Editors' Note

Lessons of the past often produce a blueprint for the future. History, as a discipline and a concept, is just as much about looking back in time as it is about understanding the possibilities of what is to come. *Perspectives*, Cal State LA's award-winning journal of historical inquiry, provides a forum from which a new generation of scholars investigate historical precedence in search of a more hopeful future. The 2020s began with a once-in-a-century pandemic and wrought a world characterized by ongoing military conflicts, misinformation campaigns, and cultural, political, and socioeconomic stratification and polarization. In Volume 49, Cal State LA historians endeavor to commemorate history and its various actors while punctuating their importance in current events and the prospects of modern society.

The writing presented in *Perspectives*, Vol. 49 spans vast thematic and chronological ranges, reflecting the breadth of interests and passions among Golden Eagle historians. Among the articles selected for publication are economic, political, and ideological histories anchored by manifestations of resistance. These challenges to the status quo — institutional and otherwise — not only reframe ideas about labor dynamics and human agency, but also question what instruments of resistance are legitimized.

Volume 49 begins with Matthew Dominguez's exploration of the 1941 Disney Animator's Strike and its ripples across the animation industry. The journal then shifts its focus to Jerry Sisneros' exploration of interfamilial transnational networks among mid-century Mexican migrant workers. Overlapping geographically and temporally, Christopher Empett extends discussions of labor into broader economic and political contexts by examining New Deal-era Whittier, a growing Los Angeles suburb. Nicole Aros expands these contexts within Imperial Roman historiographies, furnishing detailed accounts of male and female prostitutes, as well as their navigations of agency and decency. Finally, Maria Ivy Esters intersects respectability with

intellectual and emotional labor, unpacking relationships between secular Black feminists and Black theologians as it pertains to liberation theology.

The 49th edition of *Perspectives* celebrates Cal State LA's seventy-five year anniversary as a trailblazing, student-centered institution. Various pastiches of this history were uncovered by Dr. Endy's Fall 2021 undergraduate research seminar (HIST 4900), and a synthesis of their findings are presented here in a feature titled "75 Years of Excellence." Nayedka Barreras recovers the obstacles and academic journey of non-traditional parent-students, while Katering Mejia Cardona conveys the development and integration of women's sports at Cal State LA. Further accentuating Cal State LA's resolute and forward-looking student body, John Marot narrates the nascent days of the school's Pan-African Studies Program. In the same vein, Harrison Lam explores the history of mid-century student activism on campus. This original research is visually complemented by online archival selections from Cal State LA's Special Collections.

Highlighting the diverse topical interests of the editorial staff, Volume 49's selection of historical book and film reviews span time and space while bucking historiographical trends. Some reviews focus on monographs and media covering the expanses of fifteenth century Western Siberia, intergenerational Indian and Pakistani communities, and the urban environs of Chicago. Others portray works with temporal scopes ranging from Middle Age Europe, Antebellum America, and late twentieth-century Norway. This selection continues to showcase monographs that endeavor to further voices of the historically marginalized, such as people of color and members of LGBTQIA+ communities.

This editorial team received more manuscripts than ever before, and to ensure that our students' research opportunities are not limited by the page count of our printed journal, this year's journal showcases additional scholarship presented in the virtual Love, Land, and Leisure Symposium on April 27, 2022. Punctuating Cal State LA's tradition of academic excellence and inclusiveness, this Zoom-mediated forum features a variety of

research interests: American feminist fashion in the twentieth century, non-hegemonic gender and sexuality activism in modern China, and California agriculture and mining.

Produced as part of Cal State LA's HIST 4970, the editing team of *Perspectives* strives for this edition to promote further critical interrogations of the past. In the lineage of previous iterations, we hope the original work presented in Vol. 49 inspires the intellectual endeavors of Cal State LA historians for many years to come.



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