

# FOREWORD

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The University of Maine at Farmington Honors Journal began with the simple idea of creating a space where students across all disciplines could display their best work. Often, classes revolve around students producing work, turning it in for a grade, and never returning to it again. In each student's work, there is so much potential to grow and so much room for interaction with the ideas of their peers. The process of creating this first edition of the Honors Journal involved a lot of questions that we would solve along the way, but from the beginning we knew we wanted to push students to think of their essays, creative works, and art as more than assignments: we wanted the University's honors students to show the campus what they are capable of.

The work presented here from our five contributors addresses the theme of the unknown, which mirrors the process of starting a journal from scratch. In this edition, reader, you will see that there is uncertainty in what lies in a relationship once financial struggles cause strain, and there is the struggle to keep knowledge alive when other forms of it have been forced onto populations. There are questions in how we cope and how we heal; there are questions regarding if we survive, or if we burn. We are very fortunate to have had the opportunity to feature the work of these students, and we thank you for witnessing their showcase.

—The Editors,

Belanna Morales

BrookLyn Miller