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## Contributors, Honorable Mentions, Back Cover

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## CONTRIBUTORS

**Steven Abell** is more or less from Red Lodge, MT, and has been writing poetry for 12 years. He is currently a senior, and will be attending graduate school this coming fall at UMass Amherst.

**Trisha Bartle** was born and raised in the Twin Cities, but she has called Missoula her home for the last decade. She found selecting her English/creative writing degree to be an easy decision.

**John Christenson** is a junior studying creative writing. He spends his weekends scaring birds.

**Amber Davis** is a senior in the English program and has had past work publish in *The Oval*. She writes raw and sound-rich poetry from human moments of realizations or memory.

**Hannah Fay** is a native Austinite who braved the snow to come study microbiology at UM.

**Elizabeth Griffin** is currently a senior and will be graduating this spring with a bachelor's degree in creative writing, Spanish, and English literature. While at UM Elizabeth has been president and co-founder of the UM Circus Club where she instructs aerial silks. She plans to pursue an MFA in poetry after she graduates.

**Maree Herron** is an English (Linguistics) and Russian major. She grew up in Spokane, Washington. She was an avid reader at an early age and became interested in the functions of language when she was young.

**Kelaiah Horat** is a sophomore of music performance on the violin. When she is not trapped in a practice room, Kelaiah enjoys creating visual art, baking, skiing, hiking, and walking her cat.

**Megan Jessop** is a senior majoring in English and literature. She was born and raised in the beautiful Bitterroot Valley of Montana and began writing poetry as a creative outlet when she was 13 years old.

**Lindsay Laird** is a third year student majoring in terrestrial wildlife biology. She also has an interest in creative writing and photography, specifically wildlife photography.

**Brad Lambert** is a 22-year old undergraduate at UM. His work has been previously published in Volume VIII of *The Oval* and Volume 66 of *Polaris Magazine* out of Ohio Northern University. As both a gay man and small-town boy, his poetry reexamines a love of the Old West against its many tribulations.

**Elizabeth Mays** grew up in Helena, MT, and when she came to Missoula to attend UM in 2013, she discovered a love for language, storytelling, and writing. An English teaching and creative writing major, Elizabeth enjoys writing, mainly poetry, and has recently been entranced with Sharon Olds.

**Dylan McCarthy** is an amateur photographer from Helena. His photograph, "Baths," was taken on his travels in Southeast Asia.

**Kailyn Mercer** is a junior studying literature and creative writing. She enjoys hiking, playing with her three dogs and lying about her hobbies to make herself seem cooler and more outdoorsy. She doesn't currently, nor will she ever, understand the Oxford comma and considers this to be her biggest flaw.

**Andrea Morawic** is a third year art education major.

**Emily Morrison** is a sophomore studying English education and creative writing. She grew up in Florence, MT, and proudly participates in the Global Leadership Initiative and the UM Advocates on campus. Emily's hobbies include hiking, birding, and having conversations with her golden retrievers.

**Cassandra Sevigny** is an economics student with a love for recognizing the world spun into small details, and a love for transcribing those details and their meaning into human language. She also enjoys swimming and experiencing nature.

**Jenny-lin Smith** loves literature, writing non-fiction essays, and traveling.

**Savannah Stewart** is an aspiring photographer and wildlife biologist from California. With the Sierra Nevadas as her backyard, she developed a passion for all things wild and beautiful. Savannah hopes

her devotion to art and science will lead to a career in which she can enjoy both.

**Lucy Torgrimson** is a senior majoring in English with a minor in German. She loves to draw in her spare time. Her favorite things to draw are portraits of people and animals.

**Claire Venery** is an undergraduate student majoring in English.

**Juliette Viera** is a student at the University of Montana.

**Anna Weishaar** was born and raised in Missoula, MT, and is a lover of writing fiction. She is a creative writing major and film minor.

## HONORABLE MENTIONS

The Oval would like to acknowledge the winners of this year's Honorable Mentions, whose pieces will be uploaded to the blog following the release of Volume X. Visit [www.umoval.wordpress.com](http://www.umoval.wordpress.com) to read more poetry and prose and to view more visual art from University of Montana undergraduates.

**BALLET** by Hannah Fay • Visual Art  
**CLARA VENUS** by Ava Johnson • Poetry  
**FORAISE** by Juliette Viera • Visual Art  
**MONUMENT** by Steven Abell • Poetry  
**NOTHING GOLD CAN STAY** by Megan Jessop • Visual Art  
**SILENT SOUNDS** by Samuel Forstag • Fiction  
**TO THE MOON AND BACK** by Cheyenne Goetz • Fiction  
**WOLF WITH WINGS** by John Hooks • Fiction

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COVER ART

LINDSAY LAIRD, "AQUARIUM"

THE OVAL