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## Letter From the Editors

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May 10, 2023

Dear readers,

Welcome to volume five of *Writing Waves*! Thank you for being here! 2023 marks *Writing Waves*'s 5th anniversary of publishing student writing. Two years ago we made critical changes to our publication, promising to include a wider array of both art and writing. We made this a priority in volume five, challenging ourselves to be forward thinkers about inclusive, equitable, and accessible publishing practices. This year, we followed the idea of "Let the waves of life carry you" with our ongoing theme of growth, change, and experience.

As you dive into *Writing Waves* volume five, you will discover stories of identity and discovery told through essays, poetry, art, and mixed media. Volume 5's thought-provoking additions include academic and creative works examining parenting, nostalgia, creativity and biology, adolescence, gender norms, and equality. The featured works in this year's volume reflect the inequalities and hurdles we all share, and emphasize the importance of community.

Our editorial staff would like to thank and recognize our advising professor Kelly Medina-López for her hard work, patience, and determination to deliver a quality product to all our readers. We would also like to celebrate and thank this year's contributors for trusting us with their voices and vision. From poetry and original artwork to research essays and beyond, we continue to appreciate and celebrate the many brilliant ways CSUMB students write, create, and share their knowledge with the campus community and in turn, the world!

Gratefully,

*Writing Waves* Spring 2023 Editors