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Contingent Horizons is an annual open-access, peer-reviewed student journal published by the department of anthropology at York University, Toronto, Canada. The journal provides a platform for graduate and undergraduate students of anthropology to publish their outstanding scholarly work in a peer-reviewed academic forum. Contingent Horizons is run by a student editorial collective and is guided by an ethos of social justice, which informs its functioning, structure, and policies. Contingent Horizons’ website provides open-access to the journal’s published articles.

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EDITORIAL COLLECTIVE  Parinaz Adib, Janita Van Dyk, Andrea Vitopoulos, Melanie Zhang

cover photo  Leo Rusty Johnson, courtesy of Christine cricri Bellerose
Have you heard the story of journey to the flames here’s a story of a journey kinda the same. [s]tarts along ways away in a mill iron ore smelters to steel hammered n forged hardened and strong transformed in to nails that’d be used to build houses and art that’s how r story ties in for the nails of steel r used to construct our man in black rock city that’s right Burningman.

About Contingent Horizons

Contingent Horizons is an annual open-access student journal whose editorial board is a collective composed solely of students. It aims to provide a platform for students of anthropology seeking to publish their outstanding scholarly work in a peer-reviewed academic forum.

Contingent Horizons is guided by an ethos of social justice, which informs its functioning, structure, and policies. It seeks to expand anthropological discussions by publishing students’ work and remaining open to a variety of alternative formats.

Contingent Horizons’ website is the keystone of the journal. Not only does it host published articles, but it also offers a safe space for respectful discussions that extend the life of scholarly materials and debates beyond publication.

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V   Acknowledgements

ARTICLES

1   A Critique of the ‘Paleo Diet’  |  BY ASHLEY REEVES
Broader Implications of a Socio-cultural Food Practice

7   Ethnographic Memories  |  BY MAXIME POLLERI
The Politics of Fieldwork

Neonatal Resuscitation [En]; La Réanimation Néonatale [Fr]

37  A Guide for Graduate Students  |  BY PRISCILLA MEDEIROS
Barriers to Conducting Qualitative Research Among Vulnerable Groups

53  Memories of the Herrin Massacre  |  BY CAROLINE ROBERTSON

69  The Nail in the Man’s Leg  |  BY CHRISTINE CRICRí BELLEROSE

87  “Man Eaters”  |  BY KENDALL ARTZ
The Myth of Wild Africa

103  From Nature to Nation  |  BY ALEXANDER MACNEIL
Shizen and the Development of the Japanese National Imagery
Contingent Horizons received and workshopped a large number of submissions from undergraduate and graduate students, diverse in anthropological topics and from across the globe for the publication of the third volume. As part of the journal’s ethos, and a continued commitment to a collective creative and learning experience with students, we worked to provide quality reviews and opportunities for authors who submitted their works. Our editorial collective included continuing members Parinaz Adib, Janita Van Dyk, and Andrea Vitopoulos and we welcomed our undergraduate editor Melanie Zhang to the collective.

The support and trust of the Department of Anthropology over the past four years has continuously provided a foundation for the labour and quality of reviewing, editing, and promotion of the journal. We would especially like to thank Professor Othon Alexandrakis, our faculty adviser, and Professor Natasha Myers for working with their students to encourage and strengthen their course papers for submission and publication in the third volume. The support and efforts of Professor David Murray, as the interim chair, and Professor Albert Schrauwers as the returning chair of the department, were invaluable for the production and publication of this volume, and we would like to extend our gratitude to them.

The extension of the publication of the third volume was due to a variety of struggles and contingencies: with two editors conducting and completing fieldwork abroad, another in law school, and a fourth preparing to complete her final year as an undergraduate student, our plans for publication were extended to compensate for our collective scattering across programs and geographies. We thank our peer reviewers and authors who have showed their continued support, patience, and interest in the journal and the editorial collective as we faced different challenges while working towards creating this volume.

It is thanks to student submissions that our journal publication from year-to-year has been made possible, and for that, we thank you. We look forward to working with students collaboratively to learn, grow, and publish volumes to come.

As we close another chapter with this volume’s publication, we pass on the tasks of continuing and reimagining Contingent Horizons to a new editorial collective of graduate and undergraduate students. We wish them success and prosperity in their future endeavours.