Exhibit to Feature Art & Life of World War I Hero Fred S. Boyko

Whippany, NJ, October 8, 2014 — “From Kristallnacht to Carnegie Hall: The Art & Life of Fred S. Boyko,” will be on display from October 20-November 12, at Gaelen Gallery West, Alex Aidekman Family Jewish Community Campus, 901 Rt. 10, Whippany. With this year being the 100th anniversary of World War I, of particular note are Boyko’s sketches of officers and soldiers at the front during the first World War.

The opening reception will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 30. The program will feature a trailer from Unconquered Souls, an upcoming documentary about Boyko’s daughter, Anitta Boyko Fox, and her family. The opening also celebrates Fox’s 90th birthday. The exhibit is sponsored by the Holocaust Council of Greater MetroWest, a department of Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

Before he became a highly regarded portrait painter in Vienna, Boyko attended the art academy that twice rejected Hitler. As a mark of his success, he painted commissioned portraits and members of the Imperial Royal Family, President Masaryk of Czechoslovakia, and Sigmund Freud, as well as other notables.

After Kristallnacht, which is widely considered to be the beginning of the Holocaust, he and his family fled to New York. By the time he landed there in 1939, Boyko already had commissions waiting for him. He opened an art studio in Carnegie Hall. This new exhibit will feature paintings, his photographs of private portraits, architectural drawings, furniture, and artifacts that belonged to his remarkable family.

Fox’s paternal aunt and uncle, Drs. Elisabeth and Hugo Boyko, were charged by David Ben-Gurion to make Israel’s desert green. Her maternal aunt, Dr. Rudolfina Menzel, is famous in dog circles for creating the Canaan Dog, which was shown at the Westminster Dog Show this year. She also founded the K-9 force of the Israel Defense Forces and the Israel Guild for the Blind.

The exhibit and reception are free and open to the public. For further information, contact the Holocaust Council at holocaustcouncil@jfedgmw.org or (973) 929-3194.