



Letter from the Editor

Who would have thought back in 2008—when *HEAL: Humanism Evolving through Arts and Literature* was nothing more than a collection of writing and art that I carried around in a binder—that 2014 would bring us the 5th Anniversary Edition of *HEAL*?! This 5th volume contains over 100 pieces of visual art, poetry, and prose. We tried a few new things this year as well: We held a cover art contest, which brought in photos and artwork from community members, students, and faculty alike. It was very difficult to choose the winner, but we congratulate Alexandra Law for her work “Tree Reflection” which was selected for the front cover, and Kevin Yan, for his piece “My Summer” which is featured on the back cover. You will see the other submissions artfully displayed throughout this volume.

We also invited our readers to celebrate our 5th anniversary by contributing 55-word stories—a kind of micro-vignette that uses few words to convey powerful experiences. We received 55-word stories from many “teachers of medicine,” giving Volume 5 the highest participation from faculty in *HEAL*’s history. In another milestone set by Volume 5, more than one-third of the published submissions came from contributors who are not currently faculty, staff, or students at the Florida State University College of Medicine. This signals *HEAL*’s emergence into the outside world. So even though we are only 5, this is our “coming out” party, our “debut.” We hope you’ll celebrate with us as you read and enjoy this landmark edition of *HEAL*.

José Rodríguez, MD
HEAL Editor-in-Chief

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