

Stefa Berger

COMMUNAL SERVICE AWARD

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES, QUEENS COLLEGE

The Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College sponsors the Stefa Berger Communal Service Award. Named to honor and memorialize Stefa Berger, a young Jewish woman of great passion and commitment who perished in the Holocaust, the award seeks to recognize the achievement and humanitarian spirit of students whose volunteerism outside the classroom best reflects the values and ideals of Stefa Berger.



Stefa Berger was born November 16, 1919, in Warsaw, Poland. A young, studious, vibrant, and energetic person with great hope and ambition for the future, Stefa dreamed of becoming a physician, despite the virtual impossibility of a young Jewish woman living during interwar Poland to realize such a goal.

With the Nazi invasion of Poland in September 1939, Stefa escaped to the Soviet Union with her sister and lived for two years in Lvov, Ukraine. Tragically, she was murdered by the Nazis following their invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941. Her sister, shipped to Siberia, survived the war but never again heard from Stefa, one victim among millions in the Holocaust. Those in the family who knew Stefa recall a loving, compassionate human being who exhibited enormous courage, resolve, and determination in the face of adversity. May her memory—and this award—spur other young people to similarly live life with courage and fortitude, and to embrace opportunity wherever it may be found.

This award is made possible through the generosity of the late Betty Greenberg, sister of Stefa Berger.

Queens College students are invited to apply for the award, which carries a stipend of \$250 that will be presented at the annual Jewish Studies graduation and awards ceremony in May.

TO BE ELIGIBLE, QC STUDENTS MUST:

- Have volunteered in a social, cultural, or educational communal organization or agency.
- Have at least a 3.0 GPA at the time of application.
- Have taken at least 6 credits in Jewish Studies courses at the time of application.
- Have submitted a 1- or 2-page essay describing their volunteer project, their motivations for undertaking it, and the impact it had on their lives.
- Have submitted 1 or 2 letters of recommendation, at least one of which must come from a project supervisor.

All applications will be reviewed by the Stefa Berger Committee.
Deadline for submission of all materials is Friday, April 11, 2014.

Materials and supporting documentation should be brought or mailed to the Jewish Studies Office, Jefferson Hall, Room 307.

Mailing address is: Jewish Studies Office, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Queens, NY 11367-1597.

For further information, please call 718-997-4530.

