

February 24, 2021

Mr. Steven Spielberg Los Angeles, California

Dear Steven.

I extend my warmest congratulations to you as you are honored for your outstanding achievements in filmmaking, social activism, philanthropy, and your unwavering commitment to fight against anti-Semitism and all forms of intolerance.

On screen, you have transported audiences through time and space to discover new worlds, deepened the understanding of our own, and broadened the collective perspective about our shared humanity. Off the set, you have generously devoted your time, talent, and rectitude to help us remember the past, inspire us to serve the vulnerable, and motivate us to build a brighter future. In particular, your decades of passionate work to preserve and amplify the stories of those who suffered the agony of the Holocaust and other genocides will help ensure the horrors of these atrocities are never repeated.

Your creation of, and invaluable work with, the USC Shoah Foundation is a further reflection of your compassion and commitment to preserving the stories of survivors and developing empathy, understanding, and respect through testimony. With your continued dedication, we will keep real the promise of "never again." I took my children to visit Dachau in Germany, and why I hope to do the same for each of my grandchildren – so they too would see for themselves the millions of futures stolen away by unchecked hatred and understand in their bones what can happen when people turn their heads and fail to act.

Our faiths teach that all people are worthy of dignity and respect, and I am inspired by the ways in which your Judaism has compelled you to confront the ugly forces of hate and intolerance with the healing power of truth and love. This is a timeless struggle and is a worthy cause to which I proudly join you in pledging my devotion.

Again, congratulations. My very best to you, Kate, and your entire family.

Sincerely,