

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO HONORS JOURNAL  
VOLUME XXVII

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The 2022 University of Colorado Honors Journal

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# THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO HONORS JOURNAL

The journal is an annual interdisciplinary, student-run publication sponsored by the Arts & Sciences Honors Program at the University of Colorado Boulder under the supervision of a faculty advisor 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, creative nonfiction, 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 undergraduate students at the university. The Honors Journal is distributed and available to all students and departments at the University of Colorado. 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 [www.colorado.edu/honorsjournal/](http://www.colorado.edu/honorsjournal/), where content from this and past years' editions is accessible.

The Honors Journal was established and first published in 1992 under the supervision of faculty member 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 abstracts of all summa cum laude honors 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.

## 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 after final selections have been made.

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 Head Editors in order to prevent any biases from potentially clouding judgments.

For additional queries regarding the blind review process, please contact us at [honors.journal@colorado.edu](mailto:honors.journal@colorado.edu) 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 varieties. 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 [www.colorado.edu/honorsjournal](http://www.colorado.edu/honorsjournal). 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 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!

### *Dedication*

This year's journal is published in the memory of Paul Strom, who was a member of the Honors Program faculty for 20 years and who passed away in March 2022. Paul's contributions to the Honors Program are immeasurable. He encouraged curiosity and creativity among his students, values held dear by the Honors Journal Editorial Board. His kindness touched all of our hearts.

### *Acknowledgments*

The Honors Journal could not be possible without the unyielding support of the University of Colorado Boulder Arts & Sciences Honors Program. In particular, the Editorial Board would like to thank Honors Program Director Janet Jacobs and Program Manager Janelle Henderson and Program Coordinator Kimberly Quiñonez. 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.

This publication was funded, in part, by the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP, <https://www.colorado.edu/urop/>) at the University of Colorado Boulder, which provides grants to support student-faculty partnerships and projects in all fields of study. 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.

## CU HONORS JOURNAL ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2022

In today's world, it is crucial to acknowledge that our current decisions may impact the future. Climate change and land degradation have become increasingly devastating to the environment and those that depend on it. Therefore, the University of Colorado Honors Journal wants to take on more of a responsibility to address and remediate these environmental concerns through its production process. This year, the journal has implemented a new eco-design. Each journal is printed on 10% post-consumer content recycled paper, which was FSC certified in its production. The Honors Journal aims to be a leader in environmentally friendly practices and to support the undergraduate students of CU Boulder as well as the planet.

Recycling: Each journal is recyclable, except for the glue within the spine. If you wish to recycle your journal, be sure to tear out the spine and discard it. The remaining pages can be recycled through paper recycling services.

# LETTER FROM THE EDITORS APRIL 2022

Dear Reader,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to explore the journal before you.

To grasp the plethora of ideas, beliefs, and strengths of our community at the University of Colorado Boulder is a monumental, challenging task which the Honors Journal takes on every year. Amidst great change, challenging social complexities, and discouraging tragedies, the students of this university have created beautiful, expressive works which we have the privilege of reviewing and compiling for you.

CU's population, the source from which this journal's content is gleaned, is rich with experiences and stories unlike any other. This journal reflects not only the intelligence present on this campus, but also the emotional journeys that our students have embarked upon during their time here. Above all else, it is our mission to not only show what the students of this campus are capable of, but also to raise up and give a platform to students whose voices have been historically silenced or pushed aside.

We cannot give enough thanks to those who have supported us through the creation of our 2022 Honors Journal. Our team of editors has been unequivocally vital to this process and have demonstrated outstanding teamwork and dedication since August. And, of course, this edition of the journal could not have been created without the guidance, support, and leadership of our faculty advisor, Dr. Abby Hickcox. She inspires and sets the bar for all of us and has left a lasting legacy within the Honors Journal and within our lives.

We hope that this journal will generate strong emotions, jumpstart conversations, and spark creativity within anyone who opens its pages. To say that being a part of this journal has changed our lives would be an understatement, and we hope that that feeling remains alive within the following pages.

Thank you,  
Evan Watt and Anna Haynes



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