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## Introduction

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## Introduction

Part of the journal section "Forum: Culture and the Medieval King"

Richard Utz, "Introduction"

In the spring semester of 2007, I offered a graduate seminar investigating the "The Arthurian Legend in English Literature and Culture" at the University of Northern Iowa. In order to extend the scope of the class beyond the area of English studies and to provide participants with a chance to showcase their scholarship to a wider audience than themselves and their instructor, I organized a conference, entitled "Culture and the Medieval King," which invited contributions from graduate students and advanced undergraduate students to present papers on all cultural manifestations of King Arthur and Arthuriana in the Middle Ages as well as in postmedieval times. The cluster of essays in this *Forum* section makes available Dr. Kay Harris's fascinating plenary speech as well as four excellent student contributions.

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who submitted their work for consideration, my two co-editors, Christine Havens (University of Northern Iowa) and Keith Russo (Western Michigan University) for their help in selecting, revising, and editing texts. And I would also like to acknowledge the financial and institutional support provided by the University of Northern Iowa Department of English Language & Literature, the UNI English Club, the College of Humanities and Fine Arts, the Graduate College, and the University Faculty Speakers Fund.

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