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## Letter from the Editor

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Messiah University is a Christian university of the liberal and applied arts and sciences. Our mission is to educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation in church and society.

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

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Initially, I intended to start this introduction by saying, “Now more than ever, we need art,” but I realized something: Works of art have always been constants in our lives. As much as the world may make us feel bombarded, overwhelmed or small, it has forced us to adapt, overcome, and appreciate what we have in our lives.

Since COVID, we decided to make the magazine digital for the past two years. I remember as a freshman I held a copy of *The Peregrine Review* in my hands for the first time. I was so excited to share with friends and read outside in the sun. A lot of things have changed since then, but the strength of works of art have not.

Art is timeless and constantly adapting to the changes around us. It is an invaluable tool to help us understand the experiences and well-being of others. In this volume, there is a lot of pain, reminiscing, and open wounds—but there is also hope and grit. Writing can be a lifeline to those who feel like the world is crumbling around them.

If the past year has taught me something about writing, it is just how powerful an effect it can

have on releasing emotions we didn’t—or couldn’t—recognize before. I have found solace in not only writing, but also in reading what others in the community have to say.

This collection is a celebration of art, words, and the world. It is a recognition of the talented and thoughtful members of the Messiah community. It is an appreciation of their art, culminating from various places and different perspectives—all in one place. Each of these writers, artists, and photographers beautifully and affectionately captured the essence of what makes us all human. We have the uncanny ability to pick ourselves back up when the odds have been set against us. Art not only helps us heal, but it also documents our fortitude.

Welcome to our collection of words, images, art, stories, and thoughts. I invite you to embrace the magazine with open arms and open hearts.

Molly McKim

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