* (STONES) Program;
- To maintain archives and to provide information and expert services to researchers, the media, individuals, organizations, and governments inquiring about the story of Raoul Wallenberg; and
- To bestow *The Raoul Wallenberg*

*Award* on individuals, organizations, and communities reflecting the values, spirit and courage of Raoul Wallenberg.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.raoulwallenberg.org>

Or contact us at:

The Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States  
37 West 26th Street, Suite 403  
New York, New York 10010  
(646) 678 – 3711  
or  
diane@raoulwallenberg.org

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**April 6, 2011** U.S. State Department honors Raoul Wallenberg as *A Person of Courage*.

**May 2, 2011** President Diane Blake accepts the *Legacy of Courage Award*, honoring Raoul Wallenberg, from Emunah of America and Jossi Berger Holocaust Study Center.

**August 2011** The Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States relocates to The Center for Jewish History.

**April 2012** Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim addresses Park East Synagogue and Congregation Ohab Zedek, in Manhattan, at Holocaust Commemoration Ceremonies.

**August 4, 2012** 100th Anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg's Birthday.

**August 29, 2012** Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, Chairman, speaks at Carol Woods Residents' Association in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

**October 10, 2012** President Diane Blake and Chairman Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim speak on *The Centenary of a Hero* at The Rosenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies at CUNY in Manhattan.

**November 7, 2012** A Gala at The Yale Club of New York City Honoring Raymond

W. Kelly, New York City Police Commissioner with *The Raoul Wallenberg Civic Courage Award*.

**January 17, 2013** The Raoul Wallenberg Committee holds a Young Professionals Reception at The Fedida Gallery, NYC.

**September 2013** The Raoul Wallenberg Committee relocates to 37 West 26th Street, NYC.

**January 17, 2014** The 69th Anniversary of last day that Raoul Wallenberg was seen a free man.



## ... CUNY LECTURE: PASSIONATE & POWERFUL

*(Continued from page 1)*

**The Hero** — Raoul Wallenberg, born one hundred years ago on August 4, 1912, in Sweden.

**The Guest Lecturers** — Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim and Diane Blake, Chairman and President, respectively, of The Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States.

Professor Randolph L. Braham of *The Rosenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies at CUNY* coordinated the Institute's Fall Program for the 2012 Lecture Series. This Series is offered in cooperation with the Center for Jewish Studies and Continuing Education & Public Programs at CUNY.

Dr. Marta Bladek, a Professor and Research Librarian at John Jay College, warmly welcomed the audience and introduced Professor Braham, a renowned scholar and authority on The Hungarian Holocaust. Professor Braham provided an historical overview of the state of affairs in Nazi-occupied, World War II Hungary. He



At CUNY's midtown Graduate Center, Charles and Rachel Bernheim flank Professor Randolph L. Braham

is credited with saving more than 100,000 Jews from certain death at the hands of the Nazis. Raoul never resorted to violence.

Following Professor Braham, Rachel Bernheim spoke eloquently of Wallenberg's innate compassion, conviction, and heroic character. She wove spellbinding stories about Raoul's transformative life experiences preparing and motivating him to *make a difference* in the lives of others. Such gripping stories were often rooted in firsthand accounts shared personally with Rachel by those whose lives had been saved by Wallenberg. The audience was visibly moved. Some were Holocaust survivors. Others had friends and relatives saved by Wallenberg. Still others came to learn more about Wallenberg or to become acquainted with him for the first time.

focused upon the period prior to and during July 1944 to January 1945 in which Wallenberg worked in the Swedish Legation in Budapest. It was during this time that Wallenberg

Picking up the Wallenberg story where Rachel left off, Diane chronicled, with detailed research, the period following Raoul's capture by the Soviet troops on January 17, 1945. Through research and personal anecdotes, Diane painted a compelling yet frustrating picture of the efforts to free Wallenberg — one that for sixty-seven years has been fraught with combined good intentions, perseverance, and dedication; diplomatic and investigative steps and missteps; hints and hopes; lies, misrepresentations and, all too often, dead-ends and disregard.



Diane Blake (top) and (l to r) her daughter Peggy Blake; mother Betty Werfel; and sister Lauren Kolins share a moment.

