

## CCS students learn Holocaust lessons

Sixth graders at Children's Community School in Davidson wrapped up their year-long study of European history recently when they presented to parents and invited guests the Holocaust Memorial Museum they created. **Kevin Green**, the charter school's assistant director, said museum visitors were particularly struck by special guests **Howard Adler** and **Manfred Katz**, two Holocaust survivors who spoke to the students and their families about what life was like as young boys trying to survey one of the bleakest times of modern history. The message seemed to hit home.

"Before studying the Holocaust, I was sometimes a bystander," said student **Sam Pillsbury**. "But now, I know I'm not going to be a bystander anymore. Not in school or in life."

Green says social studies teacher **Melissa Porter** spent a good deal of time covering not just the facts of the Holocaust, but teaching the students to draw connections to current social issues as well. The museum was planned out to allow visitors to "walk in the shoes" of a Holocaust victim, as each student was given a card with a victim's name and personal information at the beginning of the exhibits. At the end, each child

was given an envelope telling them about the fate of the victim assigned to them. The event culminated in a memorial candle-lighting ceremony and the reading of an original poem by student **Zoe Warner**.