

Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art, Issue 57

Call for Submissions

An Invitation to Incarcerated Writers



The cover of *Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art* Issue 56.

About

Columbia Journal was founded in 1977 by students in the [Columbia University School of the Arts Graduate Writing program](#). Since then, we've featured work from Nobel laureates and unknowns, National Book Award winners and newcomers. Our [past issues](#) have included writers such as Raymond Carver, Lorrie Moore, Kara Walker, Mary Karr, and Joyce Carol Oates.

Today, *Columbia Journal* publishes both in print and online, columbiajournal.org, seeking to showcase the best poetry, nonfiction, fiction, translation and visual art on both platforms. The print edition, published each spring, is a combination of solicited work and the best of the submissions we've received—including the winners of our annual winter contest. Online, you'll find reviews and interviews with writers and artists, as well as the same caliber of original, vibrantly creative work that the print edition is known for.

The print edition of *Columbia Journal* Issue 57 will be released Spring 2019.

The Leadership Staff

Adrian Perez	Editor-in-Chief
Jacquelyn Gallo	Print Managing Editor
Kiley Bense	Online Managing Editor
Christopher Williams	Operations Manager
Chelsea S. Roberts	Community Outreach Manager

If you wish to contact a member of the Issue 57 leadership staff, please email columbiajournalleadership@columbia.edu or write us at the following address:

Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art
415 Dodge Hall
Mail Code 1804
2960 Broadway
New York, NY 10027

Columbia Journal's

Community Outreach Program

Columbia Journal's Community Outreach Program aims to maintain and sustain space for those writers from vulnerable and at-risk communities who have traditionally been excluded from the larger literary discussion of art, taste, and scholarship. The outreach program actively questions and challenges our formal thinking about what we consider "good writing", who we consider "serious writers", and whose stories we read in literary magazines.

The Community Outreach Program's

Incarcerated Writers Initiative (IWI)

History and Mission

The Incarcerated Writers Initiative encourages incarcerated writers to submit their work to the *Columbia Journal* for publication. This population has been traditionally overlooked, undervalued, and pushed to the margins. We believe the inclusion of their literary voices will enlarge and ultimately strengthen the artistic and scholarly community. Entries in Poetry, Fiction, and Nonfiction that are selected by the *Journal's* editors will be considered for publication in the print journal, online at columbiajournal.org, and entered in the annual Winter Contest. Every writer will receive personalized feedback about how to develop their work.

The Incarcerated Writers Initiative was started in 2016 by Heather Radke at the *Columbia Journal* as a way to open the student publishing platform to writers in prisons across the United States. And in 2017, the Columbia Artist/Teachers (CA/T) program began developing creative-writing-based instruction by Columbia teaching artists in prisons and jails around the New York City area; currently this includes writing workshops at Rikers Island. CA/T and the *Columbia Journal* also work in collaboration with other Columbia University prison arts, justice, and education programs, including Heyman Center for the Humanities, the Justice-in-Education initiative and the Center for Justice at Columbia University.

Led by students and overseen by faculty advisors, the Incarcerated Writers Initiative is committed to supporting writers from all walks of life, and the work that comes out of the Initiative reminds teachers and readers that the written word serves its highest cause as a testament to our shared humanity.

Call for Submissions from Incarcerated Writers

As part of a commitment to bring underrepresented voices into the public sphere, the *Columbia Journal* would like to extend a special invitation to incarcerated writers to submit their writing. Writers may submit work by mail at no fee.

Submissions open **August 15th**, and close **November 15th, 2018** (postmark deadline).

We accept submissions in the following categories: **Fiction** (up to 5,000 words), **Nonfiction** (up to 5,000 words), and **Poetry** (up to 5 pages).

Writers can choose to submit their writing for general print publication, general online publication, and/or for consideration in our Winter Contest. Contest winners win a cash prize and will be published in the print *Journal*. Selected works will be published in print or online.

Submission Guidelines

You must include a Cover Sheet for your submission, including:

- 1) **Your full name**
- 2) **Genre(s)**
- 3) **General Submission and/or Winter Contest**
- 4) **Primary Return address and Alternative Return Address**
- 5) **One Paragraph Introduction**

If possible, please submit all work in the same envelope on standard size 8.5 x 11" paper. All work must be previously unpublished. Please note that only one submission per genre is accepted for review. The *Columbia Journal* cannot return manuscripts. Do not send originals. Writers should send physical copies of their work to:

Chelsea S. Roberts - Community Outreach Manager
Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art
415 Dodge Hall
Mail Code 1804
2960 Broadway
New York, NY 10027

By submitting, you give *Columbia Journal* permission to publish your work in print or online. Email Community Outreach Manager, Chelsea S. Roberts (cjcommunityoutreach@columbia.edu) with any questions you may have or write her a letter at the address above. All submissions will receive a response from the *Columbia Journal*.

We look forward to reading your work!

Submission Cover Sheet

Name _____

Genre(s) Fiction Nonfiction Poetry

I would like this submission to be considered for the following (*check all that apply*):

General Submission for Print

General Submission for Online

Winter Contest

Primary Return Address

Alternative Return Address

Please include both a primary address and an alternative address so that we can ensure you receive a response from our Community Outreach Team.

Brief Introduction
