Creator: Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study
Title: Imre Farkass Collection
Dates: 1938-2007
Abstract: This collection includes materials related to the life and work of Imre Farkass, particularly during the Holocaust and World War II. Compiled by Imre Farkass and the Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study, the collection contains correspondence, written and recorded testimonies, event materials, photographs, audio/visual media, and artwork.
Extent: 5 boxes, 3.5 linear feet
Languages: English and Hungarian
Repository: Drew University Library, Madison NJ

Biographical Note

Imre Farkass was born on September 26, 1919 in Budapest, Hungary. Before and during World War II, he was involved in anti-Nazi activities in Hungary. Most significantly, beginning in 1944, Imre and his wife Piroska Ozoray hid fourteen people both in their home and in Imre’s physics laboratory at the Technical University in Budapest. These individuals belonged to various groups that were being persecuted by the Nazis, including Jews and political dissidents. The laboratory where Imre Farkass worked was located across the street from a Gestapo headquarters, making his rescue efforts that much more difficult and remarkable. The lab also served as a way station for aiding persecuted people in their escape from Budapest to a nearby estate. Through the actions of Imre and his wife, numerous Hungarian citizens were saved from arrest and possible death at the hands of the Nazis.

In 1995, Imre Farkass was introduced to Ann Saltzman, Director of the Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study. Mr. Farkass agreed to speak to Dr. Saltzmann’s “Psychology of the Holocaust” class and, in May 1995, met with Saltzmann’s students at his home. A video recording of Mr. Farkass’s talk was made at the time (see folder 1 below). From there, a relationship between Imre Farkass and the Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study emerged. This relationship culminated in the awarding of honors by Yad Vashem in recognition of Mr. Farkass’s rescue efforts during the war. A special exhibit of materials related to Imre’s life was put together in 1997 to commemorate the honor. Imre Farkass died in December 2000, and was honored by Drew University and the Center with a memorial ceremony in January, 2001.

Scope and Content Note

The Imre Farkass Collection is part of the larger group of archival collections from the Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study. The collection includes...
correspondence, written and recorded testimonies, event materials, photographs, audio/visual media, and artwork. These materials are all related to the life-saving actions and activities of Imre Farkass before and during World War II. They range from mid 20th to early 21st century. Some of the materials were provided to the Center by both Imre Farkass and his second wife, Violet “Bambi” Farkass. The remaining materials were produced by or in conjunction with the Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study as part of events honoring Mr. Farkass and his work.

**Arrangement**

Series I. Event Materials  
Series II. Photographs and Artwork

**Administrative Information**

**Acquisition**  

**Restrictions**  
One photo copy may be made of each document for research purposes. Permission to publish must be obtained from the Drew University Library. Researcher is responsible for further copyright restrictions.

**Preferred Citation**  
[Item, date]. Imre Farkass Collection, Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study Collections. Drew University Library.

**Processor**  
Brian Shetler, 2015

**Related Material**

Additional collections within the Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study Collections include:  
- Andrew Liput Collection  
- Carol Rosen Collection  
- *Moments in Time* Collection  
- The Nuernberg-Fuerth Survivors Group Collection  
- Records of the Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study  
- Victor Wegard Collection  
- Witold Szymanski Collection  
- Extraneous Materials Collection
Local resources and collections related to Holocaust studies include:
- Center for Holocaust, Human Rights & Genocide Education, Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ
- The Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ
- New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, Trenton, NJ
- Leo Baeck Institute, New York City, NY
- Sara & Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center, Stockton University, Galloway, NJ

**Index Terms**

**People**
Ellenbogen, Oscar
Farkass, Imre, 1919-2000
Farkass, Violet “Bambi”
Katona, Kathy
Ozoray, Piroska
Rácz, Julianna

**Organizations**
Budapesti Műszaki Egyetem (lcnaf)
Drew University (lcnaf)
Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter-Partei (lcnaf)
Yad ya-shem, rashut ha-zikaron la-Sho’ah yela-gevurah (lcnaf)

**Subjects**
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) (lcsh)
Holocaust survivors (lcsh)
Jewish refugees—United States (lcsh)
Jews—History—20th century (lcsh)
Nazi Holocaust (lcsh)
World War, 1939-1945 (lcsh)

**Document Types**
Cartoons (humorous images) (aat)
Clippings, newspaper (aat)
Correspondence (aat)
Periodicals (aat)
Photographs (aat)
Sound recordings (aat)
Video recordings (aat)
Works of art (aat)
Container List

Series I. Event Materials

**Series Description and Arrangement:** Series I Event Materials contains correspondence, written and recorded testimony, programs, recorded audio/visual media, and other files related to events held in honor of Imre Farkass. Highlights of the materials include recordings of testimonies/talks by Imre Farkass, Juli Racz, and Kathy Katona. In addition, the series contains event-related materials for exhibits and memorials organized in Mr. Farkass’s honor. The materials are organized in original order as provided by the Drew University Center for Holocaust/Genocide Study. Folder numbering and labeling has been left intact when available; missing or incomplete folder titles have been supplied in brackets by the processor. The bulk of material in the series spans 1995-2007, with one item from 1938.

**Box 1**
- **Folder 1:** Guest presentation in “Psychology of the Holocaust”, 1995
- **Folder 2:** Correspondence with and about Juliana Racz, 1995-1997
- **Folder 3:** Correspondence regarding Righteous Among the Nations [award], 1995-1996
- **Folder 4:** Juli Racz’s testimony, 1995
- **Folder 5:** Testimony by Kathy Katona, 1995
- **Folder 6:** Lecture materials for May 7, 1997 lecture

**Box 2**
- **Folder 7:** Imre Farkass Award Ceremony, 1997
- **Folder 8:** Kathy Katona/Award Ceremony, 1997
- **Folder 9:** Imre Farkass Memorial Service and Obituaries, 2001
- **Folder 10:** [Holocaust Memorial Garden and Study Center Dedication, 1998]
- **Folder 11:** Biographical info. About Imre Farkass, 1995
- **Folder 12:** [Student letters to Imre Farkass, 1997]
- **Folder 13:** Violet Farkass, 2007
- **Folder 14:** Exhibit, November 1997

**Box 3**
- Scrapbook celebrating the life of Imre Farkass, 2001
- “To the Conscience of the Nation” article in Budapest newspaper *Esti Kurir*, 6 May 1938
- Imre Farkass Certificate of Honor, 1996

Series II. Photographs and Artwork

**Series Description and Arrangement:** Series II Photographs and Artwork is arranged by item type. These items include a photograph album, a selection of hand-drawn cartoons, and translations of the cartoons. The materials in this series were created between 1941 and 2013.

**Box 1**
Binder containing about 250 black and white photos of Budapest during World War II including bombings of the city by U.S. forces, with caption information, 1941-1944

**Box 2 (Oversize)**
Binder containing “Life in the Alhambra”—hand drawn cartoons by Oscar Ellenbogen, 1944-1947
Copies of “Life in the Alhambra” cartoons with English translations and translator notes