

VIOLINS & HOPE FORT WAYNE

Two Week Photographic Exhibition of Holocaust Violins Commemoration Includes Concerts and Events

The [Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne](#) and [Pearl Street Arts Center](#) are proud to bring to Fort Wayne the photographic exhibition and collaboration, Violins & Hope Fort Wayne, beginning on March 9 and extending through March 23, 2025.

Violins & Hope Fort Wayne features a photographic exhibition of the violins and instrument workshop of Israeli luthier Amnon Weinstein, founder of the Violins of Hope project.

The exhibition Violins and Hope: From the Holocaust to Symphony Hall, created by Cleveland photographer Daniel Levin, will be on display in the Rolland Art Center located at the University of Saint Francis from March 11-23, 2025. Levin's 43 masterfully printed and framed photographs document Weinstein's collection of violins, his workshop in Tel Aviv, and his processes for restoration.

Beginning on March 9 with a concert of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Youth Symphony Orchestras, a two-week commemoration supporting the exhibition will include concerts, documentary film screenings, and events at various Fort Wayne locations relating to music and the Holocaust. In addition, four historical instruments from the Violins of Hope collection will be on display in the exhibition and performed at events throughout the community.

A detailed event schedule can be found on the next two page and can also be found at violinsandhopefw.org/.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

**Fort Wayne Philharmonic
Youth Symphony Orchestra
OF HOPE & REMEMBRANCE: Commemoration of
the 80th Anniversary of the End of World War II**

Tickets required

Sunday, March 9, 2025, at 4:00 pm

Auer Hall at Rhinehart Center for the Performing Arts

Purdue Fort Wayne Campus
2101 E. Coliseum Boulevard
Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Troy Webdell, director
Miho Sasaki, piano

A symphonic celebration of hope, peace, and remembrance featuring music and composers connected to World War II, including the adventurous soundtrack to the 1952 television series Victory at Sea and the delicate and mesmerizing Piano Concert No. 3 by Philip Glass performed by acclaimed Japanese pianist Miho Sasaki.

Exhibition: Violins & Hope: Inside Amnon's Workshop

**Free
Tuesday, March 11, 2025, through Sunday, March 23, 2025**

Weatherhead Gallery - Mimi and Ian Rolland Art Center
USF Creative Arts
University of Saint Francis
1014 Leesburg Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Exhibition Hours:

9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Mon - Tues, Fri)

9:00 am – 7:00 pm (Wed-Thurs)

10:00 am – 5:00 pm (Sat)

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm (Sun)

The exhibition of author and photographer Daniel Levin's 43 masterfully printed and framed photographs documents luthier Amnon Weinstein's collection of violins, his workshop in Tel Aviv, and his processes for restoration. These are beautiful photographic representations of Weinstein's delicate and enduring violins that have miraculously survived the Holocaust. **Buy his book here.** Trained volunteers will be on site Wed-Thurs from 5:00 –7:00 pm; Sat from 10:00 am –5:00 pm; and Sun from 1:00-5:00 pm.

Information at art.sf.edu, 260.399.8064, or creativearts@sf.edu.

Official Exhibition Opening Concert and Reception

**Free
Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 6:00 pm**

Weatherhead Gallery - Mimi and Ian Rolland Art Center
USF Creative Arts
University of Saint Francis
1014 Leesburg Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

The Bennett String Ensemble will perform a short concert of Jewish and Holocaust era selections on the Violins of Hope. Afterward, those in attendance are encouraged to view the Exhibition and enjoy punch and cookies.

Information at art.sf.edu, 260.399.8064, or creativearts@sf.edu.

Ariel String Quartet with Fort Wayne Children's Choir

**Free
Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 6:30 pm**

Pearl Street Arts Center

234 Pearl Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

The program opens with the Fort Wayne Children's Choir joining the Ariel String Quartet in a performance of Srul Irving Glick's Psalm Trilogy. Next the Ariel performs Erwin Schulhoff's String Quartet No. 1 in D Major, concluding the program with Beethoven's String Quartet No. 15 in A minor, Op. 132.

