

# Parnassus: Classical Journal

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## Editor's Note (Parnassus, vol.8)

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Dear Reader,

Another academic year has come and gone, which can only mean one thing: another issue of *Parnassus* (obviously)!

What a joy it is to bring this issue of *Parnassus* to all of you. It goes without saying that the past year and a half has been anything but normal due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students and faculty alike have had to overcome such strenuous obstacles such as navigating the new online format of classes, escaping screen time fatigue perpetuated by incessant, back to back meetings, and figuring out the mute function on Zoom. The past academic year has had its share of highs and lows, but I think it is safe to say that the Holy Cross community has only come out stronger in the face of all this adversity. Many of us were able to return to campus this spring for an albeit restricted semester, but, even so, we all made the most of it while staying safe. We have also remained connected to one another, utilizing the platforms meant for classes to facilitate calls and virtual hangouts with friends. Togetherness is more important now than ever, and I have a good feeling that this upcoming year will allow for that in the best ways possible.

The Holy Cross Classics Department has had an especially wonderful year. We were overjoyed to have one of our own senior Bean Scholars, Maia Lee-Chin '21, chosen as the 2020-2021 Fenwick Scholar. She shared her year's work with the entire school at the end of the spring semester, and we all could not be more proud. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, several students were still able to travel abroad in the spring, making memories that will last them a lifetime. We hosted the annual Homerathon in person on the Hoval and were visited by the spirit of Homer himself in the form of a pigeon who kept begging our readers and volunteers for food. Additionally, the college announced back in April the creation of the Billy Collins '63 Scholarship for Studies in Classics. According to a statement put out by Holy Cross, "Two scholarships will be awarded annually to current students who have demonstrated a commitment to major in Classics and also show financial need." This gift from Mr. Collins speaks volumes to the effects of our Classics Department, the largest and most active Classics program in the U.S. I am extremely hopeful that these new scholarships, along with all the other achievements made by the department as a whole, will provide sufficient incentive for new majors to join our Classics family at Holy Cross.

This issue of *Parnassus* consists of an extremely diverse array of submissions. We have some beautiful art pieces depicting the often violent relationships between gods and humans. We also have some excellent papers on the *Aeneid*, highlighting a variety of characters such as Dido, Lavina, and, of course, Aeneas himself. We also have essays on topics that are not solely "Classical," such as musical history and Dutch art. Poems and creative pieces also pepper our eighth issue, as our talented contributors have provided interesting translations of poets like

Horace, Sappho, and Catullus. All in all, this volume of *Parnassus* is filled to the brim with strong wiring and creativity, and I am excited for you to experience it for yourself.

Due to the craziness of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are bringing *Parnassus* to you all a little later than usual. Our Editor-in-Chief, William Brown '21, has graduated, and, since the journal was incomplete at the time of his graduation, *Parnassus*' fate was up in the air for a while. I am very thankful to Professors Aaron Seider and Timothy Joseph for their help in wrapping up and finalizing the journal. Additionally, many thanks to our editorial board for selecting and editing the pieces included in this issue. Finally, I am also deeply indebted to Paul Topazio '23, since this journal, from the front cover to the layout of each page, would simply not exist without him. The two of us have worked so hard this summer to bring this journal to you all and to do our great submissions authors justice. After all, verba volant, scripta manent (spoken words fly away, written words remain).

I hope that you enjoy reading as much as I have.

Until next year!  
Stacey Kaliabakos '23  
Associate Editor