

# MARCH OF THE LIVING LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Applicant's Name: .....

City, State, Zip: .....

The above-named student is applying for admission to the March of the Living. A detailed description of the program is attached. Please read it before filling in this recommendation.

**PLEASE SEND US A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION  
INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

1. How long, how well and in what capacity have you known the student?
2. Why should the student be chosen for the March of The Living?
3. What is the applicant's relationship with his/her classmates/peers?
4. Describe the applicant's academic ability. Is the applicant capable of missing high school/ college during the March, and making up the work?
5. In your opinion, what is the applicant's emotional stability and maturity?
6. Describe the applicant's personality.
7. To your knowledge, does the applicant have a chemical dependency?  
(drugs, alcohol, pills or any other physical condition which would impact on the trip)
8. Indicate your overall recommendation of the applicant's admissibility to the March.

**Please do not give this to the applicant. Return it in a separate envelope to the local agency.**

This letter of recommendation is due immediately. The applicant can only be interviewed if we have received this letter.

Please note: If desired, you may keep the "Explanation" for future reference.

RETURN TO LOCAL AGENCY OR FEDERATION

**Please call me for additional information**

We thank you in advance for your help in assessing the applicant's admissibility to the March of The Living.

Name (Please Print): .....Signature: .....

Telephone #: .....Date: .....

## MARCH OF THE LIVING SUMMARY

The March of the Living — a two week program, at which time thousands of Jewish teenagers from around the world will gather together in Poland and Israel to mark two of the more significant dates in the Jewish calendar.

During the first leg of the trip, the young people will be in Auschwitz-Birkenau on Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) where they will participate in a symbolic March of the Living, retracing the steps that hundreds of thousands of Jews were forced to take on the way to their annihilation. The day will culminate with a religious service commemorating all of the victims of the Holocaust, held in the very confines of the concentration camp. During the second leg of the trip, they will be in Israel for Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) where they will join together with millions of Israelis in celebration of the miracle of the State of Israel.

The American contingent of the March of the Living is expected to number hundreds of participants. A broad mix of Jewish youngsters, coming from across the United States, and hailing from a variety of diverse backgrounds and educational systems (including public and private schools as well as Jewish day schools) will be the focus of recruitment efforts. The carefully chosen students must be of high calibre, emotionally mature and intellectually capable, and will be required to participate in an extensive educational program for a number of months prior to departure.

In addition to participating in the actual March, the American teenagers will visit cities that were

once vibrant centers of Jewish life and learning, including Warsaw, Cracow and Lublin as well as other Holocaust related locations, such as Treblinka and Majdanek. In their travels to Poland and Israel, the American students will be given specific opportunities to interact with Jewish youth from Eastern Europe (including Russia, Rumania and Hungary) as well as those from Canada, Western Europe, South America, South Africa and Israel.

Upon their return to the United States, the experience of the students will be reinforced by a number of educational sessions. Their reaction to the March of the Living will be quite intense, and the experience will have produced profound changes in their sense of Jewish identity and history. The young people will be encouraged to express their reactions and impressions in art, music, writing and other creative forms. In addition, they will be asked to share their knowledge with a variety of audiences in their local communities, where they will also become invaluable resources for Holocaust education and related events.

The March of the Living has the potential to shape the nature of a generation of American Jewish youth at a critical stage of their development. The participation of hundreds of American Jewish youth in the March of the Living during their formative years is the start of a process that, we envision, will one day blossom into a lifelong dedication to Jewish causes and concerns.

The March of the Living is, in effect, a training ground for a future generation of Jewish leaders.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_