

Letter from the Editors

In every issue since its inception in 1972, *genesis* has provided a window into the minds and hearts of its contributors. Flipping through its pages gives insight into what IUPUI students are thinking about, what is angering or exciting them, and what gives them hope.

This semester, we sent out a special call for submissions across the U.S.—a first for *genesis*—in search of writing and art inspired by the work of Ray Bradbury, the prolific American Midwestern-born author whose books such as *Fahrenheit 451* and *The Martian Chronicles* have captivated the imagination of people throughout the world. Bradbury’s work contains key elements that are relevant now more than ever: exploration of what we do not yet understand in the universe, pursuit of life’s wonders, advocacy for intellectual and creative freedom, and an overall love for the written word.

Appropriately enough for this special issue, the work in this collection (both from students and from contributors across the U.S.) also shares in this fascination with what it means to be human and to inhabit this world while also dreaming of other worlds. In Bradbury’s book *Zen in the Art of Writing*, he wrote, “We are cups, constantly and quietly being filled. The trick is knowing how to tip ourselves over and let the beautiful stuff out.” This collection of work reflects this idea. We each contain multitudes. We are filled with grief, anger, the desire to know the truth shielded from us, the love of those gone too soon, and questions about aging and how it affects our identity, self-image, and relationships with those closest to us. Out of that complex fullness, life spills over—terrible and wonderful—and gives way to something remarkable.

We would like to give special thanks to the Ray Bradbury Center team for collaborating with us on this project. We are so grateful for everyone who made this issue possible, from our staff to our faculty advisor, Sarah Layden, to the writers and artists who poured themselves out onto these pages. These contributors have all let some beautiful things out. We are honored to be the ones who collect and present them to you.

Shannon Kucaj and Monica Simmons

Managing Editors