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## **Tickets Now On Sale for Elie Wiesel's Return to Charlotte** *Sally Dalton Robinson, Noted Civic Leader, To Receive* 2007 Echo Award Against Indifference

Tickets are now on sale for The Echo Foundation's March 27 lecture, entitled, "Against Indifference," by Elie Wiesel, 1986 Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor. A Decade Inspired by Elie Wiesel, sponsored by The Leon Levine Foundation: Sandra and Leon Levine, is Echo's 2006-2007 yearlong, community-wide educational project, celebrating Wiesel's life-affirming work around the world as well as his contributions to the Charlotte community. This annual program of The Echo Foundation features a speaker whose life's work illustrates how one person can make a difference to benefit humanity and change the world.

Tickets may be purchased by going to http://www.carolinatix. org/events/detail.asp?id=457 or through the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center Box Office, located in Founders Hall at 130 North Tryon St., 704-372-1000. Ticket prices are \$65 for adults, \$35 for seniors and students. The event will be held at the Belk Theater in the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center on March 27 at 6:30 PM.

Sally Dalton Robinson, long recognized as one of Charlotte's leading women activists for jus-



Elie Wiesel Photo copyright Peter Badge/Typos1 in coop, with Foundation Lindau,

tice and positive social change, will be honored with the 2007 Echo Award Against Indifference. *About The Echo Foundation Award Against Indifference* 

The Echo Award Against Indifference was established in February 2000 to honor a member of the Mecklenburg County community who works "with an eye towards peace, a heart filled with compassion and a voice against indifference, in order to remind our community of its highest ideals." Previous recipients are the late Joe Martin, Bishop George E. Battle Jr., the late Sister Mary Thomas Burke, former Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt, former UNC Charlotte Chancellor Dean Colvard, former Bank of America Chairman Hugh McColl Jr., and developer Howard C. "Smoky" Bissell.

## About The Echo Foundation

The Echo Foundation was founded in 1997 to carry on the message Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel brought to Charlotte that year – a call to action for human dignity, justice and moral courage. Recent Echo Foundation Voices Against Indifference guest speakers and programs include the 2005 program featuring five Nobel Laureates in science and medi-cine, Doctors Without Borders founder Dr. Bernard Kouchner. Harvard Afro-American Studies Department Chairman Henry Louis Gates Jr., Columbia Earth Institute Director Jeffrey Sachs, Nobel Laureate for Literature Wole Soyinka, human rights advocate Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, and Chinese dissident Harry Wu. For more information about the various student and communitywide educational opportunities planned in conjunction with A Decade Inspired by Elie Wiesel, visit www.echofoundation.org. \$

## **Hebrew Cemetery Association**

By Lorrie Klemons, Publicity "His body shall not remain all night. You shall surely bury him the same day"--(Deuteronomy 21:23). This quote from the Torah gives explanation to why Jews traditionally bury their dead within 24 hours, whenever possible. While many non-lewish religions often have a viewing period that takes place prior to burial, Jews bury their dead as quickly as possible, followed by a traditional seven day period of shivah.

During shivah, it is customary for the mourner to refrain from work and commerce, unless there is a critical public need or the mourners are very poor and need to return to work for economic reasons. More traditional Jews avoid shaving or haircutting of any sort, as this is not a time for personal grooming, although hygienic practices such as bathing must be continued. One is not to wear new clothes and should refrain from conjugal marital relations during the shivah as this is not a time for pleasure. The formal study of Torah is prohibited as well, but mourners are encouraged to reflect on books of the Bible such as Psalms and Job. During shivah, mourners usually sit on low stools, and traditionally do not wear leather shoes. They tear their clothing or wear a torn ribbon as a symbol of their "torn" heart and dress in black.

A recent cemetery article talked about the ways that we as a community can help each other during the time of bereavement. Special shivah minyans (prayer services) are held at the house of mourning. Meals are provided for the bereaved. Reflections about the deceased are shared with the bereaved as a means of comforting them in their pain. Reaching out to those in need is what our Jewish community does best. Being there for others is the essence of our existence.

You can reach out to those in mourning directly on a one-onone basis, or as part of the larger Jewish community of Charlotte. Your \$72 annual membership in the Hebrew Cemetery Association aligns you with more than 900 other Charlotte families who support the work of the cemetery association, an association administrated and operated by and for Jews.

For more information about membership benefits, graves, interfaith or cremation areas, prepaid funeral costs, or endowment donations, call Cemetery Director Joe Kodsi at 704-364-4112 or 704-576-1859. Visit the website of the Hebrew Cemetery Association of Charlotte at www.hebrewcemetery.org.

The cemetery is trying to identify all veterans buried in the cemetery so that they can be appropriately honored on Veteran's and Memorial Days. Please provide Joe Kodsi with the names of any veterans you might know who are buried at the cemetery.

Directions to the cemetery: Take Providence Rd. into uptown; turn right on Graham Street and stay on Graham for about two miles; bear left onto Statesville Avenue; the entrance to the cemetery will be about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile down the road on your left.  $\clubsuit$ 