President Blake, who directs the *No Stone Unturned (STONES)* Program at The Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States, continues in her search for the Truth about the fate of Raoul Wallenberg and in her commitment to ensure that he is ultimately brought home to Sweden and to his Family.

The evening concluded with a vigorous Q & A session followed by a resounding standing ovation for Rachel and Diane.



Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim and Rivka Goli of the United Nations at CUNY

## From the President's Desk ...

by  
Diane Blake,  
President & Director of Research

This is the year of Raoul Wallenberg's 102nd birthday. He is an honorary citizen of four countries. There have been stamps issued in his honor; schools, parks, and streets named for him; statues and monuments erected; and even an orchid created in his name. Sweden designated 2012 as the official "Raoul Wallenberg Year". Yet, Raoul Wallenberg deserves more than honors. He deserves the truth of his fate to finally be made public, and he deserves to come home.

In the past several years, new information has been found which shows that Raoul Wallenberg was called in for interrogation on July 23, 1947 — six days after his supposed death date. Also found is new material from Willy Roedel, Raoul's cellmate in Lubianka Prison. The Russians have claimed for years that this information no longer existed. This is the clearest sign yet

that the Russian archives still contain critically important documents about the Wallenberg case.

What is needed now is a high level request from the Swedish government for the truth. A little help from the United States government wouldn't hurt either. The time of doubt as to whether the materials still exist and whether the Raoul Wallenberg case can be solved is past. This new information wipes away all doubts.

**Raoul Wallenberg was Prisoner #7 ...**  
*"The archivists added that 'Prisoner No. 7' had been interrogated on July 23rd, 1947 which—if confirmed— would mean that the Soviet era claims of Wallenberg's death on July 17, 1947 are no longer valid. Never before have Russian officials stated the possibility of Raoul Wallenberg's survival past this date so explicitly."*

Source: *Searching for Raoul Wallenberg*  
 Susan Berger, Researcher  
 Posted by Diane Blake on  
[www.raoulwallenberg.org/newsroom](http://www.raoulwallenberg.org/newsroom)

The Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States is committed to seeing this happen.

\* \* \* \* \*

This past April, Diane celebrated her 26th Anniversary with The Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States. Today, she is the Committee's President and is a renowned authority on Raoul Wallenberg. At first, she served as a volunteer and subsequently on the Board of Directors and as the Director of Research and the *No Stone Unturned (STONES)* Program, dedicated to finding the Truth of Wallenberg's Fate.



Diane Blake

Please follow Diane's *Chronology* for research updates on our web site at:

<http://www.raoulwallenberg.org>



# MARGIT DEMENY: A LIFE TOUCHED BY WALLENBERG

*"Each human being is special, but Margit Kelemen Demeny was more actively special than most..."*

— August 4, 2013, Manhattan; Eulogy for Dr. Demeny, a long-time friend of the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States. By fate, Margit was laid to rest on the 101st anniversary of Raoul Wallenberg's birth.

Margit inspired all whom she met — speaking at schools; educating groups about the Holocaust; sharing wisdom and the Wallenberg Story with students, researchers, and writers.

Born in Baja, Hungary, in 1914, Margit, after

her Father's death in 1923, moved with her Mother and Sister to Budapest. There, she excelled in both athletics and academics.

Only illness prevented her from accepting an invitation to join Hungary's National Gymnastics Team. Having earned her PhD in Physical Chemistry in 1943, Margit married in 1944. Within a year, Margit's husband was killed on a death march. Margit survived the horrors



Dr. Margit Demeny (right) and her daughter Dr. Marian Demeny (left), on the occasion of the Presentation of The Royal Swedish Order of The Polar Star to Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim

of Nazi-occupied Hungary by moving into a Wallenberg Safe House in 1944.

Margit remarried in 1947 and settled in New York working as a researcher and faculty member at Mt. Sinai Hospital and NYU Medical Center, retiring in 1982. Margit continued to devote her tireless and selfless energy to her loving Family. She is very much missed.

## HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION PARK EAST SYNAGOGUE & CONGREGATION OHAB ZEDEK

Remembrance across Manhattan ... Wednesday, April 18, 2012 ... from the East Side to the West Side, Holocaust Commemoration Ceremonies honored the Centenary of Raoul Wallenberg's birth.

