

# *New Errands*



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**Welcome to New Errands!**

The Eastern American Studies Association and the American Studies Program at Penn State Harrisburg are pleased to present the fifth 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](mailto: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 presented at the Undergraduate Roundtable of the Eastern American Studies Association Annual Conference in March of 2015.

**New Errands Staff:**

**Supervising Editor**– Anthony Bak Buccitelli

**Co-managing Editors**– Brittany Clark and Caitlin Black

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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 Editors—

As is tradition, the essays in the fall edition of *New Errands* come from the Undergraduate Roundtable at the 2018 Eastern American Studies Association Conference. These essays demonstrate both the range of methodologies and quality of scholarship attainable by exceptional undergraduate students. During the 2018 Roundtable, Bailey McCarthy was the winner of the Francis Ryan Award and Peter Fedoryk received the Louise Stevenson Award. The essays presented here look at topics including public reception of the film *Frozen*, trench art during World War I, Civil War advertisements, Superman as a World War II propaganda figure, German immigration in Philadelphia, and women's rights movements.

Key themes tie these essays together. First, several consider the role of art in understanding American culture, particularly during periods of major conflict. Others touch on issues of race and ethnicity, considering how gender and ethnicity have been understood in American culture. Finally, all of these essays take an interdisciplinary approach to their respective topics, highlighting the fruitfulness of an American Studies approach to scholarship. Together, these essays reflect the richness and diversity of American Studies scholarship at all levels and show great potential for the future of American Studies scholarship.

It is the goal of *New Errands* to encourage and promote undergraduate research into issues of American culture and society. The essays included here both meet that goal and offer useful models for others seeking to conduct successful undergraduate research and writing on American Studies topics.

We hope you enjoy reading these essays as much as we have.

Caitlin Black and Brittany Clark

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