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## Letter from the Past Literary Editor

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# LETTER FROM THE PAST LITERARY EDITOR

ADNAN HASHTAM

“What is *Calliope*?”

There is a simple answer to that question; however, what makes *Calliope* unique requires a longer explanation. In Issue XLVI, I wrote that “to write and create is to question, to protest, and to reveal the hidden and the confined,” and that is what *Calliope* represents to me. *Calliope* is a form of intervention that tells a story about a community of artists whose voices often go unheard. *Calliope* is an exploration of the here and now, but also of our past, our

histories, and the small moments that seem insignificant until we stop to consider their importance. Reflecting on these moments, sometimes mundane and other times provocative, is what makes us unique in our experience and as artists. We as artists create to be understood, and this issue of *Calliope* captures exactly that.

Moving from last year’s theme of writing serving as a form of confrontation, this issue moves beyond a mere confrontation and toward being understood through

our experiences and origins as artists. Since my time as the Editor-in-Chief, I have been reflecting on what importance *Calliope* held in my experience at Pacific. I believe its importance is more than that of a mere literary and visual arts magazine. Its importance is not only reflected in the subject matter laid out within, but also in the sorts of opportunities it allows the Pacific art community. Writers and visual artists alike utilize this space to share their stories and visions as artists, creating a very unique experience for its readers.