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### Editor's Note

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# Editor's Note

As managing editors, we are thrilled to publish our inaugural issue of *AWE: A Woman's Experience*. Starting a student journal from scratch is never an easy task, and the journey to create this collection of articles and artwork about women has been no exception. Thankfully, we have received extensive support and funding from the College of Humanities and the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences, without which we could not create this space for women's voices and discussions of women's issues. We would also like to recognize and thank our faculty advisor, Heather Jensen, for her support in all our endeavors. Finally, we would like to thank our contributors and staff members for their passion for women's studies and their willingness to work hard to create this issue of *AWE*. Without them, we certainly could not have accomplished this feat. But what is this feat, anyway?

*AWE: A Woman's Experience*. Our chosen title for Brigham Young University's women's studies journal reflects a desire to celebrate the contributions of women to every field we study at this institution. It also reflects a desire to take a hard look at what it has been like for women to do so—to successfully take their place among academics, philosophers, politicians, doctors, artists, writers, and in society in general. Our articles and artwork recognize and examine the ways that women have been ignored, included, and portrayed in various fields, the way that women have responded to such actions, and what we might learn from these women and the way that others have portrayed them.

Our opening article treats this theme and is taken from the keynote address given by Susan Pickett of Whitman College at Brigham Young University's, "Women and Creativity Conference." Dr. Pickett details the ways female composers have been ignored by undergraduate music textbooks and the damage this has caused for the progress of female composers and musicians. As academics, we need to

recognize the ways women have been contributing to our fields so that we can continue to build upon a legacy instead of falsely believing that we are the first women to start one. We celebrate the space our journal creates for women to share their voices, their unique perspectives, and their arguments. We know that when women have a space for recognition, conversation, and expression, that space will be filled. We hope that our journal will offer a place for women “as a nature to grow, as an intellect to discern, as a soul to live freely and unimpeded, [and] to unfold such powers as were given her” as Margaret Fuller suggested. We have created the space; now, we encourage future contributors to fill it.

—*Rachel Payne*