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Letter from the Visual Editors

Alexandra McBride
University of the Pacific

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Calliope. It is a long standing tradition to showcase student work. It requires the time and cooperation of two teams to create a cohesive magazine. One of the most crucial parts is the theme. The theme is what sets the tone or reveals the underlying message within the magazine.

Both the literary team and the visual team ran into a few road blocks when deciding on a theme. Some themes we thought of were too specific, while others were too vague. We just could not decide on a theme that was an accurate portrayal of the magazine as a whole. We began brainstorming once again and discovered the word, “reciprocity.” One of the various definitions of reciprocity include the mutually beneficial relationship between two or more things, which I believe truly represents the purpose of Calliope.

Calliope is laid out in pairs of student art and literary pieces. These pairings are not by accident. Both the literary and visual teams systematically and thoroughly find the works that compliment one another. One could say that there is a sense of reciprocity between them because although the pieces are strong individually, they are even stronger when placed alongside the other.

As you look through this year’s edition of Calliope, don’t just look at the literary and art pieces separately, look at the pairings as a whole to truly absorb the mood of that spread. I hope you enjoy this years edition!

—Alexandra McBride, Visual Editor-in-Chief 2017

Reciprocity, which in contemporary use refers to an exchange for mutual benefit, comes from the Latin recipro cus, meaning “moving backward and forward.” This, too, captured our attention, as it suggests an internal reciprocity created by the works themselves. What engages us in writing is a tension between past and present, conflict and resolution. Taking part in this complex back and forth may be difficult, but it is ultimately what makes our stories rewarding.

Even as you are looking in on the miniature universe contained within these pages—the love, the agony, the endurance, the joy—we ask you to carry something away with you as well, something previously undiscovered. Our creators have opened a door—now all you have to do is step inside.

—Kathryn Harlan-Gran, Literary Editor-in-Chief 2017