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Letter from the Editor

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Throughout the course of history, New and Dangerous Ideas have threatened and challenged traditional structures on institutional levels. Many historical figures are still widely known today for their efforts to make changes through the power of their voices, even when voicing their opinions resulted in further oppression or suffering. NaDI believes that people who share their new and dangerous ideas should be celebrated and studied for their forward thinking as well as bravery. Fueled by social justice activists such as Clifford R. Montiero, NaDI provides a platform for students and faculty to share their thoughts and opinions as they pertain to social justice topics. While Montiero specifically advocates for racial equality, all topics of equality, inclusivity, and open-mindedness are valuable to NaDI. Montiero was initially inspired by King's "I Have a Dream" speech which prompted his career as a civil-rights activist. Last year, he was the first recipient of the first award at the first Black History Month Commemoration Breakfast. NaDI aims to provide a voice for activists like Montiero with social justice oriented goals.

NaDI encourages all forms of artwork, both visual and written, to tackle difficult subjects in a call to action and change. NaDI believes that through artwork, people can become educated with the tools needed to make the world more equitable. By taking a critical approach to social justice through artistic expression, academics can seamlessly blend with individuals' creativity to yield something beautiful and educational. NaDI is a catalyst to open up conversations full of emotions, even emotions that are hard to manage, like anger, regret, and disgust. Living in today's society packed with overstimulation by social media means that everything can change with the click of the button and therefore everything is constantly evolving.

It has truly been an honor working with my fellow ZINE interns as well as receiving the extensive support with all the faculty involvement throughout the entire school year. I grew so much, personally and academically, by working with every amazing person who contributed their thoughts and helped make this issue happen. I thoroughly enjoyed the privilege of bouncing ideas off of the ZINE team. I greatly appreciate every time someone challenged my thinking by pushing me to use a more critical lens and therefore using a more human-centered and affirming approach. The experiences I have gained during my time with the ZINE team are so unique, powerful, and memorable. As a senior who is preparing to graduate in May, I can honestly say I never could have imagined as an incoming freshman that I would come out of Roger Williams University so different, all in positive ways.

My freshman year I was not able to define terms like activism, social justice, and equity. This is all now familiar to me, in terms of the conversations and introspective thinking that challenges me to ask why in regards to social norms and institutions in society. Working with an incredible team to produce this influential magazine has molded me into a much more educated individual with strong communication skills and a deeper understanding and respect for all people. Thanks to my social justice related experiences, I feel better prepared to enter the real world and make a positive impact on those around me. As I leave behind my position as the Executive Director & Managing Copy-Editor, I am full of excitement to see what the future holds for NaDI. I wish future ZINE teams success in their efforts to spread the word about the work NaDI does. I equally hope future ZINE teams continue a campus-wide conversation about issues in social justice.

-Kayleigh De Domenico 01

Meet the Team!



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