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Editor's Note

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Margaret M. Strain, Ph.D.

This year marks an important milestone for *Line by Line: A Journal of Beginning Student Writing*: The journal's 10th anniversary of publication. The new design highlights the journal's continued commitment to showcasing writing in print, multimodal, and digital formats produced by first- and second-year writers in the writing program in the Department of English.

Since its inception, *Line by Line* has recognized strong student compositions through the Barbara Farrelly Award for Best Writing in an Issue and awards for best writing in a genre. Beginning with this issue, the journal will include essays by first- and second-year writers who have received the Father Jack McGrath, S.M., Award for Research in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

The journal also announces the inaugural presentation of the John D. and Rose Marie Groppe Award for Excellence in Writing. The award is made possible through a gift from Bart Ng, dean emeritus of the School of Science at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, to honor John D. Groppe, a professor emeritus of St. Joseph's College in Indiana, and Groppe's spouse, Rose Marie.

As an undergraduate student, Ng was inspired by John Groppe's teaching and regards his mentor as instrumental in transforming his view of the English language and the humanities. Together, the Groppes fostered his love of writing, literature, and intellectual inquiry. The award recognizes writers whose excellent work demonstrates intellectual engagement, rhetorical awareness of purpose and audience, and artful expression.

I wish to thank Ng, the Groppes, and the Department of English for their generosity, and I thank the student writers to whom this journal is dedicated.

Awards for the Issue

John D. and Rose Marie Groppe Award for Excellence in Writing

- Daniel C. Napoli, “Historical Interpretations of the Formation of Public Education for Freedpeople in Reconstruction South”
- Eleanor Yates-McEwan, “The Midnight Incendiary: America’s Myth of Black Violence” (the author is also the recipient of the 2023 Father Jack McGrath, S.M., Award for Research in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition)

Barbara Farrelly Award

- Alexandria Ford, “A Divided Front: Abolitionist Women’s Suffrage Movement Through the Lens of Intersectionality”

Father Jack McGrath, S.M., Award for Research in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition

- Alexandra Amrhein, 2024, “‘The Truth Only Dies When True Stories Are Untold’: The Story of Reconstruction in New Orleans”
- Elayna Walloch, 2023, “The Catholic Church’s Teachings on Suicide”