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Meet Our Contributors

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Meet Our Contributors

Brett A. Cotter '19

Brett A. Cotter is a junior History and Music double major from Sterling, Massachusetts, with a History thematic concentration in Resistance, Revolution, and Reaction. In addition to conducting historical research as part of the Charles Weiss Summer Research Program in 2017, he has also been a cellist in the Holy Cross Chamber Orchestra for his entire college career. An avid history lover from a young age, Brett studies history in the belief that through a thorough analysis of the past we can come to an understanding of our place in the present.

Michael T. DeSantis '18

Michael T. DeSantis is the founding Editor-In-Chief of *Of Life and History*. He is a History and Sociology double major from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Within the History major, Michael concentrates in Resistance, Revolution, and Reaction and just finished writing a senior honors thesis about the effects of deindustrialization on conceptions of individual and communal identity in Worcester, Massachusetts. During his time at Holy Cross, Michael has explored his passion for studying the history of American society through the American Antiquarian Society, the Digital Transgender Archive, and the Holy Cross Summer Research Program. Outside the classroom, Michael has worked to assist first-year students in their transition to college as both an Orientation Leader and as a Resident Assistant. Combining his passion for social justice and living in community with other people, Michael has also participated in the Haiti International Immersion Program and the Spring Break Immersion Program.

Catherine B. Griffin '18

Catherine B. Griffin is a graduating senior at Holy Cross from Cohasset, Massachusetts. She is a history major—concentrating in Resistance, Revolution, and Reaction—with a French minor, and a concentration in Peace and Conflict Studies. Catherine studied abroad in the Fall of 2016 in Strasbourg, France, which inspired her to pursue her capstone research on the Alsace region. Her motivation to study history stemmed from courses she took with Fr. Anthony Kuzniewski during her freshman and sophomore years. While at Holy Cross, she was very involved and participated in many different activities, some of which include: domestic and international immersion trips, fall orientation, and media relations intern in the Athletics Department.

Ada Liu '20

Yuwei “Ada” Liu (刘雨微) is a sophomore international student from Beijing, China.

She is a Studio Art minor, and History major whose history concentration will be either War and Memory or Resistance, Revolution, and Reaction. She is also a member of the College Honors Program and will spend her junior year studying at the University of Melbourne in Australia. Ada is always surprised by the empathy she establishes with historical figures or with historical art and artifacts. She says that that she chooses to study history because it helps her to not only understand the human society but also to figure out her personal and social identity through different life stages.

Campbell Loeber '18

Campbell Loeber is a History and Philosophy double major in the Class of 2018. On campus, she has been involved in a variety of activities ranging from varsity athletics to Gateways Orientation to the Spring Break Immersion program. Following her freshman year, she was invited to the interdisciplinary Charles Carroll Fellowship Program and has since been inducted to both the Phi Alpha Theta and Phi Sigma Tau international honors societies. As an upperclassman, she has enjoyed working with students in a number of majors as a consultant at the Writer's Workshop and coordinating a staff of tour guides with the Admissions Office. She has also had the pleasure of presenting her research at the annual North Eastern Writing Center Conference in both 2017 and 2018 (with the help of an Ignite Fund Grant). Though Campbell recently completed an honors thesis in philosophy, history was her first academic love, dating back to a middle school class that explored the history behind Billy Joel's hit "We Didn't Start the Fire." She is exceedingly excited to have been able to participate in this historic issue of *Of Life and History* as both a contributor and an editor.

Dimitri Savidis '18

Dimitri Savidis is from Worcester, Massachusetts, and is a member of the Class of 2018. He majors in Economics and History at the College of the Holy Cross. His thematic concentration is Resistance, Revolution, and Reaction, and he has a passion for Ottoman history and the emergence of national identities within the Ottoman Empire. In addition to his studies on Ottoman Palestine, his research interests also include the development of national identities of various ethnic groups on the Anatolian coast of the Black Sea in the early twentieth century.

Emma Catherine Scally '18

Emma Catherine Scally is a senior History major and Russian and Eastern European Studies minor. Emma has plans to work at an investment firm in Boston after graduation but will always continue her love for Russian and Cold War history as a side hobby.

Edward T. O'Donnell '86

Edward T. O'Donnell is an Associate Professor of History at the College of the Holy Cross. Professor O'Donnell is the author of several books including *Henry George and the Crisis of Inequality: Progress and Poverty in the Gilded Age America* (Columbia University Press, 2015), *Ship Ablaze: The Tragedy of the Steamboat General Slocum* (Random House/Broadway Books, May 2003), and *1001 Things Everyone Should Know About Irish American History* (Random House/Broadway Books, 2002). He is also an active public historian who has delivered history-themed presentations before thousands of educational, business, non-profit organizations and who has provided historical insight and commentary for programs airing on PBS, the History Channel, the Discovery Channel, C-Span, ABC World News Now, NPR, the BBC, and Bloomberg Radio, among others. Since 2016, he has helped spread his passion for and knowledge of American history through his podcast *In the Past Lane*.