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Dear Reader,

It is our great pleasure to introduce you to the Fall 2014 issue of the *Chicago Journal of History*. Conceived as a platform to promote undergraduate scholarship in history and allied fields, the journal aims at bringing students together and creating a lively exchange of ideas. The essays included in this issue have been selected in the same spirit. They represent a wide range of historical questions and research interests. It is our hope that you will find the ideas in them to be thought provoking.

Claire Arnold's prize-winning essay "The Delights of a Plunge into the Unknown: Reimagining Children's Adventure Literature in the Nineteenth Century" looks at the forms of literature popular with British children towards the end of the nineteenth century. Shifting the historiographical focus from adults to the children themselves, Arnold argues that the popularity of such literature cannot be explained only by their association with British imperialism. Such literature, she argues, grew popular because it contained themes that resonated deeply with its target audience.

Zoe Beiser's "Black Citizenship on the Whale Ships in Antebellum America" examines what historians now refer to as the "maritime republic". Examining instances in which American authorities intervened on behalf of African American soldiers captured by British authorities, she sheds light on complex questions of race, national pride, and the ever-changing meanings of citizenship in antebellum America.

Colin Bos's "'Links to the Present': The Long History of Contested Heritage in Ghana's Slave Castles" presents a thoughtful critique of the large anthropological literature on heritage tourism to colonial era slave castles in Ghana. Bos contends that the history of such tourism is much longer than anthropologists are willing to grant. To this end, his essay provides a rigorous and provocative analysis of European and American accounts of travel to Ghana all the way from the nineteenth century to the 1950s.

Jeffery Lewandrowski's "The Inevitable Collapse of Peace: A study of the Weakness of the Peace of Amiens" presents a highly readable analysis of one of the most complicated diplomatic episodes in European history. In a similar vein, Kyuhyun Jo's "China's Exercise of *Realpolitik* and 'Containment' during the First and Second Indochina Wars, 1954-1973" explores Chinese-Vietnamese relations during the First and Second Indochina Wars, untangling China's strategic objectives and motives in its dealings with its sometimes-ally. The strength of Jo's essay lies in its vast base of American, Chinese, French and Vietnamese primary sources.

Last in this issue is Aidyn P.M. Osgood's "Vice in Vauxhall: Debauchery and the Pleasure Garden, 1730-1770". Osgood studies how Jonathan Tyres, master of ceremonies and proprietor of Vauxhall, navigated the problem of cultivating an air of polite respectability and, at the same time, attracting those visitors who came looking for boisterous merrymaking.

We hope that you will enjoy reading these essays and look forward to receiving your feedback. Please direct your questions and/or feedback to ughistoryjournal@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Pranav Jain and Thomas Prendergast