Dear Butler students, faculty, and community members,

The Mall staff are proud to present this new edition filled with the wonderful writing of many 2017-18 first year students. During the spring 2018 semester, students from many different first year seminar classes offered at Butler submitted their writing to the journal. As a staff, we read through each submission, and it was a challenge to choose just a handful of pieces to publish. Every author who submitted work, published or not, added to an incredibly unique blend of passions, perspectives, and voices with their writing. It was an honor to read them all.

The wide range of submissions we received is evidence that our class of 2021—and our university, too—is full of encouragingly courageous, tenacious, supportive, dedicated, and caring people. People capable of greatness, of making change happen in our world. As Editors-in-Chief of this year’s Mall, Wade and I would like to thank each one of you who submitted your work. Your vulnerability in sharing your writing with us showcased the remarkably strong minds on campus here at Butler University. It proved that each one of you is striving to better yourselves, and in the process, you are making each person around you stronger as well. We loved reading your work and regret that we could only choose a small number of pieces for the final edition. Thank you for allowing us a glimpse into your lives, for sharing a bit of your pain and your bravery, your loss and regret. And most of all, thank you for sharing your joy and success.

We can’t wait for you to read the wonderful pieces authors from the Butler University class of 2021 have allowed us to share with you, and we hope you enjoy this 2017-18 edition of The Mall.

Lindsay Marohn and Wade Townsend
The Mall Editors-in-Chief, fall 2018
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