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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Defiance author Nechama Tec guest scholar at Holocaust Remembrance 2010 at Palm Beach State College

(Palm Beach Gardens – March 4, 2010) Renowned Holocaust scholar and speaker Nechama Tec will be the featured speaker at Holocaust Remembrance 2010: Rescue & Resistance at the Eissey Campus Theatre March 18 on the Palm Beach Gardens campus.

Tec is a professor emerita of sociology at the University of Connecticut, Stamford and received her Ph.D. from Columbia University. She is the author of six books on the Holocaust. Her best-known work, *Defiance: The Bielski Partisans*, was made into the motion picture *Defiance* by writer/director Edward Zwick in 2008.



Tec will recount her own childhood experiences from the Holocaust in her morning discussion, “Dry Tears: The Story of a Lost Childhood,” at 9:30 a.m. Tec was an eight-year-old child when the Nazis swept into Poland in September 1939. She and her family were among the more than 140,000 Jews living in Lublin at the beginning of the war.

Soon after the Nazis occupied Lublin, the beatings of Jewish civilians, the seizing of their property and the roundups to the concentration camps began. Tec’s parents impressed upon her and her sister that they needed to take precautions to avoid being deported.

“They told us a childhood is something a Jewish child could not afford,” said Tec. “I didn’t understand what they meant at first, but I had to grow up fast.”

At the end of the war, less than 150 Lublin Jews remained; Tec’s family was only one of three Jewish families who survived intact.

The 2 p.m. session of Holocaust Remembrance 2010 will feature Tec discussing the similarities and differences between her book, *Defiance, The Bielski Partisans* and the movie *Defiance*, based on her book, with audience members participating in a question-and-answer session.

Tickets to both events are complimentary, based on availability. Seating is limited. Call the Eissey Campus Theatre for ticket information at (561) 207-5900 (11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon. – Fri.)

For a complete listing of events visit www.PalmBeachState.edu/Holocaust.xml. Holocaust Remembrance 2010 is sponsored by the League for Educational Awareness of the Holocaust (LEAH) and TooJay's Deli.

Serving more than 49,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing the bachelor's degree, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

Editor's note: Nechama Tec will be available for interview by telephone before March 18 and in person the day of the event. Please contact media representative below.

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