

# The Oval

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## Contributors, Back Cover

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## CONTRIBUTORS

This edition of *The Oval* is entirely comprised of works from board members of Vol. XV of *The Oval*.

**KATE ALEXANDER** is Missoula's leading expert on Scientology, and she'll write that book about it one day. When she's not drowning herself in research at the Mansfield Library, you'll find her wandering aimlessly through town listening to the Mountain Goats.

**NANCY BESTON** is a sophomore journalism student at the University of Montana. They have worked for the Montana Kaimin and now have been on The Oval Literary Magazine staff as a designer, visual arts editor, and nonfiction editor.

**MAZANA BOERBOOM** is a graduating senior in the Journalism School. She's spent most of her college career writing newsy pieces, but her passion and roots will always be in fantastical tales and creative works. Mazana has been an editor at the student-run newspaper, the Montana Kaimin, and the journalism school's award-winning magazine, *Byline*, so clearly the Oval was her next step. Mazana loves travel, books, Dungeons and Dragons, puppies, chocolate, and all things art and nature.

**BRICE CURRY** is a junior at The University of Montana studying English literature, media arts, and journalism. She enjoys reading, writing, and making art. She focuses on photography, collage, and vector art. She calls her work a blend of real-life and fantasy

**ABBY DOSS** is a third-year student at UM majoring in Creative Writing and French. She writes poetry and fiction pieces, and she will be studying abroad in the fall. Abby loves animals and is always excited about how many animal-related events occur on campus.

**KATHRYN GUSTAFSON** was born in Minot, ND, and currently attends the University of Montana at Missoula. She previously lived

in various Colorado towns, including two stints in Boulder, CO before moving to Missoula in 2017. She remains an avid hockey fan and video game enthusiast, all of which officially remains research for the next story...

**ANDREA HALLAND** is a senior studying journalism and English literature. Her favorite activities include reading with her cat and hiking with her dog. She is the nonfiction editor for *The Oval* this semester as well as copy chief and digital editor of the *Montana Kaimin*, UM's student-run newspaper. Her dream is to go into editing, either of news or literature so that she can get paid to read.

**ZOE HARRISON** is a pastry chef who enjoys dabbling in creative writing. She is pursuing a dual Communications and English major.

**ELIZABETH HEWEY** (she/her) is studying Anthropology, Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and Sustainable Food and Agricultural. She finds that land interacts with her poetry in personal ways. Loving ecopoetry and the relationship between humans and nature. You'll find her jumping into the rivers of Montana whenever she can.

**ABIGAIL HOGAN** is a Senior at the University of Montana graduating with a BFA in creative writing. They love writing young adult fiction and poetry, tea, and the wild.

**MCKENNA JOHNSON** is a sophomore French and journalism student who most recently hails from Boise, Idaho. She is a daydreamer, dancer, undefeated jujitsu wrestler, and aspiring globetrotter. McKenna loves anything printed she can hold in her hand, and has designed a host of print publications for the UM J-School. She was also the design and layout editor for the lovely Vol. XV of *The Oval* and this staff edition.

**CHRISTOPHER KUNDA** is a graduating senior at the University of Montana who is currently working on writing novels. He enjoys manga, video games and the fine arts.

**ALICIA MCALPINE** is a graduating senior in journalism, and she still somewhat regrets not doing a creative writing minor. She worked on nonfiction board of *The Oval* in 2020, which was an overall positive experience despite the pandemic. You can often find her singing random songs, reading or writing fanfiction, and using Oxford commas (at least when she isn't copy editing the *Kaimin*).

**SKYLER MCDANEL** is an undergraduate majoring in Creative writing and Business management. He plans on releasing a trilogy of novels. Often a rare sight can most likely be seen with his head down between a book or at a table playing a board game with friends or family.

**MELISSA PAULSEN** is a graduating senior in the BFA program for creative writing and she minors in history. When she isn't leading *The Oval* or writing fiction, you can find her cheering on the Pittsburgh Steelers, immersing herself in a new novel from her colossal "to-read" pile, or playing Nintendo Switch with her friends.

**CASS SISSEL** is a senior studying English and Studio Art. She has aspirations to become an editor, and work with language for a living. When she was grounded in high school it was from reading, and she considers her happy place to be anywhere under the stars next to a nice tree.

**JADE TAYLOR** is a writer and musician from eastern Montana. Her music, which she co-writes with her brother, won the Emerging Artist Award at the Red Ants Pants music festival in 2019. She is currently studying English and Creative Writing at the University of Montana.

**ORIANNA ZEISS** is an undergraduate junior majoring in Creative Writing at the University of Montana. She intends to publish several fantasy series and hopefully become a best-selling novelist. When she's not writing, she's reading, drawing, painting, sewing, and basically trying to do everything in her power to stave off boredom and exercise her imagination.