In two synagogues across town from each other, Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, Chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Committee (RWCUS) of the United States shared the Wallenberg story with those gathered for Yom HaShoah.



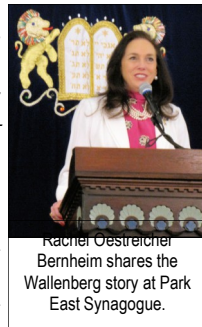
Hon. David Dangoor, Honorary Consul General of Sweden and Member of RWCUS Board of Directors addresses Park East Synagogue congregants.

**Park East Synagogue :** At the elegant Park East Synagogue on the Upper East Side, those arriving early perused a multi-paneled Wallenberg exhibit on loan from RWCUS.

In the Synagogue, Rabbi Arthur Schneier presented dignitaries, the Park East Day School Choir, and *Muzikas*, a lively and colorful band of Hungarian Minstrels.

The Hon. David Dangoor introduced Rachel, whose story of Wallenberg evoked memories and tears amidst silence. A *Candle Lighting Ceremony* and prayer followed.

**Congregation Ohab Zedek:** Traveling promptly to the Upper West Side, Rachel joined Congregation Ohab Zedek and Rabbi Allen Schwartz in the small, beautiful, and warmly welcoming synagogue. Cecelia Margules, Co-Chair of The Jossi Berger Holocaust Study Center hosted its



Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim shares the Wallenberg story at Park East Synagogue.

19th Annual Holocaust Commemoration Ceremony co-sponsored by *Emunah of America* and Congregation Ohab Zedek.

The Ceremony featured Rachel's inspiring Wallenberg story; the premier of *The Raoul Wallenberg Song* composed by Cecelia Margules; and a magnificent "blend" of live music with *"Rainbow In The Night"*, a powerful video epic of WW II Krakow and one survivor's story. The title song was composed by Margules and the video was directed by Daniel Finkelman. *Candle Lighting* and prayer, led by Rabbi Avraham Farber, closed the evening's Ceremony.



Cecelia Margules engages Congregation Ohab Zedek with musical accompaniment.

## DIANE BLAKE ACCEPTS EMUNAH OF AMERICA AWARD HONORING WALLENBERG'S 'LEGACY OF COURAGE'

Torrential rains fell hard upon the those exiting the New York University Kimmel Center on the night of May 2, 2011. Inside, the warmth of community had enveloped the young and old who had gathered for *The 18th Annual Holocaust Commemoration Ceremony* sponsored by *Emunah of America*

and Jossi Berger Holocaust Study Center together with NYU's Bronfman Center for Jewish Life.

The evening's theme was *Legacy of Courage: A Tribute to Survivors and Saviors*. Cecelia Margules, Chairman of The Jossi Berger Holocaust Study Center, presented the Award honoring Raoul Wallenberg. Representing the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States, Diane Blake accepted the Award on behalf of Wallenberg.

The program concluded with *A Candle Lighting Ceremony* and original music

composed by Cecelia Margules and performed by her son Adam. The program was powerful and personally touched all who attended.



Holding Legacy of Courage Awards: Diane Blake with Honorees, Ray Kaner (l), a Polish Survivor of Auschwitz, and Bergen Belsen; and Renee Wiener (r), a Member of the French Resistance Movement.

***"His Courage, Compassion and Conviction  
During History's Darkest Hour Serves As  
An Example And Inspiration  
To All Mankind"***

Inscription  
Emunah of America *Legacy of Courage* Award  
Honoring Raoul Wallenberg

## FRONT PAGE NEWS: UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE HONORS RAOUL WALLENBERG:

*"We salute the courage and dedication of all those whose moral compasses did not fail them but instead compelled them ...."*

Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State

A framed certificate from the United States Department of State paying tribute to Raoul Wallenberg as *A Person of Courage* is proudly displayed at the Raoul Wallenberg Committee's new office. This award honors the humanitarian values and heroic courage of Wallenberg.

The certificate reminds all of Raoul's commitment to act on principle in times of crisis and of the Committee's dedication, through its NO STONE UNTURNED and HEROES Programs, to keep Raoul's legacy alive as an inspiration for generations to come.

The 'Person of Courage' Tribute was presented in Washington, DC on April 6th, 2011 at an event commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention, an international agreement defining the legal obligations of nations to protect refugees.

