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Introduction

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Introduction

Lawrence Wheeler

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge, with this very brief introductory sketch, the appearance of another annual volume of the journal *Anthós*, a publication of the Honors College at Portland State University. This year we have continued a tradition begun in last year's volume, the publication of particularly noteworthy baccalaureate theses; in *Anthós* this year you will find both Antoinette Sherman's study of Natalie Barney and Renee Vivien (a shorter version of which was presented at an academic conference in California last year), as well as Orion Gray's study of homeless youth and the ways they are taxonomized by those who work with them.

We also publish here a number of papers, as has been our long-standing custom, from the writing done for the first-year humanities core of the Honors College. Three of the essays address the dialogues of Plato; Adam Coberley, Jodi Geren and Rebecca Sparks were responding in these essays to an assignment to approach the dialogues from the perspective of their explication—that is, by undertaking an extended examination of the subtle interrelations of form and content. The remaining essays—Rachel Duvack's, Nikki Goodrick's, Shawna Purcell's, and Heather Springgay's—take on a different task, that of considering the way in which a writer employs the work of a predecessor or precursor, and thus places him or herself in historical relation with that predecessor. Duvack and Goodrick chose to work with Augustine's *Confessions*, while Purcell and Springgay examine Boethius in the *Consolation*.

For the second year in a row, I feel particularly fortunate in having been able to depend on Mr. Justin Collum, who has

again taken on the chores of editing and producing this volume, a task he has carried out in a highly professional and self-reliant manner. Words fail in the attempt to express my thanks.

Lawrence Wheeler