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Editors' Note (Parnassus, vol.9)

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Dear Reader,

Classics is often regarded as a niche and inaccessible field in the world of academia. Not many students nowadays are exposed to Latin or Greek before college and, even if they are, it is rare that they will continue studying these languages in depth later on. However, institutions all over the world, including here at Holy Cross, are beginning to address this problem. Our Classics Department, one of the most robust in the country, has put a lot of effort in recent years into making Classics an open field that any student of any major could be a part of. Our courses attract students of all different backgrounds: Alexander the Great in Asia provides a unique opportunity for history buffs to learn more about the greatest military leader in human history; Refugees in Ancient Myth and Today attracts those inspired by current events and refugee crises; Discerning God and Discovering Self enables students to pursue their passion for self-reflection and spirituality. With this very journal, we strive to exemplify the importance of accessibility and inclusion in Classics. Not only do we attempt to feature pieces that would be appealing to students of various disciplines, but we as editors serve as ambassadors of our mission: one of us is a Classics major, and the other is an English major. Yet, our shared interests are what have brought us here— and what has brought you this issue of *Parnassus*.

The ninth issue of *Parnassus* includes a vast array of submissions. We are proud to present a collection that we believe represents the best that Holy Cross has to offer. From pieces that stick to the “classics” such as Plato and Herodotus to those that venture into the modern day, discussing gender, social media, and even space, the authors of *Parnassus* volume IX have brought their interests to the table in an elevated and compelling fashion. We also have included a Spotify playlist inspired by Classical mythology, specifically the story of Penelope in the *Odyssey*. This is the first time we have had a submission of this kind and we hope to integrate new and creative projects like it in future issues.

We would like to thank Professors Aaron Seider and Timothy Joseph, who were both instrumental in helping us stay on top of our deadlines and provided us with endless encouragement in the development of this issue. Additionally, we are grateful to the Graphic Arts Department, Lisa Villa '90, and all the students who took time out of their busy schedules to submit, edit, and make the ninth edition of *Parnassus* possible. Fruere!

Happy reading!

Stacey Kaliabakos '23 and Paul Topazio '23

Co-Editors-in-Chief