

Graduate Spotlight



Every year, the International School for Holocaust Studies holds hundreds of educational activities, in a dozen languages, for over 300,000 students and educators in Israel and around the world. Featured here is one of the School's graduates, and what she has achieved since:



Delfina Casalderrey Portugal

James Joseph McIntosh

■ Delfina Casalderrey, a history teacher at the Domingos Capela Primary and Secondary School in Espinho, Portugal, took part in a seminar for Portuguese educators at Yad Vashem in July 2014. By October, Casalderrey had already begun work on an interdisciplinary Holocaust education project based on Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* and Itzhak B. Tatelbaum's *Through Our Eyes: Children Witness the Holocaust*, a Yad Vashem educational publication.

Particularly noteworthy is this project's international scope. Educators from Spain and Italy joined the Portuguese teachers and students via eTwinning, a project of the European

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Commission and the EU educational training program Erasmus+ to promote international cooperation between schools. Available in 26 languages, the eTwinning portal numbers over 230,000 teachers and some 5,500 projects between two or more European schools.

Entitled "A Photo, a Testimony, a Story," Casalderrey's project aims at raising awareness of the Holocaust among pupils aged twelve to eighteen, and to sensitize them to this difficult subject. Conducted in English, Portuguese and

Spanish, the endeavor addresses the subject of the *Shoah* in history, geography, literature, art and music classes. "By learning about the past, students will respect the legacy of the survivors and take upon themselves the responsibility of always remembering what happened," explains Casalderrey.

In keeping with the eTwinning platform's focus on international cooperation, students participating in an ongoing project study the history of the Holocaust and discuss their findings with their peers from schools in the other countries. After gathering and analyzing information, the students create and share original educational material on the online platform, continuously exchanging feedback with teachers in their country and abroad, and thereby deepening their knowledge of the history of the *Shoah*.

On 27 January, Casalderrey and her pupils organized a march from their school to the Espinho Municipal Library in honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Modeled after the March of the Living, the participating students and teachers took 70 flowers with them and were received by representatives of the city of Espinho, including its Vice-President and the Councilor of Culture. "By evoking the Holocaust, the teachers of this school restate their commitment to the promotion of education and remembrance," says Casalderrey. "We must act against intolerance,



■ Portuguese students prepare for and join a march in honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

prejudice, racism, xenophobia and hatred to prevent history from repeating itself."

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