

A Letter from the Editorial Leadership Team

Dear *Reflections* Community,

We write to you during a horrific time amidst another horrific time for us all, and especially for those most closely impacted. In a world that is continuing to navigate the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic in which the existence of multiple health and health care disparities and inequities are now undeniable, we are also witnessing - and grappling with in profound and deeply personal ways - the realities of structural violence and racist injustices perpetuated throughout history. The casualties are measured in human lives and liberties, and the impacts are devastating.

As *Reflections* publishes a second issue on cultural humility, we applaud the work of our Guest Editors and authors for continuing this conversation while recognizing that there remains much more work to be done. It is in these times that the opportunity for reflection and the power of narrative writing can be a gift, and the focus on cultural humility in this issue is particularly meaningful.

Like you, we are touched by the heroic efforts of countless people who put others ahead of their own safety and tirelessly offer care and comfort. We are inspired by those who advocate for our most vulnerable, for those whose voices are marginalized, and for those who have been systematically and historically oppressed. And we stand in solidarity with those who are taking a stand to demand equity for themselves, their families, and their communities. For us, Black Lives Matter is more than a saying...It is a rallying for intentional action!

We at *Reflections* remain steadfast in our Calls for Narratives that elucidate what can be taught and learned and enacted for the betterment of humankind, especially in the midst of a global “reckoning” in many ways. We deeply appreciate the Calls that other journals have now been issuing to write reflections about these experiences as well. We remain committed to the power of stories to connect our hearts and minds as we seek to reach-out, connect, and move forward. Our goal is that others will soon join us in lifting “voices in narrative” so that we all can benefit from even more insights and wisdom.

As your Editorial Leadership Team, we are committed to providing a platform from which the unvarnished truth about the persistence of systemic racism and the disparities and inequities that invade and pervade our communities can be raised. We are reimagining the ways in which our journal can better serve. We look forward to very soon sharing those thoughts with you. We remain hopeful that *all of us* discover new and even more meaningful ways to show up for one another in both our spaces of professional practice and our communities at large.

We at *Reflections* wish you and everyone in your hearts to stay safe, stay well, and stay connected!

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