

PERCEPTIONS

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FREEDOM THROUGH TRUTH

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Cover photo: "Birds of Freedom" by Rita Salazar Dickerson

Letter from the Editor

Dear reader:

For over two years, I have been proud to serve as a member of Temple's Undergraduate History and Social Sciences Association (TUHSSA) and as part of the *Perceptions* team. As my duties for this journal come to a close, I can honestly say it has been an incredible experience to read through so many fine examples of scholarship from fellow undergraduates at Temple University. We hope that this journal continues to spread knowledge and foster curiosity for many years to come.

This semester, we decided to center this edition of *Perceptions* on freedom, in dedication to the numerous marginalized groups throughout history still yearning for their stories to be told. By bringing truth, we are able to understand their struggles to better society and learn from them to create a fairer and just world. From gender discrimination in our culture to post-colonial hardships in the Congo, it shows that truth is the key that will set the world free. So long as we seek and acknowledge truth, there is no challenge too great that we cannot overcome.

We would like to thank all the individuals that made this edition of *Perceptions* possible. A huge thank you specifically goes out to Dr. Jay Lockenour of the History Department and Ms. Annie Johnson for always believing in TUHSSA and its ability to bring students and faculty alike in the pursuit of knowledge. This semester, we also had a record number of volunteer editors on the editorial team to help revise and edit submissions. Without the support and dedication of our team of volunteers, *Perceptions* would have never made it as big as it is now.

As Temple University Libraries bids its final farewell in its transition from Paley Library to Charles Library, *Perceptions* is also experiencing a dramatic change in leadership. It is my earnest hope that the new e-board is able to carry the journal to greater heights and to continue serving the Temple community. While this farewell is bittersweet, history shows that we must always continue to look forward to ensure progress.

We hope that you will enjoy this edition as much as those involved had in creating it.

Sincerely,



Christopher Chau
President of TUHSSA
Editor-in-Chief of *Perceptions*

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