

Honors Platform 2019 Quinn Kirby Clips



the
HONORS
PLATFORM

a cmu honors program journal
volume 6 issue 1

spring 2019
central michigan university

CMU Student Review Team



Jade Driscoll is a senior English and Creative Writing major from Randeville, MI, and this is her second year reviewing and editing for *The Honors Platform Journal*. Her poetry and fiction have appeared in or are forthcoming in *30 North*, *Collision Literary Magazine*, and *Remington Review*.



Alex Giles is currently a sophomore double-majoring in political science and psychology. He is involved in psychology research, the Residence Hall Assembly, and Larzelere Hall. In his free time, he enjoys listening to music, playing his guitar, and reading books. Alex has always been interested in publishing and editing and loves to see high schoolers find meaningful outlets for their work.



Cierra Jones is a first-year student studying Communication Sciences & Disorders, with the eventual goal of becoming a pediatric speech therapist. She is also a member of AFSLP on campus, volunteers weekly at the Central Autism Treatment Center, and will be studying abroad in Europe for three weeks this summer.



Grace Ludwiczak is a first-year Honors student at CMU. She is an English major with a desire to have a career in publishing and editing. When she is not in Anspach, Grace can be found taking photos with her camera or watching wine compilations with her friends.



Kayla Szymanski is an English Literature, Language, and Writing major from New Lenox, IL. She is a Freshman student and a Centralis Scholar. On campus, Kayla is a Recognition Committee Co-chair for Larzelere Hall Council and enjoys planning events for her residents. In the future, she hopes to pursue a career in editing and publishing or college education.



Connor Thatcher is a third-year student pursuing a major in English Education and a minor in History. Apart from his work on *The Great Lakes Platform*, he's also a Resident Assistant at CMU and a cabinet member of Student Government Association. In his free time (when he has any), he enjoys listening to music and telling terrible puns.



Nicole Tuinstra is a senior Honors student. She is studying secondary English Education with a minor in speech. She is also involved in Sigma Tau Delta as acting treasurer.

Featured Photographers



Emily Crombez is a senior from Harper Woods, MI. In the last year, Emily has been developing skills in photography and design while traveling internationally and collaborating with other creators in the Metro-Detroit area.



Quinn Kirby is a junior photojournalism student at Central Michigan University. The student has worked for *Central Michigan Life* for three years and is a freelance portrait photographer. Kirby has also had two fine art collections featured in Grand Rapids, MI.

(Headshot taken by Sarah Riegler)

Lead Editors

Melissa Alexander
Phame Camarena
Anna Shapland

Graphic Designers

Ian Callison
Sarah Heck

From the Editor

Welcome to the sixth edition of The Honors Platform! This journal is produced by Central Michigan University undergraduate Honors students in an effort to highlight the impressive diversity of disciplines, accomplishments, scholarly activity, and creative endeavors within our community.

To that end, the pieces we publish reflect the core values of the Honors Program in a variety of ways. This semester, we received more submissions than any previous edition. We were impressed by the quality and variety of work being done by CMU Honors students. The submitted work underscores the program-wide core values of (1) critical thought, scholarly inquiry, and creative expression, (2) respect and appreciation for diverse peoples and ideas in a global society, (3) high standards for integrity and personal aspirations and (4) active citizenship and service for the greater good.

The contributors to this edition demonstrated through their words and art a deep commitment to recognizing and insisting upon the furthering of knowledge in all fields. We must use our passions and resources to actively solve problems plaguing our world and embrace diverse and creative solutions to these problems. The pieces in this edition use art and research to reflect an appreciation of humanity's potential. The joint voices of these authors call for all readers to learn, grow, and use their work to better any slice of our world.

This edition of The Honors Platform is a stunning collection of diverse works which venerate the value of all human experience. It features poems concerned with human relationships, the good and the bad, the internal and the

external. It includes visual art from around the world and back to Mt. Pleasant again. Adjacent to these creative works are critical pieces that grapple with issues as diverse as philosophy, evolution, music, and health care. It is submissions like these that exemplify the values of the honors program and allow the entire community to be proud.

Acknowledgments

The Honors Platform would not exist as a unifying and illuminating resource without the support of Dr. Phame Camarena, the director of the CMU Honors Program. He has shown years of unwavering support for the journal, and was again dedicated to publishing the best work of our community in this edition. We owe much to Phame's encouragement and high standards.

Our journal has also welcomed a new advisor to our project this year, Dr. Mary Wendt, who has overseen the Honors course inspired by this journal's production. Her professional knowledge of the field and her constant contribution of ideas have been invaluable to us.

