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## Letter from the Editor

Peggy Brown

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## Letter from the Editor

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A college journal performs the Herculean task of moving already overworked people to new involvement: professors, red-eyed and tight-lipped; tap reserve energy forces to turn to the wrinkled muse sleeping on the top book shelf; students voluntarily journey to computer labs to revise already graded essays; photography students take out loans to print 6 x 8—no, 8 1/2 x 11—no, 6 1/2 x 8 1/2 prints; latent poems bubble out of brains dangerously tipped to the left side.

A forum, in this case a college journal, serves as a glowing invitation. If I underestimated the need for such a forum, I am now a reformed thinker. The number (over 75) and quality of submissions this editorial staff has received for this initial publication of FORCES justifies its existence. The selections made by the Honors Literature class (by a blind selection process) reflect a talented college community.

The first issue includes various selections: short stories dealing in subject matter from adolescence to old age, from the mundane world to a mythological one; poetry, photography, and drawings that create an interpretive environment on various levels; and essays that defy easy classification: the staff has purposefully chosen unusually creative essays for this first issue. All ideas represented here are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor, the staff, or the College; this is not an official publication.

Since FORCES is an Honors Literature class project, the editorial staff will change each semester. However, since I will remain editor, I will strive to maintain a journal that represents the enormous talent on reserve at Four C's (Collin County Community College). For its semi-annual publication, FORCES will have two deadlines for submission: November 1 and April 1 of each school year. Anyone within the extended CCCC community (faculty, students, staff, spouses, or children) may send submissions c/o Peggy Brown, IDH, Spring Creek campus. Our goal is to publish high level, imaginative works in an artful presentation: an Interdisciplinary Honors journal for national distribution.

The premier publication of FORCES owes its existence, and I hereby express my gratitude, to a number of people. First, to the administration (Steve Ellis and Deanna Wilson) and Student Activities (Scott Stevens) for financial support; to Don Hancock, who provided expertise and hours of immeasurable assistance in transferring the text to Page Maker; to Charles Corry, who offered expert advice as editor of his own journal (*Poetic Liberty*) and typed most of the text; to Mindi Corwin for proofreading copy; to D.V. Morton, member of the Honors Literature class, whose idea for the title, FORCES, was unanimously accepted; to the English faculty who offered support (Sherril Cobb kindly read the class's selections); to June VanCleaf, Cathy Holt, and Rex Reed for helping select and prepare the visual images; to Patty Richards for tirelessly perfecting the cover print; to Jan Coppedge, who volunteered to design the cover; to the members of the Honors Literature class who undertook this extensive class project; and to all others who offered help (Yvonne Johnson, Todd Pferferle, and Aubrey Jones) when I needed it.

A special thank you goes to my mentor, Dennis Kratz, who, as co-editor of the UTD publication *Translation Review*, offered valuable advice in the conception of this journal.

Most importantly, I want to thank all who submitted works. Decisions were difficult, and the limited size of the journal forced the elimination of some excellent submissions. Those may appear in future issues.

Peggy Brown

