

Impact Statement

Rodrigo Damas, Grade 10

Raoul Wallenberg Passport, 2025

Charcoal, graphite on paper, 18 x 24 inches

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Unsung Hero: Raoul Wallenberg

Raoul Wallenberg passports. I think, Raoul Wallenberg is inspirational because of what he did for the people during the holocaust he gave many people hiding places like safe houses to survive from the Nazis, and he created fake passports for the people to escape from the Nazis. Raoul Wallenberg did many good things for the people around him because he is a super kind hearted person he did all of this for the people around him to keep them safe from the war and the Nazis during that time he would make fake passports and make safe houses with his own money and he was always under cover to stay out of trouble with the Nazis. Without him the Nazis would have never been stopped, and the war would have never been stopped.

I made a charcoal and white chalk drawing on black paper. The entire artwork shows an enlarged page of the passport paper. My decision to make a greyscale drawing was to show the actual period that this happened. The portrait of Raoul Wallenberg emerges in my drawing with blurry edges because I wanted to show that his image is embedded in the passport picture. In my artwork I added a strong diagonal in my composition by showing the Swedish flag in the top left corner pointing toward my hero. My artwork shows strong contrast and all the values between black and white. I think my work expresses my Unsung Hero by showing stamps, writing portraits of Raoul Wallenberg, the flag of Sweden, and the safe houses that represent the things he did to save the people.

The vision of my artwork is a representation of Raoul Wallenberg fake passports in the artwork I added the safe houses where all the jews hid from the Nazis and I added Raoul Wallenberg writing like how he written it in his passport and the stamps he put in the passport and I put the Swedish flag because that is where Raoul Wallenberg is from and I added in Raoul Wallenberg because it is art work based of him. Because most of the items and places are places or things he owned during the holocaust to fight against the Nazis and to keep many people safe.

When I was drawing the safe houses I felt inspired by how he saved many lives and I was thinking if Raoul Wallenberg didn't do anything to save the many countless lives that were impacted by the Nazis there wouldn't be many famous people today to tell their story on how they survived the holocaust without Raoul Wallenberg many people would have died or made into slaves. I am inspired by Raoul Wallenberg in many ways

and one of the ways is I helped old people in my community by bringing their groceries to their homes. I think my first little step of helping others will be a small start of some big and meaningful change. I will share my artwork with my community by displaying it in the art show and sharing it online on social media.