

Writing across Voices

Welcome to Volume 4 of WAUA

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the fourth issue of Writing across the University of Alberta (WAUA).

Six long years ago, a group of writing studies instructors sat at a round table and discussed how to improve the student writing experience at the University of Alberta. The solution was clear: We needed a place to publish student writing! And so, WAUA was born.

Fast forward to this fourth issue of our student writing journal. The journey from the journal's inception to the publication of this fourth issue has been littered with challenges: budget cuts, departmental changes, a pandemic, and an overloaded editorial team. However, we are happy to report that throughout this turbulent period, our students' writing has continued to inspire and thrill us; the past and present issues of the journal bear witness to the depth of our students' creativity and thinking.

The fourth issue of the journal displays a wide range of voices, and for this reason, we have entitled it "Writing across Voices." Exploring our human voices in writing is particularly relevant today as we learn to negotiate the introduction of generative AI tools like ChatGPT. These tools can output coherent texts in the space of a human breath, yet these texts are bland and stereotypical. In contrast, the student texts featured in this issue are full of human voices: these texts are funny, creative, critical, philosophical and tragic. The fourth issue of WAUA features written works by **Felix Wang, Tieyang Zhang, Veronika Ivanytska, Atem Deng, Chenoa Kaufman, and Anya Smolny.**

To those whose works were not selected for this issue, we encourage you to continue honing your writing style, and we hope you will consider submitting new pieces to WAUA in the future.

With the publication of our fourth issue behind us, we are now accepting submissions for our fifth issue, which we hope to publish in Fall 2024. Students interested in submitting

their work will find information on how to do so here:

<https://writingacrossuofa.ca/index.php/writingacrossuofa/about/submissions>.

Our editorial team has expanded this year, and we were thrilled to welcome **Alp Cevirme**, **Melissa Haynes**, **Lexi Lalonde**, and **Karly Coleman** to our team. We are ever so grateful for our amazing copy editor and all-around helper **Anita Parker**, who joined us last year. After the challenges of the previous years, adding these team members raised our spirits. Thanks to the energy of our new volunteers, we are looking forward to our milestone fifth issue with hope and anticipation.

Sincerely,

Nancy Bray, Anna Chilewska, Alp Cevirme, Karly Coleman, Melissa Haynes, Lexi LaLonde,
and Anita Parker

The WAUA Editorial Team

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