

# Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

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Dear Readers,

It is with great enthusiasm that I present to you the spring edition of the *Chicago Journal of History*, our second ever. The high volume of exceptional submissions, coupled with an accelerated publication timeline, presented our staff with a substantial challenge. We surmounted this through the seamless collaboration of our newest members and seasoned editors alike. This spring, we explore the complex interplay of race, power, status, and the mind across different times and continents.

This edition's selected papers showcase a prized tenet of history: scale. From the inner psychology of John Adams to the pursuit of international recognition for an entire nation, the spring edition encapsulates this tenet well. I would like to thank our authors for their exemplary historical work that we are more than proud to feature.

We begin with Guillem Colom's examination of the Confederacy's implicit and explicit use of scientific racism to garner European support during the Civil War. We then journey to the early twentieth century with Ruyi Liu's exploration of China's quest for status and recognition as a budding nation in a rapidly developing world.

Simon Rosenbaum dives inside the mind of Adams and returns to surface with an extensive article on how his insecurities and relentlessness shaped his presidency and our perception today. Finally, Ollie Rourke takes us to the Mediterranean in order to examine the enslavement of the British by Barbary corsairs, challenging traditional narratives of race and slavery.

I would like to thank each and every member of our staff, who worked tirelessly to ensure the successful operation of the Journal. I extend a very special recognition to Professor Peggy Heffington, who has supported the *Chicago Journal of History* in countless ways. Her enthusiasm and dedication, among all her innumerable responsibilities, is integral to the health of the Journal. For that, we cannot thank her enough.

On behalf of the entire organization, we thank

you for reading and truly hope you enjoy. We look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

Sincerely,  
Jack Sanders

Editor-in-Chief, *Chicago Journal of History*