

Letter from the Editors

In our discussions throughout this past year, we wanted this year's edition of *NU Writing* to extend the themes from previous issues and engage in conversations initiated by earlier editorial boards, such as discussions on racism after the murder of George Floyd or the attacks on reproductive rights and rise of transphobia throughout the country. In addition, the ongoing genocide in Gaza amidst an active, yet now ignored, pandemic forced us to contemplate how this year's issue could meaningfully contribute to these previous themes of "Renewal" or "Voyages" from other issues, especially now when the path forward seems more difficult and unclear than ever. That's when we arrived at this idea of "Renaissance," or the notion that we cannot simply go back to how things were, but we need new ways of thinking and doing to address the problems of the 21st century. Thus, while "Renaissance" invokes feelings of reinvention and rebirth, our editorial team also wants to stress how a Renaissance celebrates change by bringing new voices into the world. In this way, we also see "Renaissance" as a form of resistance in its refusal to accept complacency or embrace previous solutions that now feel defunct.

This theme is reflected in the pieces collected for this issue and in the process of bringing this year's edition to life. This year, we expanded our policies to allow submissions from any undergraduate course, not just a course labeled as a writing course. Likewise, this issue showcases how Northeastern writers engage in different genres and conversations to participate in change in productive and transformative ways. We invite you to join us in this celebration of change as we hope to introduce you to our wonderful writers who are the new voices that refuse to accept the current status quo.

-NU Writing 2023-2024 Editors