



DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

*Presented to Elie Wiesel*

MAY 17, 2009



Elie Wiesel is a passionate advocate for justice and equality around the world. He has courageously shared his personal story to convey greater truths about the best and worst of humanity and the pursuit of human rights.

As a public intellectual, he fosters a culture of enlightenment and understanding. As a philanthropist and civic leader, he enacts his vision of a just and peaceful world. As a writer, he informs and inspires a global audience through graceful and poignant storytelling. And as a survivor of great tragedy who has not simply endured but also thrived based on humane principles, he represents the value of applying history's lessons to achieve understanding and peace.

Today we recognize Elie Wiesel, a champion of human dignity.

Whereas he is an exemplary writer, scholar and teacher committed to the quest for knowledge and truth; whereas he has courageously shared his own experiences of suffering to prevent others from being oppressed; whereas he has inspired compassion in millions with his words and deeds; and whereas he has borne witness to tragedy in order to create a better world, Bucknell University is hereby proud to present, before the Class of 2009, the honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, to Elie Wiesel.