When presenting the award, Secretary of



State Hillary Rodham Clinton cited the noble actions of Wallenberg and five other heroic individuals:

"All of these courageous people have one thing in common: They did not view people as strangers — as 'the other'; they viewed them as fellow human beings, and they were unable to stand by and let brutality and violence and atrocities unfold ... We salute the courage and dedication of all those whose moral compasses did not fail them but instead compelled them ... to help in the vital endeavor of standing up for the very best values that unite all of us regardless of geography, race, tribe or religion."



Secretary of State Hillary Clinton presents Person Of Courage Awards in Washington, D.C. — US Dept. of State Photo



## BULLETIN: A TRIBUTE TO RACHEL OESTREICHER BERNHEIM: A CONTINUUM OF SERVICE & COMMITMENT

For more than three decades, Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim has been in the vanguard of preserving and promoting the legacy of Raoul Wallenberg. Her life has been one of service and commitment. *Congratulations and Thank You, Rachel.*

Since the Committee's inception in 1981, Rachel's creative vision has been key to shaping the organization's future. Today, as for more than a decade, she serves as its Chairman. Rachel conceptualized and co-developed A STUDY OF HEROES and has been instrumental, along with President Diane Blake, in the search for the Truth about the fate of Raoul Wallenberg.



Rachel wearing the Medal of The Royal Swedish Order of the Polar Star.

Both Rachel and Diane are recognized as international experts on Wallenberg. Over the years, Rachel has shared her expertise in settings as diverse as the United States Congress, US military bases, The United Nations, centers of worship, universities, civic organizations, senior centers, television, radio, correctional

facilities, schools and conferences.

A graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, Rachel studied developmental child psychology and had the privilege of studying the *myths of the hero* with Professor Joseph Campbell. She authored the monograph *Raoul Wallenberg: A Hero For Our Time* plus numerous articles for publications in America and abroad. She has served as a consultant on books, films and documentaries about the life of Raoul Wallenberg. Rachel is listed in *The Foremost Women in the Twentieth Century* and *Who's Who of American Women*. Rachel is the recipient of Salem Academy's 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award. She has served on the Boards of Salon de Virtuosi and Givat Haviva Educational Institute. She was a member of The National Council of the

**"To receive this order, there is a strict rule: You must have accomplished things beyond the call of duty. And that is a fitting description of your efforts on establishing the Raoul Wallenberg legacy."**

Ambassador Ulf Hjertzonsson  
Consul General of Sweden  
upon awarding Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim  
The Royal Swedish Order of the Polar Star  
by appointment of His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf  
New York City, April 2007

Glimmerglass Opera Company of Cooperstown, New York. Rachel served on the Board of The American Symphony Orchestra; on the Auction Committee of the Young Adults Institute; as Co-Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the Sarah Lawrence College Alumnae Board; and on the Board of the New York Heart Association. Rachel received *The New Sweden '88 Medal* from the Swedish Consul General to New York.



Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, Salem Academy's 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient with its President, Dr. Susan E. Pauly, and Head of School, Karl Sjolund, Photo credit: Snyder Photography

On March 13, 2007, Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, by appointment of His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf, was awarded *The Royal Swedish Order of the Polar Star at the Level of Commander*. Ambassador Ulf Hjertzonsson, Consul General of Sweden, presented this honor and its Medal to Rachel at the Consular Residence in Manhattan.



## RACHEL OESTREICHER BERNHEIM ADDRESSES NORTH CAROLINIANS

It is a mere *hop, skip, and long jump* from Salisbury, North Carolina north to Chapel Hill. For Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, a native of Salisbury, being invited to speak about Raoul Wallenberg at the Carol Woods Residents' Association in Chapel Hill on the afternoon of August 29, 2012 was a most welcome opportunity.

This invitation was extended by hosts Dr. Jean and Foster Owen, old friends from Salisbury and now residents of the Carol Woods Retirement Community. For years, Jean had served on the Board of Directors of the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States.



Left to right: Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, Jean and Foster Owen share ideas with a guest.

Today, she remains on its Advisory Board and, as always, is willing to share her administrative and educational expertise with the Committee.

