

EDITORS' NOTE

It is with great excitement that we present the Golden 50th Anniversary edition of *Brushing Art & Literary Journal*. Not only does this mark an incredible milestone for our publication, but for our Rollins community as well. From the very start of production, the amount of involvement and demonstrated interest in this year's edition has shattered previous years, from those wanting to serve on the staff to those who submitted. We thank you, truly, for your investment in preserving such an important artifact of our liberal arts institution. Your support allows us to thrive as a distinctive and inspired space for student creativity.

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary, we have included a special “throwback” insert halfway through the journal. It features reprinted literary works from notable Rollins alumnae as well as a selection of cover designs from the past five decades. Words cannot express how honored we are to contribute to such an important legacy.

As you make your way through the journal, we encourage you to take the time to read the personal statements that accompany each story, poem, and work of art. Some are traditional biographies, while others read like memoirs. Regardless, this is a special opportunity to engage in a conversation with some of the creative minds of our Rollins community. Without them, *Brushing* would not exist.

Our hope is that you can find something in this journal that you connect with. Perhaps it will inspire you to produce something of your own. *Brushing* is committed to diverse creators and content, and we'd love to hear your story.

Before we send you off, we have to thank our dedicated staff of Readers and Copy Editors, as well as our Art Editor, who all put in a tremendous amount of work to finely curate and polish the pieces included in this year's publication. Thank you to our Head Designers, Jaianne and Dassika Gilkey, for bringing the 50th to life and elevating *Brushing* to a new aesthetic level. Lastly, thank you to Greg Golden and Victoria Brown for your expertise, guidance, and commitment to the success of *Brushing*.

Cheers to 50 years, and here's to many more!

All the best,

Siobhan Cooney & Sara Mehdinia

Co-Editors-in-Chief