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## The Crambo

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# The Crambo

*The Crambo is the MAPW's new digital literary magazine. It is a magazine created and edited by MAPW students and is open to all graduate students from any university interested in submitting original work in the genres of poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, screenplays, and visual art.*

What started as a discussion to revive the *Red Clay Review*, turned into the creation of a brand new publication for the MAPW, *The Crambo*, a literary magazine that features publications from writers and artists worldwide. With an inviting approach to creative works that goes beyond words on paper, *The Crambo* is a reflection of hard work, collaboration, and teaching, as it is a publication created and edited by students of the MAPW program. The magazine is open for graduate students from any university to submit their original, unpublished works in the genres of poetry, short fiction, creative nonfiction, screenplays, and visual art.

Fall 2017 marked the first semester where the Careers in the Literary Arts course, taught by Professor JoAnn LoVerde-Dropp, created a space where students would not only learn about the different careers in literary arts, but also be part of the creation of the magazine. Professor LoVerde-Dropp mentioned that out of the thirteen students that enrolled in the class, editorial roles were assigned according to each student's comfort level. Once everyone was settled in their editorial positions, the team began their work with taking submissions, finding qualified reviewers for the submitted work, and writing submission, rejection, and acceptance letters.

The class itself presented both academic and professional development opportunities for the students. "We researched other literary magazines and wrote about how they were put together, including their submission requirements, content and design. We also wrote and submitted pieces of writing to other literary magazines to understand what the submission process is like for writers," mentioned Zach Zoeller, Design Editor of *The Crambo*. The students also had to research about the different editorial positions and present to the rest of the group about their findings.

According to Professor LoVerde-Dropp, having the students submit their own work to other literary journals, "helped them tremendously to understand how the process works." The assignments were a way for students to experience the realities of the publishing world in order to better prepare them for their roles as editorial members of the magazine and provide them professional development opportunities that will later on serve them in their careers.

Another positive aspect of participating as an editorial member is the experience gained with working on a digital publication. Unlike traditional literary magazines, *The Crambo* is digitally published. It is hosted in the digital repository of the KSU Library, the Digital Commons. This arrangement also exposed students to digital publishing and platform management.

"I enjoyed my time working on *The Crambo*. Everyone seemed focused on the goal of making the magazine great. Ego did not play a role in decisions," Said Pearlie Harris, Design Editor. "In fact, we had long discussions about the FAQ and Submission Guidelines. Still, we made decisions based on what was best for the journal," she continued. While a new set of editorial members will arrive for Fall 2018, several of the Fall 2017 students will still be working on the magazine in a consultant basis, further developing their publishing skills.

The first issue of the magazine has been published and can be found in the [Digital Commons](#).