Throughout the development and dissemi-



nation of A STUDY OF HEROES, Jean played a central and invaluable role: first as the Principal of a HEROES pilot school and subsequently in her executive role at The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

A large group gathered in the Carol Woods Association Assembly Hall to hear the Raoul Wallenberg story. As with most audiences, there were some attendees familiar with the Wallenberg story, but most were not.

**“... this presentation .... was fascinating. I knew about Raoul Wallenberg ... but many in the audience had never heard of him. So it was especially good to have Rachel come to talk about him. The larger concept — of helping others — was also appropriately stressed; we cannot hear that enough.”**

*Judith, An Attendee*

Perhaps, no one was more personally touched by hearing Rachel share the Wallenberg story than Amie Modigh, who had met Raoul in Sweden when she was eleven years old. During a quiet moment, she delighted in sharing her recollections with Rachel.

**Raoul was:**

**“A good dancer ....  
Great conversationalist ....  
Highly intelligent ...”**

*Amie Modigh*

Such anecdotes, as the one offered by Amie, richly and charmingly provide a ‘*snapshot in time*’. They enhance the historical record while offering insights about Raoul’s engaging character and personality as seen through the eyes of a young girl.



Amie Modigh recalls Raoul Wallenberg with Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim



## HEROES AUTHOR SERVES COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY’S TEACHERS COLLEGE ALUMNI COUNCIL

*Tempus fugit* ... again, of course. After six years of service, Dr. Kathleen Morin completed her second term as a Member of Columbia University’s Teachers College Alumni Council in 2012. She served on its Executive Committee and as Co-Chair of its Programs & Resources Committee.

Kathy has been associated with The Raoul Wallenberg Committee since 1990, first *pro bono*, then as a Consultant and for the past fifteen years as its Director of Education. Prior, she earned a doctorate and two masters from Teachers College and served as an Instructor; Associate Director of the Preservice Program; Honorary Assistant Professor; and Research Associate in the Institute of Philosophy and Politics. In 2005, she received the *Teachers College Distinguished Alumni Award*. In 2008, Kathy was the Cur-

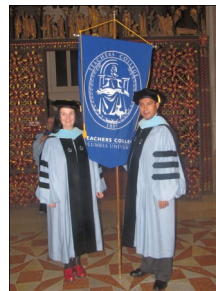
riculum Consultant to TC’s project *Teaching The Levees* for Spike Lee’s HBO documentary *When The Levees Broke: A Requiem In Four Acts*.

Kathy, who taught in settings ranging from Appalachia to Spanish Harlem, first came to the Committee when Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim contacted TC’s President’s Office and Curriculum Department seeking someone with whom she could work in developing an educational program that she had conceptualized. Rachel’s idea was to create an interdisciplinary curriculum as a *living monument* to the humanitarian values and nonviolent heroism of Raoul Wallenberg.

In the 1990s, Rachel and Kathy collaborated with a network of pilot schools (public, independent, and faith-based in

urban, inner-city, suburban, and rural settings) in North Carolina and the New York Metropolitan Area.

**The Result:** A STUDY OF HEROES (K–12, and Adults) which today has reached 2,000,000 students nationally and internationally in such diverse venues as: schools, libraries, community-based organizations; gifted, special education, ESL, foster-care, home-schooling, after-school, and adult education programs; a residential school for the profoundly deaf; The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington; rehabilitative and preventative programs for juvenile offenders and at-risk populations; and in adult prisons and correctional facilities for character education and GED preparation.



TC Alumni Council Members Kathy Morin and Dr. Tara Niraula from Nepal

PHOTO GALLERY

A RETROSPECTIVE: EVENTS 1981 - 2013



**First Row:** (left to right): Nane (Niece of Raoul Wallenberg) and Kofi Annan (2001 Gala); Alan C. Greenberg (1990 Honoree), Diane Blake, Jacob Wallenberg, Cousin of Raoul Wallenberg (1990 Gala); Royal Swedish Order of the Polar Star Ceremony, 2007: Rachel O. Bernheim, Awardee, with Holocaust survivors Peter A. Vagi, Margit K. Demeny, and Ivan E. Becker, and Ambassador Ulf Hjertonnsson, Consul General of Sweden; Guy von Dardel, Brother of Raoul Wallenberg (Gala Dinner, Stockholm, 1993); Cindy McCain at 2000 Gala; Carl Nisser, Esq., Cousin of Raoul Wallenberg at 2000 Gala; 1985 Occasion of naming the sidewalk across from the United Nations 'Raoul Wallenberg Walk' at First Ave & 47th St., NYC: Rachel O. Bernheim, Jacob Wallenberg, Walter Oppenheim, and Fred Howard.

