

Editor's Note

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Editor-in-Chief, *CLA Journal*

I am pleased to present the sixth volume of the *CLA Journal* to our readers. Undergraduate students at the University of Central Arkansas and our neighboring institutions have the opportunity to present their scholarship at the College of Liberal Arts' annual Student Research Symposium each spring. Those who wish to continue refining their work may submit it for publication. I am especially pleased to report that the number of submissions has doubled between 2017 and 2018.

Breaking with previous volumes, this year's articles are organized topically. They address a wide variety of interesting subjects in the Liberal Arts, including: use of visual and auditory weather effects in performances of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* (Graham), Ophelia and Hamlet's relationship in *Hamlet* (Samons), the role of animal characters across modern literature (Harris), Arkansas's gubernatorial politics in the mid-twentieth century (Tribble), the Lend-Lease Act (Griffin), Chevron-Gulf's activities in the Angolan Civil War (Angel), two different discussions related to gun policy in the United States, one drawing inspiration from the work of Denis Diderot (Mowery) and one looking specifically at the relationship between gun ownership and Christian identity (Kilgrove), children's relationship to nature and technology (Dexter), and the long and continuing struggle for civil rights by African-Americans. I have also offered students who wish to

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continue working on their research but had other commitments this summer to submit manuscripts later than previously allowed, so be on the lookout for a possible addendum later this year with more wonderful undergraduate scholarship.

I wish to thank all the students who presented at the 2018 Student Research Symposium and especially those who have decided to submit their work for publication in the *CLA Journal*. I would also like to thank all the faculty mentors who worked with our students on their research projects and the College of Liberal Arts Dean's Office for its support of the symposium and journal. Finally, I wish to thank Dr. Michael Kithinji and Dr. Duncan McKinnon for organizing this year's symposium and Dr. Sonya Sawyer Fritz and Dr. Kristin Adele Okoli for serving as program co-chairs.