New Errands



Volume 2, Issue 2 March 2015

Welcome to New Errands!

The Eastern American Studies Association and the American Studies Program at Penn State Harrisburg are pleased to present this issue of *New Errands*, an online journal that publishes exemplary American Studies work by undergraduate students.

Seeking to develop the next generation of Americanists, *New Errands*' mission is both to provide a venue for the publication of important original scholarship by emerging young scholars and to provide a teaching resource for instructors of American Studies looking for exemplary work to use in the classroom.

New Errands will be published semi-annually, after the end of each academic semester. The goal of this timetable will be to collect and publish essays produced during the previous term, so that they can be made available as quickly as possible for use in the following term. We encourage both self-submission by undergraduate students and nominated submissions by instructional faculty. They must have an American focus, but can employ a variety of disciplinary methods. Submissions can be emailed as Word documents to newerrandsjournal@gmail.com.

Essays can be of any length, but they must have a research focus. Any visual images should be placed at the end of the manuscript, and tags should be placed in the text to indicate the intended placement of each image. Manuscripts should conform to MLA guidelines.

Papers found in this volume were submitted for the spring 2015 issue of the journal.

New Errands Staff:
Managing Editor—Tiffany Weaver
Layout Editor—Tiffany Weaver

For further information about the Eastern American Studies Association, including the annual undergraduate roundtable and the EASA undergraduate honors society, please visit: http://harrisburg.psu.edu/eastern-american-studies-association.

A Message from the Editor—

We at *New Errands* are proud to present the outstanding papers for the spring issue of *New Errands*. These papers have been selected because they represent exemplary undergraduate research and demonstrate an appreciation for and critical understanding of American culture. Topics in this issue range from the Vietnam War, to beauty, to opera in the 20th century and demonstrate the diverse research interests of American Studies students.

Encouraging undergraduate study and research of American culture and society is our goal at *New Errands*. By recognizing and publishing the exceptional work of undergraduate students, we are able to meet this goal. Our hope is to inspire a new generation of American Studies scholars and provide a forum to share their work.

We look forward to continuing this tradition in the years to come.

Tiffany Weaver

Table of Contents

Opera in 20th Century America: Overcoming the Racialization of Sound Esther Adams, Barnard College

Is Beauty a Promise to Happiness?
Brook Chervenic, Miami University

Archaeology and Cultural Lineage in *Of One Blood* Elizabeth Dresser-Kluchman, Barnard College

Clifford Case:

The Unknown Maverick of the Vietnam War Dmitrijs Dubinins, Rutgers University

Disrupting and Reimagining the Workplace through Casual Fridays Cassandra Reed, Penn State Harrisburg

Cracked Out and Plugged In: America's Emerging Culture of Addiction Jake Stern, Rutgers University