

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GRAY ACADEMY OF JEWISH EDUCATION
RECEIVES PRECIOUS GIFT FROM THE COMMUNITY**

September 13, 2006 - Gray Academy of Jewish Education receives a new 24-part series on the Holocaust called *Silent Echoes* from well-known television personality Willard Thiessen at its premiere at the Berney Theatre at the Asper Jewish Community Centre. This special screening was co-sponsored by Sunburst Productions and the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg.

Commissioned by Rogers TV and soon to be broadcast on Omni TV in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Toronto, this new series will feature interviews with sixty Winnipeggers over three generations: Holocaust survivors, their children and grandchildren; as well as educators, authors and survivors from more recent genocides.

Produced by Sunburst Productions in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, and hosted by Willard Thiessen, the series records the personal stories of survivors who settled in Winnipeg, and explores how the Holocaust affected their family lives and its impact on society.

Joyce Kerr, Vice-Principal at Gray Academy states “we are very lucky to be receiving this documentary series from the community. We have a number of students with babbas and zaidas in the documentary that visit us to talk to the students, and the viewing of this series further strengthens our personal connections both inside and outside the school.”

“Personal testimonies, especially from members of our own community, provide a unique level of connection to the events of the Holocaust. The Kaufman Silverberg Library is honoured to receive the generous gift of the full set of *‘Silent Echoes’*. It will be an invaluable resource for Gray Academy and the entire community” says Janet Gould, Head Teacher Librarian.

Gray Academy of Jewish Education is a JK-Grade 12 university preparatory school that places equal value on Jewish and General academic programs, and provides opportunities to nurture the emotional well-being and spiritual development of all students.

Recently accredited by the Canadian Educational Standards Institute (CESI), Gray Academy is one of three schools in the Winnipeg area to receive this distinctive honour.

For further information, please contact:

Lisa Abram
Director of Advancement
Gray Academy of Jewish Education
(204) 477-7514
labram@aspercampus.mb.ca