**Second Row:** H. Ross Perot (1987 Honoree), Margot Perot, and William H. Hayden (2000 Gala); Bonnie Kaye and Fred Howard (1997 Gala); Postmaster General Marvin Runyon presenting United States Postal Award to Rachel O. Bernheim, (Issuance of Raoul Wallenberg Stamp, New York City, 1997); Elizabeth Dole (1995 Honoree) with Rachel O. Bernheim (1995 Gala); Dr. Patricia A. McFate and Stephanie Bernheim at the 2007 Royal Swedish Order of the Polar Star Ceremony; Kathy Morin, Arthur E. Levine, President of Teachers College, and Beth Chadwick Kasser (2006 Reception at Teachers College, Columbia University).

**Third Row:** Rachel O. Bernheim, Gov. Mario Cuomo, Amb. Magnus Faxen, et al (1984 N.Y.S. Proclamation: October 5th Raoul Wallenberg Day); Elizabeth McGuinness, RWCUS Executive Administrator with sons Robert (l) and Daniel (r) representing NYFD (2001 Gala); Jack Gumpert Wasserman (2000 Gala); Joel Berson and Sonya Hoover Weiss with Goran Persson, Prime Minister of Sweden and Honoree, at 2001 Gala; Kathryn and Alan C. Greenberg with Elisabeth Kasser (c), Honoree (also Honored Alexander S. Kasser, posthumously) at 2000 Gala; Vera Stern at the 2007 Royal Swedish Order of the Polar Star Ceremony; Patrice Ricciotti Morgan, Asst. Principal, Harlem Day Charter School, giving a presentation of A STUDY OF HEROES at Core Knowledge Conference, Anaheim, 2008.

**Fourth Row:** Diane Blake and Kathy Morin (Torch-Light Ceremony Honoring Raoul Wallenberg, Stockholm, 1993); 2007 Swedish Royal Order of the Polar Star Award Ceremony: Ide Dangoor; Rachel O. Bernheim (Award Recipient) with daughter Samantha Haspel; Jeffrey Lewis; Dr. Gerald Caplan, Joel Berson, and Charles Bernheim; Carol Wasserman; Dr. Maureen O'Driscoll-Levy and Flora Major; and Hon. James M. Strock, Sonya Weiss, and Carrin M. Patman.

AT EVERY STOP ALONG THE WAY ...  
PASSING FORWARD THE **RAOUL WALLENBERG STORY**



Memories are stirred; hearts are moved; minds and opinions are challenged; lives are changed. The stories of heroes have the power to evoke such reactions. Raoul Wallenberg is such a hero.

share the Wallenberg story. It is at the heart of A STUDY OF HEROES inspiring and educating through the example of heroic individuals, role-models drawn from diverse historical periods, ethnicities, and areas of accomplishment.

In this spirit, the stories of heroes are 'gifts' to be passed from person to person and from generation to generation.

Our Committee seizes every opportunity to

Students of all ages in extraordinarily diverse settings learn to recognize the *real heroes* in their communities, schools, families and most importantly *within themselves*.

Please join us in this effort. ...

*"I will study and be ready and maybe the chance will come."*  
Abraham Lincoln  
On education, preparation, and leadership

