## A Note from the Editors

*Perspectives* Volume 46 is set against a current backdrop of sharp divisions in the United States. The daily drumbeat of mainstream and social media sources talking about either Russian interference in U.S. democracy or the manufactured fear of Latinx immigrants has constructed alternate realities in a deeply divided public. The artificial crises at the southern border, the longest government shutdown in U.S. history, children being held in detention centers, and the daily drama of building a border wall are all inflicting distress. Looking beyond this *telenovela*, our historical survey facilitates healing by giving voice to oppressed communities across the Americas. Beyond the shouting, the unheard voices are as important today as they were in the past. Using feminist historian Aurora Levins Morales' concept of "medicinal history," we present works that allow marginalized voices to be discerned to heal wounds of the past. We hope to contribute to healing the divisions through better understanding each other's histories.

*Perspectives* is an award-winning journal produced by the undergraduate and graduate students of Cal State LA's History Department enrolled in HIST 4970. The Volume 46 contributors and editing team reflect the diverse student body of our campus. We are witnessing a time of dramatic change and look forward to a future when the diversity of the people in this country is viewed as a source of strength instead of a threat.

Our editorial team wants to convey our congratulations to last year's Volume 45 editorial team and faculty advisor for being awarded the Phi Alpha Theta's Gerald D. Nash Journal Award for Best Graduate Online Journal in 2018. We also extend our gratitude to Dr. Birte Pfleger for her steady guidance and generous mentorship. The Volume 46 team aspires to continue the legacy of publishing outstanding historical inquiry.

We hope you enjoy discovering the unheard voices in this volume of *Perspectives*.

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The first two articles address the impact of mass media on the formation of societal values and understanding of culture. Patrick O'Rourke explains how the U.S. government propagandized jazz music through radio programming to counter Soviet criticism of race relations in the United States and to promote U.S. consumer culture internationally. Next, Wendy Figueroa examines the various and often inaccurate depictions of pre-Columbian indigenous women in textbooks and film. Both authors utilize a range of media that exhibit the emergence of narratives based on popular misconceptions rather than empirical evidence and personal experiences.

Our next two authors analyze insurgency and revolution. Alejandro Guardado investigates how students and union workers educated community members of a growing military presence in Guerrero, Mexico during the 1970s. Students transformed their educational institutions into noncombatant sites influencing many to become activists or armed insurgents. Crossing north of the border, Sergio Maldonado discusses how an activist transported his radical rhetoric into Southern California. Ricardo Flores Magón inspired many during the Mexican Revolution by challenging national, ethnic, and gendered identities.

The final author, Donald Newton, uses a legal historical approach in his riveting narrative of the unjustified police shooting of a young boy in 1940s East Los Angeles. We can see many parallels to today in this story about how community action disrupted the cover-up of an indiscriminate police shooting. Together, the five articles acknowledge the pain experienced by our communities and give voices to those who were silenced in the past.

*Perspectives* Volume 46 includes several special features that we offer exclusively online. First are a series of digital history projects produced by undergraduate students as part of their final course grade. Next, we hear from Cal State LA History alumni offering survival tips for incoming graduate students in brief digital film clips. Students from Dr. Choi Chatterjee's graduate seminar highlight the realities of living in Stalinist Russia through an analysis of emotions. As medicinal historians, we appreciate the

importance of providing unique digital projects, alumni pep talks and voices of oppressed people. We invite you to visit these special features at www.calstatela.edu/centers/perspectives.

Volume 46 of *Perspectives* concludes with a selection of recently published book and film reviews. The reviews provide a platform for the voiceless across a wide range of subjects from Pan-African Patrice Lumumba, migrant workers in Brazil, and suffragists in the Gilded Age. We want to promote healing of social division and generate interest in stories of people long forgotten.