

University of Colorado Arts & Sciences Honors Program

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The 2020 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, 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. 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 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 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 2010, the Editorial Board elected to expand the Journal from its traditional 6" × 9" format to an 8.5" × 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 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 Editor in Chief in order to prevent any biases from potentially clouding judgments.

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 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 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 Boulder Arts & Sciences Honors Program. In particular, the Editorial Board would like to thank Honors Program Director Janet Jacobs, Program Manager Lynne Buckley, and Program Coordinator Janelle Henderson. 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 2020 Honors Journal was generously provided by the Honors Program and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) at the University of Colorado Boulder. 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.

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May 2020

Dear Reader,

It is my honor to present to you some of this year's most exceptional undergraduate student work. It is an unusual time to be publishing the Honors Journal, as it is an unusual time to do much of anything, and I am so thankful for our tireless Editorial Board, whose cheer and flexibility in a time of pandemic made it possible to follow through on an ambitious project from afar. I am especially grateful to Kat Yeneza, our designer, whose colorful vision for these pages will be equally stunning on a screen as on paper. And of course, I would like to thank our faculty advisor, Dr. Abby Hickcox, who gave us so much space to make the journal our own while never failing to be present as a steady source of insight, structure, and support. I hope these pages bring you appreciation for the variety and quality of creative and academic work underway at the University of Colorado. I hope they help to ground you, in what matters and what is possible. I hope they bring you joy and a sense of connection to a campus and community that remains lively at a distance.

Enjoy!

Kelly Dinneen

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