Contributors

APRIL ROBINSON-KAIN is a senior in History. She wrote “The Infamous Madame Hatchett and Her Sons: Great Depression through the Civil Rights Movement” for Dr. Hale Yılmaz’s History 392 class in Spring 2019. She was the recipient of the history department’s Edward J. O’Day Paper Prize for the best undergraduate student paper in 2020-2021.

JOSHUA CANNON graduated in May 2020 with a B.A. in History and two minors, one in Sociology and one in East Asian Civilization. Currently, he is working on his M.A. in History as a Southern Illinois University Master’s Fellow. He wrote his paper “Paul McRoy and WCIL: A Look at Local Radio Culture in a College Town, the 1950s-1960s” for Dr. Najar’s History 392 course, “Historical Research and Writing” in Fall 2019.

JOSHUA MCCRAY graduated in May 2020 with a double major B.A. in History and Political Science. He wrote “African American Education in Southern Illinois and the Dunbar Society” for Dr. Najar’s History 392 class in Fall 2019. Joshua is currently working towards a master’s degree in public administration at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

WILLIAM BROCK RENSHAW grew up in Herrin, Illinois, and he is a first-year master’s student in the History Department at SIUC. In May 2020, he graduated with a B.A. in History. He wrote “The Medical History & Use of Psychedelic Drugs” for Dr. Hale Yılmaz’s History 392 class in Spring 2019. After completing his M.A., he hopes to pursue a doctorate in History and become a university professor to continue his work on the medical use of psychedelic substances in treating mental illness.

MARTIN SPITZBERGEN graduated in December of 2019 with a B.A. in History from SIUC. He is currently a law student at the Southern Illinois University School of Law. He wrote “American Aggression over National Apathy and Ambivalence” under Dr. Najar’s tutelage in History 392 course in Fall 2019.

ALEX SUMMERS graduated in 2020 with a B.S. in History Education. He currently teaches U.S. History, Government, Psychology, Sociology, and a Research and Writing Course in History at Westville High School in Westville, IL. He is applying for Ph.D. programs in History for Fall 2021. He wrote “Commercializing the 24-Hour War: Ford Motor Company versus the World” for Dr. Najar’s HIST 392 class in the Fall of 2019.

DAVID SZOKE is a senior double majoring in Geology and History with a minor in Political Science. After graduation, he plans to attend law school and pursue a career in labor law. His work, “Heartland Deluge: Race, Flooding, and the Two Alexander Counties, Illinois,” was written under the direction of Dr. Jonathan Bean in Spring 2020. His research is dedicated to his father, Dr. David F. Szoke, and his long-time informal peer reviewer, Jakob Ruffner.