

**THE** VOLUME 6, NO. 1.5  
**JOURNAL**  
**OF STUDENT**  
**RESEARCH**  
**INDIANA UNIVERSITY EAST**

**SPECIAL ISSUE: NEW WRITERS CONTEST**  
**KELLY BLEWETT & TANYA PERKINS, GUEST EDITORS**

## NEW WRITERS SPECIAL 2024 EDITION

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the New Writers Special Issue of the Journal of Student Research at Indiana University East (JSRIUE). This issue provides an entrance into publication for student works. This invitation to First Year and Sophomore Students intends to begin a practice of creativity, writing, researching, and sharing to support the student's path toward self-actualization. In this way students become aware of their own authority.

We hope you enjoy this high-quality issue that is informative and scholarly. We recognize and thank the JSRIUE editors and authors who worked together to deliver the publication JSRIUE Volume 6,1.5, 2024.

Good Reading,

**Sue McFadden, MLS**

Associate Librarian for Research  
Managing Editor

**Beth South, MLS**

Assistant Librarian  
Co-Editor

*Journal of Student Research at Indiana University East (JSRIUE)*

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Kelly Blewett, Associate Professor of English,  
Director of the Writing Program, English.

Tanya Perkins, Associate Professor of English,  
Chair, English Department.

Liz de Villiers, Lecturer, Graphic Design.

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Design Editor and Layout, Liz de Villiers

Thank you to the IU East Graphic Design 1 students:

W131 - Brooklyn Hill, Abstract: *Chaotic Serenity in Red*

W231 - Taylor Oselka, Abstract: *Untitled in Orange*

W270 - Brooklyn Hill, Abstract: *Chaotic Serenity in Orange*

W290 - Taylor Oselka, Abstract: *Untitled in Red*

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## EDITORS' INTRODUCTION

Composition courses are important spaces for student writers. Alongside other introductory courses, composition introduces students to university-level expectations for writing and lays a foundation for the kind of thinking and writing upon which future courses in the major build. To see students thoughtfully and critically engage with writing tasks in these spaces is exciting, and, as Director of the Writing Program and Chair of the English Department, we are delighted to showcase some of the best writing that appeared in Indiana University East's writing program during 2023.

The work that appears in this journal won recognition in the second annual New Writers Contest, open to students enrolled in any composition course during the 2022-23 academic year. Students from the introductory writing course, Reading, Writing & Inquiry (English W131), as well as three second-year courses: Professional Writing (English W231), Argumentative Writing (English W270), and Writing for Teachers (English W290), sent in their essays. In each category, a judge awarded winners and, in some cases, honorable mentions. A single winner was awarded in Writing for Teachers, as this course is taken by fewer students. The journal is organized into these course sections.

### **Section 1. ENG W131: Reading, Writing & Inquiry**

This section presents three award-winning literacy narratives, plus one honorable mention. The purpose of the literacy narrative is for a student to think carefully about their history as a reader and writer, and to tell a story from their life. In this section, first-place winner Jordan Chance honors her grandmother and explores how her love of books influenced future generations. Second-place winner Jerrica Miles describes the hardships she faced as a young child and the literacy sponsors in her teen and adult life that helped her realize her

dream of pursuing an academic career. Third-place winner Karly Bergin praises the role of reading in setting her on a path toward success, drawing one of her life refrains from the little engine who could. Finally, honorable mention Carson L. Gosnell honors her mother's passion and guidance as a literacy sponsor.

### **Section 2. ENG W231: Professional Writing**

This section presents three award-winning analytical reports, plus one honorable mention. The purpose of an analytical report is to evaluate an issue or question and provide a research-based recommendation for action to a public or professional audience. In this section, first-place winner Cadence D. Wright compares the merits of two trade publishing houses, Penguin Random House and HarperCollins Publishing House, through the eyes of a prospective employee. Second-place winner Anna Hoover compares three popular design software programs by cost, versatility, and ease of use for a small-business owner. Third-place winner Rylee Canan compares the benefits of digital and physical marketing for small business coffee shops. Finally, honorable mention Isabel Payne presents a causal analysis on the rights to ethical abortions, noting the many consequences of restricting abortion access around the world.

### **Section 3. ENG W270: Argumentative Writing**

This section presents three award-winning researched arguments. Argumentative Writing focuses on strategies for identifying issues, assessing claims, locating evidence, deciding on a position, and writing papers with clear assertions and convincing arguments. In this section, first-place winner Kora Martin presents an argument exploring the probable impacts of marijuana legalization. Second-place winner Jason Berrisford offers a contrarian's perspective on congressional term limits, noting that they might not be as simple and functional as proponents imagine. Finally, third-place winner Robert Conte offers an

analysis of the differing viewpoints regarding Drag Queen Story Hour at the public library.

#### **Section 4. ENG W290: Writing for Teachers**

This section presents one award-winning narrative by a future teacher. In this section, Tristen Collins relates how the challenges she faced in school shaped the type of teacher that she hopes to become.

As always, we thank Professor Sue McFadden, who initiated the New Writers Contest. We commend Professor McFadden for her ongoing interest in student research and for creating spaces such as this one for student research to be shared with the public.

We also thank our contest judges: Michelle Holliday, Student Success Coach; Carolyn Judd, Lecturer, School of Nursing and Health Sciences; Yemi Mahoney, Chief Diversity Officer; and Frances Yates, the Director of the Library. Without their careful reading of the many student submissions to the contest, we wouldn't have found our contest winners. We also want to extend our gratitude to Daren Snider, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, for supporting the contest financially. Finally, we thank the many students who submitted their work for consideration.

We hope you enjoy these twelve special essays!

**Kelly Blewett, PhD**

Writing Program Director  
Associate Professor of English

**Tanya Perkins, MA, MFA**

Chair of English  
Associate Professor of English

The background is a vibrant red with various abstract elements: a large black circle in the top left, a smaller black circle in the middle left, a large black circle in the middle right, and a large black circle in the bottom right. A black starburst shape is positioned near the bottom right circle. A black pencil is oriented diagonally in the bottom left. A white vertical line is located to the right of the top-left circle. The text 'ENG W131' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font in the top left. At the bottom, there are two horizontal rows of small black dots and a dashed black line.

**ENG W131**

***Chaotic Serenity in Red***, Brooklyn Hill,  
IUE Student 2024

ENG W231

*Untitled in Orange*, Taylor Oselka,  
IUE Student 2024

ENG W270

*Chaotic Serenity in Orange*, Brooklyn Hill,  
IUE Student 2024

ENG W290

*Untitled in Red*, Taylor Oselka,  
IUE Student 2024



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