

A Sprinkling of Gratitude: An Introduction to Volume 12

We are immensely excited and honored to be able to share with you this year's incredible volume of *sprinkle*. The journey to Volume 12 was—in the simplest of terms—educational. This year, *sprinkle* had a record number of editorial staff members, and in response to this large team it was also the first time that the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo iteration of the journal had two Managing Editors at its helm. Along with our dedicated Assistant Editor, Caroline Roberts, we, the Managing Editors, found the experience of leading *sprinkle* to be unique, sometimes intimidating, and incredibly rewarding. We could not have accomplished as much as we had this year without the advice of our Editors-in-Chief, Dr. Adan and Dr. Lehr, whose strength and guidance gave us confidence to delve into complicated theories and conversations on what constitutes feminist and queer studies. Formulating a journal under two dynamic fields of study is challenging and meticulous; our Associate Editors and Reviewers exceeded our expectations with the way they dedicated themselves to the review process, bringing each of their unique perspectives to our peer-review sessions. We thank them as well as our impeccable Copy Editing Team for their commitment, patience, and talent, all of which has helped cultivate the considerable quality of Volume 12. Additionally, with the current goal of expanding the scope of *sprinkle's* creative projects, we are working to further integrate artistic works alongside the journal's academic articles. In doing so, we hope to exhibit the multifaceted forms that comprise the fields of feminist and queer studies. We would thereby like to thank the current members of our Creative Initiative Team for their dedication to this exciting pursuit.

Finally, we are indebted to the authors who have been writing within the realms of feminist and queer studies and who decided to send us their hard work this

year. The submissions we received for Volume 12 stood out to us for the diversity of their subjects and the nuance of their research. The exceptional quality of the articles published within this volume is not only a reflection of *sprinkle's* growth as an undergraduate journal, it is also a testament to the enduring conversations surrounding feminist and queer studies that have been taking place at universities internationally. We are particularly proud to serve as a vessel that connects the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo Women's & Gender Studies Department with universities all over the globe. We hope our efforts will further foster the notion that undergraduate research is a tool for students to engage with and contribute to ways of knowing justice. As Co-Managing Editors of *sprinkle*, we feel fortunate to have been granted this opportunity to help these invariably vital conversations persist.

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Co-Managing Editors