

Acknowledgments

We are pleased once again to introduce *Prized Writing*, an anthology of prize-winning student essays that celebrates its fifth birthday with this issue. The competition received almost 200 submissions this year, including essays written for both general education and composition courses. Topics ranged from bowling balls to break dancing, from Renaissance painting to postmodernism. To ensure impartiality each entry was coded by number rather than author's name; all of the entries were read by at least two different readers. Readers neither knew the author's name nor the course or instructor for whom the paper was written. This year's readers included Mardena Creek, Pam Demory, Margaret Eldred, Jan Goggans, Jared Haynes, Donald Johns, Jim McElroy, Pamela Major, Nancy Morrow, Susan Palo, John Stenzel, David Stevenson, and Jayne Walker. *Prized Writing* thanks each of them for contributing their time and expertise.

We are again very impressed with the fine writing of UCD students. The following students have been awarded honorable mention by the judges: Pavinderjit Singh Athwal ("Learned Love" and "Shadows"), Bradley R. Bennett ("World War II from My Grandfather's Eyes"), Bradley Bursch ("Handle with Care"), Andrew J. Flores ("Computers: Hip Enough for Orthopaedics?"), Antonio P. Garcia, Jr. ("The Reactive Resin Bowling Ball: Is It Hurting the Game?"), Denise Greene ("What the Heck Is Necrophilia Anyway?"), Jennifer James ("Emotion vs. Logic"), Christopher Lum ("American Heart"), Thao T. Nguyen ("The Mud House"), Philip Pogledich ("Why Not Harvest Old-Growth Forests?"), Richard Sault ("No Jeans Allowed"), Shirley Sperry ("Everything Must Go"), Rourke Stacy ("Generation X and Treatment of the Elderly"), Julie Tilson, ("An Argument against Absurdity"), and Bill Walters ("Break Dancing Goes Full Circle").

We also want to single out the work of Amy White for special recognition. Amy accomplished a feat unparalleled in the five-year history of *Prized Writing*: she placed five essays, each written for a different class, in the final round of judging. We are pleased to be publishing "Contradiction as Contra-Diction," which she wrote for American Studies 1A. Her other four essays, each of which was awarded an honorable mention, are "Guys Don't Make Passes" (Sociology 2), "A 'Chick-Flick' without Chicks" (American Studies 130), "Hello, My Name Is . . . And I'm an Authority Addict" (Education 120), and "Unequal Opportunity: It's Not Your Turn to Laugh" (English 103C).

We would like to thank the Office of the Provost for once again funding the competition and the publication. Bill Sleuter again assisted with the production of *Prized Writing*, for which we are grateful. Former UCD student Katherine P. Rodriguez designed this year's cover. And, as usual, thanks to Sharen Chaffin for everything she does: cataloguing the submissions, writing to the entrants, balancing the books, and planning the reception!

Prized Writing extends a special thanks to editors Marlene Clarke, Kathy Dixon, and Eric Schroeder, who, after five years' work on *PR*, are bidding a fond adieu to their stepchild.

John Boe Marlene Clarke Kathy Dixon Sondra Reid Eric Schroeder
