

HONORS JOURNAL

volume xxiii

university of colorado boulder

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LAYOUT | Anna Russo

COVER ART | Van Gogh's Freedom by Erma Swartz

COVER DESIGN | Anna Russo

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THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO *HONORS JOURNAL*

IS AN ANNUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY, STUDENT-RUN PUBLICATION sponsored by the Honors Program under the supervision of a faculty sponsor and the Director of the Honors Program. *The Journal* presents a collection of works that reflect the utmost talent, diligence and creativity among undergraduate students at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Each year, the *Honors Journal* combines undergraduate work from all academic fields including: art, architecture, business, creative nonfiction, engineering, fiction, gender & ethnic studies, humanities, natural science, open media, poetry, social science and more. Although the *Journal* is directly associated with the Honors Program, submissions are accepted from all undergraduates at the University, not just those who are enrolled in Honors classes. The *Honors Journal* is distributed and available to all students and departments at the University of Colorado, as well as other honors departments at other universities across the country. In order to reach a broader audience and exhibit works that are impossible to fully incorporate into the print edition, the *Journal* has an online version hosted at honorsjournal.com, where content from this, and past years' editions are accessible.

THE *HONORS JOURNAL* WAS ESTABLISHED and first published in 1992 under the supervision of faculty mentor, Professor E. Christian Kopff and with the support of Honors Program Director, Jack Kelso. The first volumes were devoted to undergraduate research, highlighting an article by an outstanding Honors professor and comprised of abstracts from all summa cum laude theses.

In 1995, the *Journal* went on hiatus until 1998, when Honors Program Director Dennis Van Gerven reinstated it under the supervision of faculty mentor Dr. Claudia Van Gerven. That year, the *Journal* expanded to include poetry, fiction, and black-and-white artwork.

In 2002, the University of Colorado's Department of Publications entered the *Honors Journal* into the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District VI Competition. The cover from that edition won the "Case District VI, Silver Award of Excellence in Graphic Design."

In 2010, the Editorial Board elected to expand the *Journal* from its traditional 6" x 9" format to an 8.5" x 11" format to allow for a greater diversity of printable subject matter. With this expansion, current iterations of the *Journal* accept work from every academic discipline at the University, and we encourage students to submit work that pushes the limits of what might be considered "printable."

SELECTION PROCESS

In order to ensure that the integrity of the *Honors Journal* is upheld, all selections are made via a blind review process. Upon receipt of each submission, pieces are screened by the managing editors to remove all identifying information from the piece, and each submission is labeled with a number that is used for reference purposes. Genre editors are not made aware of the names of the authors/artists until well after final selections have been made and notifications have been sent out.

Within this blind selection process, genre editors are instructed to remove themselves from review of any submission whose author they can identify. These pieces are reviewed and selected by the co-editors of that genre and/or the editor in chief in order to prevent any biases from potentially clouding judgments.

Furthermore, members of the Editorial Board are permitted to submit work to the Journal, but only to a genre that they themselves are not editing. In the case that a submission authored by one of the Editorial Board members is selected for publication, that piece has been carefully considered and reviewed by a selection committee that is not aware of the author's identity.

For additional queries regarding the blind review process, please contact us at cuhonorsjournal@gmail.com and we will be happy to address your concerns.

GET PUBLISHED

THE *HONORS JOURNAL* IS AN IMPORTANT SHOWCASE of the University's finest undergraduate work and offers students a unique opportunity to see their efforts published in a widely-distributed, juried publication available both in print and online versions.

Every year, the Editorial Board seeks submissions of exemplary undergraduate work for consideration of inclusion in the upcoming Journal. Generally, we are looking for art, creative writing, and academic papers. We are also interested in personal essays, final course assignments, critiques or reviews, short or long works of fiction, travel writing, and papers about works of literature, philosophy, or history. We accept submissions of all variety. Essentially, if you are an undergraduate at CU-Boulder who has work that you are proud of, there is a category under which it can be published.

The *Honors Journal* accepts submissions year-round at honorsjournal.com. For students completing an honors thesis in the spring semester of their senior year, please note that the Journal allows graduating students to submit work up until the submission deadline in mid-November following their graduation. To submit something, visit the website and click on the "Submit Your Work" tab. We look forward to reviewing your submissions!

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE *HONORS JOURNAL* COULD NOT BE POSSIBLE without the unyielding support of the University of Colorado Honors Program. In particular, the Editorial Board would like to thank Honors Director Janet Jacobs, Program Manager Michael Shernick, and Program Associate Aubrey Westbourne. We owe a great deal to all of the Honors Program faculty for their continued support, without which the *Journal* would never find its way into the world.

Funding for the 2018 Honors Journal was generously provided by the Honors Program and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP). The Editorial Board is immensely grateful for the support of the above and for their dedication to student-run organizations such as our own.

Additionally, the Board would like to thank Dr. Abby Hickcox, whose guidance and leadership all year has helped to produce a new and exciting *Honors Journal* that nonetheless stays true to its rich history of promoting critical and creative thinking on and off the university campus.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

April 2018

To the Reader:

Before you is a compilation of this year's most exceptional undergraduate work. I am so pleased to present you with the 2018 University of Colorado Honors Journal, the completion of which would not have been possible without the dedication of the Honors Journal Editorial Board and their willingness to push the boundaries of convention regarding form, content, and interdisciplinarity. I would like to thank Annie Russo—our graphic designer—as well for her invaluable help in manifesting a publication that is as lively and colorful as the work housed inside. Lastly, I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to Dr. Abby Hickcox, namely for her wisdom and patience, but also for her unwavering ability to foster spaces of collaboration, innovation, and discussion. Serving as the Editor in Chief for the Honors Journal this year has proven a charming end to my academic career at this institution. For that, I am forever indebted. And so, I ask you not to think simply ideologically, mathematically, or creatively in your exploration of this collection, but rather in synthesis of your analytical skills and academic interests. My hope is that this body of work will further encourage interdisciplinary thought for its potential to challenge the bounds of what we consider poetry in this world.

Ever faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Hope Ruskaup". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "H" and "R".

Hope Ruskaup

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