I would like to extend a special thanks to the editorial board of the journal this year for their thoughtful reviews and dedication of time which made this edition possible. Their enthusiasm, flexibility, and optimism have propelled this project forward throughout the past year, and I think they are an excellent example of what can be achieved when honors students work together.

I am also incredibly grateful to The Honors Platform's graphic designer this year, Ian Callison, for his willingness to share his time and skill.

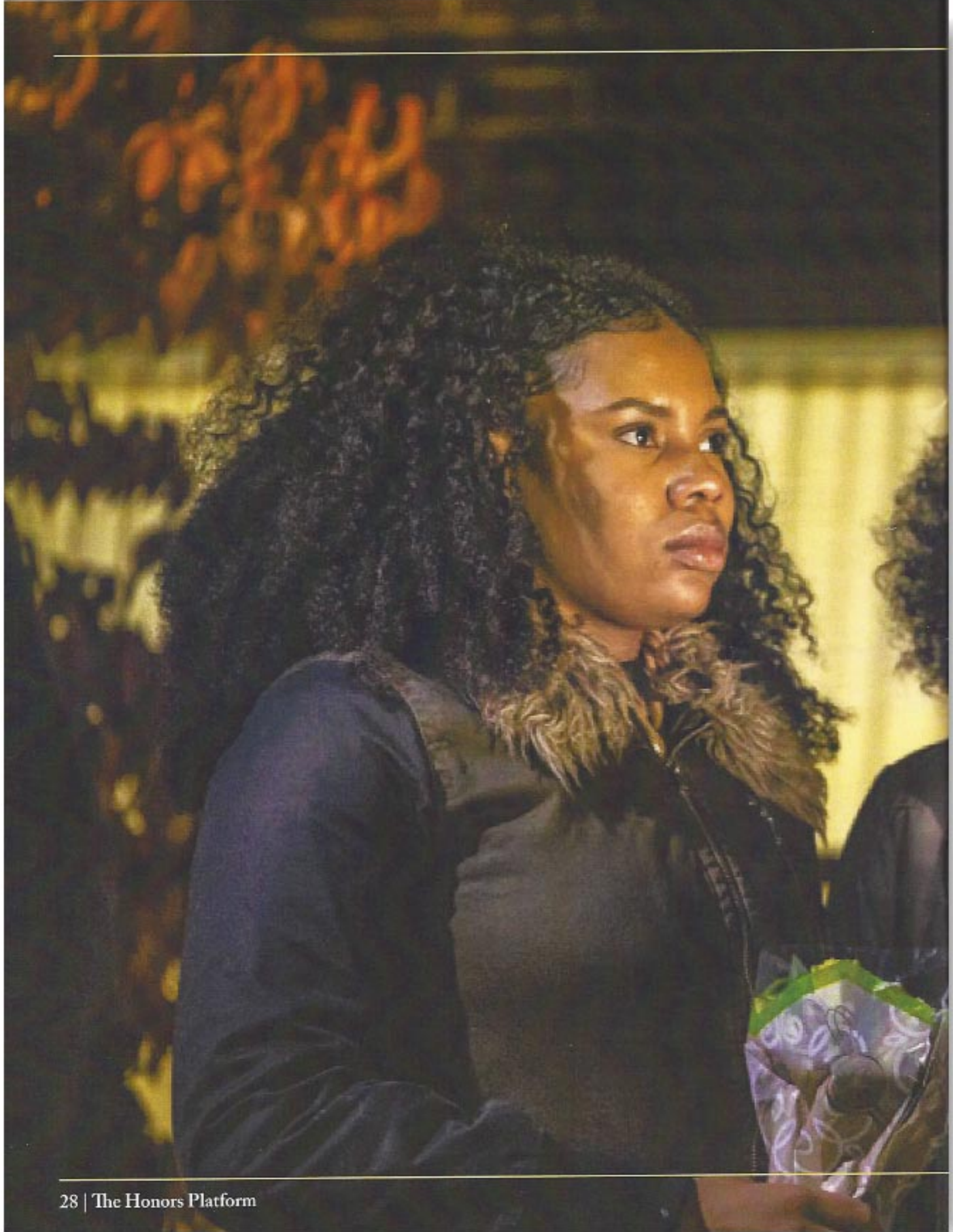
Anna Shapland is a senior double-majoring in English Literature and Psychology with a certificate in Creative Writing. In addition to her involvement with The Honors Platform, she is also the editor-in-chief of The Great Lakes Platform, president of CMU's chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, a McNair scholar, and a Writing Center consultant. She hopes to one day be a Children's Literature professor who lives near the ocean with a dog.



Enjoy!

Sincerely,
Anna N. Shapland
Editor in Chief,
The Honors Platform







Sweeney Incident
Photo by: Quinn Kirby