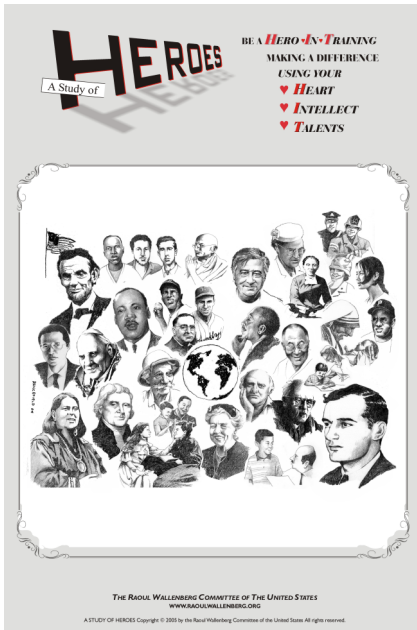


**THE RAOUL WALLENBERG COMMITTEE  
OF THE UNITED STATES**

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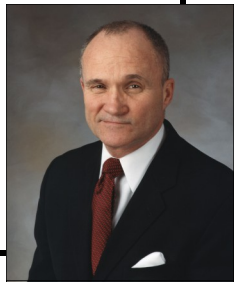
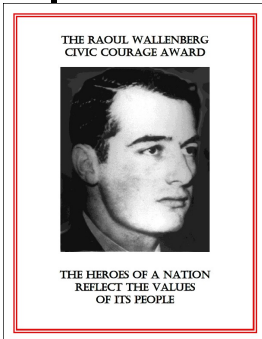


Visit Us On The Web!!!!  
[www.raoulwallenberg.org](http://www.raoulwallenberg.org)

November 7, 2012  
**A CENTENARY GALA**

Honoring  
**Raymond W. Kelly**  
Former Commissioner, NYPD  
with

*The Raoul Wallenberg Civic Courage Award*



Commissioner  
Raymond W. Kelly

Culminating a year-long celebration of the 100th Anniversary of Raoul

Wallenberg's Birth (b. August 4, 1912 in Sweden), hundreds of guests gathered for a Gala Dinner in midtown Manhattan on November 7th, 2012 at The Yale Club. As gale winds roared and heavy snow swirled outside, the Raoul Wallenberg Committee of the United States presented, with warmth and gratitude, *The Raoul Wallenberg Civic Courage Award to Raymond W. Kelly, then Commissioner of the New York City Police Department.*

**Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim**, Chairman of the Committee, was joined by her husband **Charles Bernheim** and fellow Gala Chairper-

sons: **Carl and Gail Icahn; Alan and Kathryn Greenberg; Hon. David and Ide Dangoor, The Swedish Honorary Consul General to New York.**

Honorary Chairpersons were **William Jefferson Clinton, 42nd President of the United States; Her Royal Highness Madeleine, Princess of Sweden, Nina Lagergren and Nane Annan, Sister and Niece of Raoul Wallenberg;**



Carl Nisser (left), RWCUS Board Member and Cousin of Raoul Wallenberg with HRH Madeleine, Princess of Sweden and Chris O'Neill, the Princess's fiancé

**Charles Schumer, U.S. Senator (NY); H.E. Mr. Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations; H.E. Mr. Jonas Hafstrom, Swedish Ambassador to the**

**United States; H.E. Mr. Marten Grunditz, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations; H.E. Mr. Mark Brzesinski, U.S. Ambassador to Sweden; Olle Westberg, Director General and Coordinator of Raoul Wallenberg 2012; Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and H.E. Mr. Ulf Hjertsonsson, Former Swedish Ambassador & New York Consul General.**

The United States and Swedish National Anthems and Swedish folk songs were performed by **The Young People's Chorus of New York** under the direction of Elizabeth Nunez. Performances included: "Raoul", an Opera composed by **Gershon Kingsley** and Libretto by **Michael Kunze**, sung by **The Seton Hall University Chamber Choir** under the direction of **Dr. Jason Tramm**.

Additionally, a CBS *60 Minutes* Film featuring Ray W. Kelly and moderated by Scott Pelly was shown. The evening was festive, powerful and moving. A good time was had by all.

"Commissioner Kelly stands as a symbol for New York City and its citizens as a bastion of hope in the fight against terrorism—much as Raoul Wallenberg stood as a symbol for the Jews of Budapest in the fight against Nazism. In times of crisis, he has acted on principle and always with conviction, pragmatism and courage ..."

— Rachel Oestreicher Bernheim, Chairman —  
January 2014





**The Centenary Gala**

November 7, 2012

celebrating  
**The 100th Anniversary  
 Of Raoul Wallenberg's Birth**

Honoring  
**Raymond W. Kelly,  
 Former Commissioner, NYPD**  
 with  
*The Raoul Wallenberg  
 Civic Courage Award*

At  
 The Yale Club of New York City







Photos by : Marco Lips; Kathleen D. Morin

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