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Editor's Note

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Editor's Note
Eric Johnson

History is our mirror; it reflects what we are. Identity is necessarily defined in large part, but not entirely, by history. Thus, the more one understands one's history, the more one understands one's identity. History is therefore our truest mirror; it reflects what we are.

There is great potential and great danger in this recognition. There is great potential in the sense that truth can be found in the study of history, and this truth can enlighten our present times and lead to greater enlightenment. However, there is great danger in the realization that just as one can look back into history and find truth, there is also the possibility of finding falsehood. The study and interpretation of history is therefore a mighty task that must be handled with the greatest care and by the most honest and rigorous of individuals. With great power comes great responsibility.

Here at Harding University, we recognize the importance of this pursuit and strive to offer our best contributions. Our yearly publication of *Tenor of Our Times* reflects this commitment. In this year's edition, we have included three distinct sections of work. The first section, in which we recount the history and life of the Clifton L. Ganus Sr. building, has been included in this year's edition due to the building's closing this year. In light of this significant milestone event, we have chosen to use a picture of the Ganus for our cover. *Tenor* recognizes how this building and memories associated with this building hold a place of special importance in the hearts and minds of many in the Harding community. While the physical structure might be taken away, the legacy of the Ganus building will live on.

In our special reports, we archive the events of the past year for the Department of History and Political Science here at Harding. This has been a particularly busy year, especially for Phi Alpha Theta, as we were able to bring back cherished events that had been temporarily suspended due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The next three sections in this issue include our feature articles, which include essays of scholarship written by undergraduate students. Our feature articles this year cover a diverse range of subjects and were selected after thoughtful consideration.

We are proud and excited to share these special reports and feature articles with you in our eleventh print edition. As you, dear reader, read on, I challenge you to remember the challenge and responsibility that serious historical study entails. History is our mirror; so what do you see?

Eric Johnson