





# 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 <https://journals.colorado.edu/index.php/honorsjournal/>, where content from this year's edition is accessible and [www.colorado.edu/honorsjournal/](http://www.colorado.edu/honorsjournal/), where content from past years' editions is available.

The Honors Journal was established and first published in 1992 under the supervision of faculty member Professor E. Christian Kop 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.



## **Dedication**

This year's journal is dedicated to Professor Janet Jacobs, who Directed the Honors Program from 2014 through 2022. Dr. Jacobs' leadership transformed the Honors Program. She developed a thriving student community within the program and supported the Honors Journal and its student board with consistent and kind support. Thank you Dr. Jacobs for all you have done for the Honors Program!

## **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 Interim Director Jennifer Fitzgerald, 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

*Letter from the Editors*  
*April 2023*

Dearest Readers,

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>2</b>	Fiction
<b>29</b>	Humanities
<b>57</b>	Poetry
<b>77</b>	Art
<b>108</b>	Gender & Ethnic Studies
<b>115</b>	Natural Science
<b>127</b>	Creative Nonfiction
<b>139</b>	Social Science





# MEET THE BOARD

# 2023 HONORS JOURNAL EDITORIAL BOARD

## ***Head Editors***

Taylor Henderson  
Niamh Horan

## ***Managing Editor***

Ciera Starkweather

## ***Associate Managing Editors***

Hannuo Yang  
Aidan Janney

## ***Publicity Director & Finance Manager***

Grace Knauer

## ***Diversity & Inclusion Director***

Alyssa Ripley

## ***Graphic Designer***

Caroline Cappelle

## ***Art Editors***

Jessie Putman  
Zeke Miles

## ***Creative Nonfiction Editor***

Anoush Ralapanawe

## ***Fiction Editors***

Ariel Feucht  
Emily Archambault

## ***Gender & Ethnic Studies Editor***

Noah Mahoney

## ***Humanities Editors***

Garima Sabharwal  
Anastasia Humann

## ***Natural Science Editors***

Ethan James  
Marwa Mommandi

O

# 2023 HONORS JOURNAL