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Editor's Note: A Season of Change for the Journal of Youth Development: Implications for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Assets, and Supports in the JYD Publication Process

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Editor's Note

Barry A. Garst, Editor in Chief

A Season of Change for the Journal of Youth Development: Implications for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Assess, and Supports in the JYD Publication Process

We are delighted to inform the *Journal of Youth Development* (JYD) readership about exciting changes and enhancements taking place at JYD. With a new publishing partner, Clemson University Press, a responsive platform in bepress Digital Commons, and a dynamic editorial team led by a new editor in chief, we are well positioned to further advance our commitment to connecting youth development research with practice and with promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the peer review process.

To understand the context for some of these changes, it's helpful to consider work that has taken place over the past two years. In 2021 the JYD editorial team, the Publications Committee, and the Equity Task Force embarked on a critical review of JYD's policies and procedures to enhance how the journal was promoting racial equity, inclusion, and social justice. As a result of that evaluation and reflection, a revised mission and vision were established.

- JYD's mission is to *bridge research and practice by cultivating and publishing youth development scholarship with and for youth, practitioners, and researchers in pursuit of an equitable and just society in which all young people can thrive.*
- JYD's vision is *a world in which all youth and communities are authentically represented in youth development scholarship and practice, and in which youth development scholarship contributes to repairing historical and current inequities.*

At that time, it was also determined that JYD would establish a standing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access (DEIA) Committee “to oversee JYD’s commitments to build a more diverse and inclusive publications committee, track and report DEIA data, and establish onboarding processes with DEI guidance” (Walker, 2021, p.5). In 2022, the DEI committee completed a critical stage of its work by developing the I.D.E.A.S. framework. This framework, which was just launched in the transition to Clemson University Press, represents Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, Access, and the Supports (I.D.E.A.S.) needed to make them real for authors, reviewers, editors, and the journal’s leadership. Now, as part of the Peer Review Process, authors, reviewers, and editors are guided not only

by well-established peer-review criteria (e.g., topical significance, originality, theoretical framing, methodological rigor, and applications for practice) but also by considerations for inclusivity, diversity, equity, access, and supports.

For example, authors submitting manuscripts to JYD will be asked to:

- clearly identify author and participants' race, ethnicity, and gender orientation where applicable
- seek to include and elevate nondominant voices as they frame their work
- provide justification and discussion of the diversity or lack of diversity in study samples
- discuss the representatives of data presented and explicitly identify limits of its applicability and generalizability
- address research and practice applications to non-White populations and associated issues of social inequality

These, along with other general expectations for authors, represent targeted actions JYD has adopted to integrate inclusivity, diversity, equity, access, and related supports into all elements of the manuscript development, submission, review, and editorial process. The journal's steadfast dedication to promoting positive youth development is reflected in the introduction and application of the I.D.E.A.S. framework, through which JYD is expanding the space for innovative youth development research, evidence-based best practices, and novel ideas for addressing the needs of youth—all of this to be shared and discussed. Of course, JYD continues to be an open-access journal accessible to all, with no fees for authors or readers. This means every JYD article we have ever published is freely available for reading and downloading from our website.

JYD extends a warm welcome to all our readers—both new and established—and looks forward to serving your needs and supporting your ongoing pursuit of knowledge and growth. To better reflect the youth development field's diversity, we also invite you to further your involvement in our community by submitting manuscripts as an author or by serving as a reviewer. Reviewers can express their interest in serving JYD and advancing the youth development field by registering as a reviewer and identifying their areas of expertise. We hope you will submit your work and help us review that of others.

Momentum is building to advance positive change in the youth development field by shaping how research-to-practice scholarship is produced, evaluated, and disseminated through JYD. We look forward to collaborating with you!

References

Walker, K. C. (2021). "Journal of Youth Development's Stance on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access." *Journal of Youth Development*, 16(5), 1–8.