Saul and Ruby's Holocaust Survivor Band and The Umbrella Maker's Son: Film Screening and Book Talk with Director/Author Tod Lending

**Free
Saturday, March 15, 2025, at 7:30 pm**

Pearl Street Arts Center

234 Pearl Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Holocaust survivors Saul and Ruby moved to America after WWII, started families and careers, grew old, and retired to South Florida. Their klezmer band, the Holocaust Survivor Band, summons memories of their childhoods in Poland in a bittersweet and compelling story about finding purpose in life at any age. Afterward, the film's director Tod Lending discusses his new book, The Umbrella Maker's Son, a powerful, heart-wrenching novel that follows a young Polish Jew through his incredible journey to escape the Nazis.

Gallery Performance and Talk: Photographer and Author Daniel Levin

Free
Monday, March 17, 2025, at 5:30 pm

Weatherhead Gallery - Mimi and Ian Rolland Art Center
USF Creative Arts
University of Saint Francis
1014 Leesburg Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

The evening begins at 5:30 pm with selections by Jewish and Holocaust era composers performed on the Violins of Hope by the Bennett Strings. At 6:20 pm, author and photographer Daniel Levin will discuss his exhibition, Violins and Hope | From the Holocaust to Symphony Hall. Afterward, those in attendance are encouraged to view the exhibition and enjoy punch and cookies.

Information at art.sf.edu, 260.399.8064, or creativearts@sf.edu.

Orchestra of Exiles - Film

Free
Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 6:00 pm

[The History Center](#)
302 East Berry Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Orchestra of Exiles is the suspenseful chronicle of how one man helped save Europe's premier Jewish musicians from obliteration by the Nazis during World War II. In three years, Bronislaw Huberman transformed from a world-renowned violinist into a humanitarian racing against time. The documentary features commentary by Itzhak Perlman, Zubin Mehta, Pinchas Zukerman, Joshua Bell, and others.

Meadowlark Quartet: Music from the Holocaust

Free
Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 10:00 am

Weatherhead Gallery - Mimi and Ian Rolland Art Center
USF Creative Arts
University of Saint Francis
1014 Leesburg Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Holocaust scholars join the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Meadowlark Quartet to take the audience through the turbulent events of history that helped create a pathway to Amnon Weinstein's workshop, punctuating historical events with moving music written by Jewish composers.

Information at art.sf.edu, 260.399.8064, or creativearts@sf.edu.

Wayne Street Strings: Music from the Holocaust

Free
Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 10:00 am

Weatherhead Gallery - Mimi and Ian Rolland Art Center
USF Creative Arts
University of Saint Francis
1014 Leesburg Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Holocaust scholars join the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Wayne Street Strings to take the audience through the turbulent events of history that helped create a pathway to Amnon Weinstein's workshop, punctuating historical events with moving music written by Jewish composers.

Information at art.sf.edu, 260.399.8064, or creativearts@sf.edu.

Jewish-Catholic Prayer Service

Free
Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 7:00 pm

[St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church](#)
1502 East Wallen Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Rabbi Meir Barger from Congregation Achduth Vesholom joins Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, in a prayer service that focuses on the beauty of the Psalms, stories of Holocaust survivors, and the religious connections shared and revered by the Jewish people and Christians. Music will feature the St. Vincent Choir, Purdue Fort Wayne University Singers, and a string quartet performing on the Violins of Hope. Selections common to Jewish and Christian faith traditions will be featured.

Shabbat Service with Violins of Hope

Free
Friday, March 21, 2025, at 7:30 pm

[Congregation Achduth Vesholom](#)
5200 Old Mill Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46807

A special Shabbat service led by Rabbi Meir Barger will combine traditional prayers, reflections, and songs with music performed by a string quartet on the Violins of Hope.

[More information here](#)

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