

# Kaleidoscope: A Graduate Journal of Qualitative Communication Research

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## Front Matter

Kaleidoscope Editor

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## EDITOR'S NOTE – VOLUME 21

*Kaleidoscope: A Graduate Journal of Qualitative Communication* is a vital part of the field of communication and specifically to the SIUC Communication Studies legacy. *Kaleidoscope* stands out for its being a graduate student journal focusing on qualitative, interpretive, and critical/cultural work. For many graduate students doing this type of scholarship, *Kaleidoscope* represents a first – first submission, first revise and resubmit, and first publication. *Kaleidoscope* serves and has served as an important steppingstone in the path of many scholars. Its role in communication cannot be understated. It is a vital contribution that continues to shape the field. While there have been several ups and downs with getting to the publication of volume 21, *Kaleidoscope* is where it is today thanks to servant leadership, an ethic of care, and a desire for collaboration from many in the discipline.

Thank you to every member of the Editorial Board. (Their names can be found earlier in this volume.) Thank you for the time you took to review the journal and your continued service and desire to collaborate with the *Kaleidoscope* staff. Thanks to those who practiced servant leadership through reviewing manuscripts – past editors Shelley Rawlins and Shelby Swafford; Advising Editor Alex Lockwood; associate editors: Robert Fiedler, India Hagen-Gates, Sean Maulding, and Alicia Utecht; and student reviewers: Ryan Freels, Monique Saastamoinen, and Anna Wilcoxon. Volume 21 is a team project, and I'm glad each one of you was on the team. Thank you to our faculty advisor, Dr. Craig Gingrich-Philbrook, who embodies an ethic of care. His kindness, advice, and encouragement kept this process going, even when we experienced those downs.

Thank you to Dr. Tsatsoulis, the Vice Chancellor for Research & Dean of the Graduate School; Dr. Joddy Murry, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts; and the SIU School of Communication Studies for your financial and institutional support. It's because of you that *Kaleidoscope* can be as great as it is and reach graduate students across the country. The *Kaleidoscope* staff hopes you enjoy this volume.

The articles in volume 21 spoke to the special call - Investigating Our Spaces, Places, Power, and Agency. Spaces are not neutral. Spatial relations can affect identity, culture, and power, but people can transform a space through using it differently and refusing to participate in injustice. This special call asked authors to investigate how people create, reinforce, disrupt, or change norms within spaces and places.

Jesse Snider takes readers in the virtual world in his article “‘Is This Place Inside or Outside?’: Issues of Space in *Kentucky Route Zero*.” Through his interactions with the video game *Kentucky Route Zero*, Snider considers de Certeau's theories of space and place to investigate the concept of confused spaces in both the real world and the virtual one. Snider's work builds on performance studies literature to dig at how performance and agency shape and are shaped by space and place.

Continuing the conversation about space and place, Jessica Clifford addresses scholar-activists fighting for social justice. Clifford's piece “With Action Comes

Reflection” reminds us that places have history, and sometimes that history is a dark and painful one. But scholar-activists can fight to resist those oppressive norms. Thus, Clifford dives deep into the complicated world of navigating Whiteness, protests against police brutality, community-building, and self-discovery throughout her autoethnography.

Following Clifford’s autoethnography, Damon Mitchell Gage Darling uses autoethnography in their work “My Anger is Still a Small Boy: (Dis)embodied Anger as Survival.” This evocative work pulled on my heartstrings starting from page 1. Their use of the second person in this autoethnography puts the reader into each vignette with Gage. Gage’s vulnerability is admirable. It is hard to write about trauma. But this work demonstrates how strength and healing can be built up over space and time.

Next, we have Sydney Elaine Brammer’s “Listen When She Speaks: Young Women on Arriving at Reproductive Rights Opinions.” Brammer interviewed emerging adult women about what influenced their opinions regarding reproductive rights. Even though the interviews were conducted prior to the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, this article is extremely timely as conversations about reproductive rights have only increased since.

Ololade Afolabi asks us to consider the role of alternative media in her work “Reinventing Black Womanhood: Alternative Media and Identity Discourse in the 2019 Chicago Mayoral Race.” Set in the politics of Chicago, Afolabi examines how alternative media put power and agency back in the hands of those most often marginalized by traditional media – in this case, Black women. Afolabi reveals the opportunities for reclaiming agency.

We conclude volume 21 with “Investigating the Effects of Message Framing on College Students’ Risk Perceptions and Protective Responses to Adenovirus” from Shawna Dias and Romy RW. Dias and RW share their findings in order to propose both revising and extending the use of the protective action decision model (PADM) and message framing theory. Their work explores one university’s messages during an on-campus health crisis. This work poses great discussion for scholars interested in risk communication and/or health communication.

Volume 21 was a rollercoaster. There were ups and downs. But it has ended on a high knowing that the wonderful authors in the following pages will get to see their scholarship in print. Before I started my time as the editor of *Kaleidoscope*, I said: “I believe that the most important qualities an editor needs are servant leadership, an ethic of care, and a desire for collaboration.” Now, more than ever, I know how true those words are for not only the editor, but everyone that is a part of *Kaleidoscope*.

–Janine Armstrong, Editor