

Contributors

Vera Lee is a first year international affairs major. While originally born in Hong Kong, she grew up in Hooksett, NH, and is always ready to argue why the Granite State is the best state. She loves classic Disney movies and her favorite animal is the bear. In her spare time, Vera secretly learns all the words to rap songs to later impress people in car rides.

R.B. Ganon is a sophomore at Northeastern University and from San Diego, California. He wrote this piece in his College Writing class during his freshman year as a response to Walker Percy's essay "Loss of Creature." His inspiration in writing this piece was his love for photography.

Cole Bush is a sophomore studying electrical engineering here at Northeastern. He wrote this essay in his college writing class last year as a way to examine his own views on a loved-one's impairment. His mother is visually impaired and has always had a huge role in his life. He hopes others will get from reading his essay what he got from writing it.

Angelo Massagli is a senior at Northeastern majoring in English and minoring in business and law. He is a New York native who has spent most of his life in the entertainment industry as an actor. Aside from acting in commercials and small television spots, Angelo is most recognized for his roles in *The Sopranos* and *The School of Rock*. Since being enrolled at Northeastern, he has taken a break from being in front of the camera to pursue interests in writing and other behind the scenes aspects of entertainment.

Nicolas Knaian is an electrical engineering major and is considering pursuing a career in sound engineering, possibly in the field of music technology. He is a sophomore at Northeastern from Newton, Massachusetts. He wrote about denial of the Armenian Genocide because it is a topic that directly affects him as an Armenian. His grandparents were survivors of the Armenian Genocide, and he's a member of the Armenian Youth Federation (AYF), where a major goal is to have nations such as the U.S. and Turkey recognize the Armenian Genocide. He's a part of the Armenian Students Association at Northeastern University (ASANU) where he creates and participates in events that involve Armenian culture.

Nivedha Kumar is a second year biology major with a minor in religious studies. Though she was born and brought up in America, she has maintained a strong cultural connection to her Indian heritage. Her piece, "The Caste System: A Means of Eternal Segregation Amidst The Fight For Equality," reflects her perspective on the hypocrisy present in the Indian caste system today. Nivedha eventually hopes to attend medical school and enjoys dance and traveling.

Anne Marie Miller is a sophomore psychology student minoring in behavioral neuroscience and business from San Francisco, California. Her piece reflects her negative perception (some might call it hatred) of the film *Fight Club*. In her piece, she compares aspects of masculinity in the film to various depictions of masculinity in the essay "Beauty (Re)Discovers the Male Body." The writing process in this piece was inspired by *Fight Club's* ability, in her opinion, to put boundaries around what it means to be a *real man*. Recently, society has been putting a lot of attention on how unacceptable it is for the media to make women feel they have to look or act a

certain way. In this essay, she wanted to take the time to point out that it also happens to men, and that perhaps instead of focusing on one specific gender, we as a society should take a better look at the boundaries placed upon what it means to be considered feminine or masculine in this media-driven culture.

Nicholas Viviano is a second year student with a dual major in political science and business administration. Outside of academics, Nick is actively involved in the Resident Student Association, National Residence Hall Honorary, Student Alumni Association and Husky Ambassadors, as well as a resident assistant for Stetson East. Nick acknowledges his ENGL 1111 professor, Cecelia Musselman, who encouraged him to write outside the “four-paragraph-essay” box and further explore his writing potential.

Sydney Andrews is a fourth-year communication studies major with a minor in music industry. She loves traveling, fashion, live music and Jimmy Fallon. Though she would like to do co-ops forever, Sydney will be graduating in 2014/15 and plans to move to New York City.

Cody Mello-Klein is a third-year student majoring in both English and anthropology. While literature is of great interest to him, music and videogames have been a huge part of his life since childhood. Cody believes music and games should be considered “texts,” just like any great work of literature, and that they should be studied with the same attention and care. He has contributed music reviews to an independent music blog called *Surviving the Golden Age* in the past and hopes to integrate his interest in storytelling into whatever career he pursues in the future.

Eric Spencer is a second year chemical engineering student interested in alternative energy and materials science. He grew up in Connecticut, but moved to New Hampshire shortly after enrolling at Northeastern. He’s enthralled by outdoor recreation and finds pride in his willingness to separate from the crowd when there’s something new to try.

Julia Barnes is a sophomore ASL major/journalism minor from New York City. In her College Writing class, Julia had to choose between two assignments to demonstrate experience with language, one of which required students to emulate the writing style of Gloria Anzaldúa. In admiration of how Anzaldúa fluidly incorporated Spanish into her pieces to better express her Chicana identity, Julia decided to do the same, but with patois. The purpose of her piece is to show her overall lack of mastery with the dialect while still expressing hope for cultural growth. She hopes this essay will inspire fellow “Jafaicans” and anyone else who has ever felt removed from their culture.