



NMC MAGAZINE

48 Years of Student
Publication Excellence

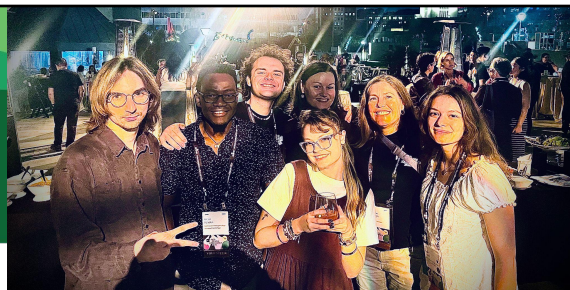
Caroline Schaefer-Hills, Faculty Design Advisor
Tricia Lincoln, Faculty Literary Advisor



Recruiting Events



Beyond the Page



The [NMC Magazine](#) is not just a student club; it is a pipeline that **connects students** to wider **literary communities** and **design industries** at the local and (through conferences we attend) national level. It **forms bridges between the classroom and the real world** and fosters connections between students in a variety of disciplines.

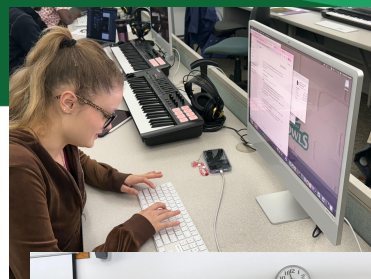


What is the NMC Magazine?

A 48-Year Legacy: An award-winning, student-run literary publication serving the campus for nearly five decades that prints student, faculty, staff, and alumni creative pieces. We publish two issues a year featuring a variety of genres including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, interviews, art, photography, and design, while showcasing exploratory design formats.

Professional Simulation: Students don't just "write" they vote on issue themes; read, select, and edit submissions; create editorial and mood boards; design layouts for posters, table tents, PR, and magazine issues; write their own pieces, create artwork to be featured; and prepress the entire publication. As staff for the magazine they also build portfolios to showcase for future internships and employment.

The Reward: Committed staff members (1 full year) earn the opportunity to attend a national conference. In Spring 25 lit staff attended the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) in L.A.— the premier literary conference in North America. Most recently, this fall our design staff attended and volunteered at the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) National Design Conference in L.A.



Award Winning Streak



Five VCA Students Awarded Gold, Silver and special Best of Show ADDY awards at the AAF (American Advertising Federation) ceremony, 1 also won Silver at District Level and is moving up to Nationals, First place for Scientific Illustration from CCHA, Community College Humanities Association and more



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Lit Staff in L.A. at AWP, Spring 2025

"The future is taking place at the margins."



AT THE CONFERENCE

We attended panels on teaching **experimental forms**; working with **neurodivergent writers**; **queer, trans, and feminist authorship**; the daily life of literary editors; **writing across borders** and diasporic histories; and **maintaining literary magazine archives**.

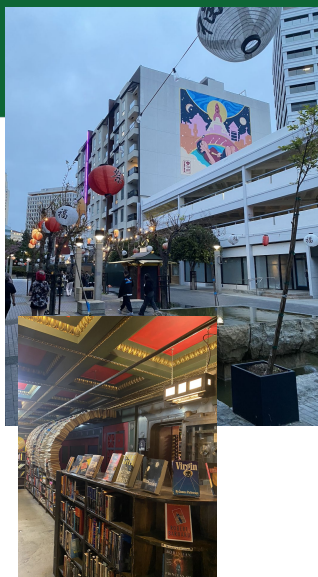
READINGS

We went to a **Milkweed Editions poetry reading** at the Night Gallery, a **Poets for Science** reading with Jane Hirshfield & David Hassler, and a **packed event featuring Palestinian poets**, including Mosab Abu Toha, winner of a Pulitzer Prize, the American Book Award, and the Walcott Prize for Poetry.

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"Remember what
kind of life poetry
calls you to live."

Lit Staff in L.A. at AWP, Spring 2025



Outside the Conference

We **stayed in Little Tokyo**. Each morning we ate black sesame Koko Churro rolls and green tea donuts.

We wandered through The Last Bookstore in their **rare book annex**, **saw the stars** on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, **perused the vinyl** at Amoeba Music, and witnessed the **Palestinian Land Day rally**.

Read my [Faculty Journal](#) notes and our student journals on p. 36-37 in our [Around the Worlds](#) issue.

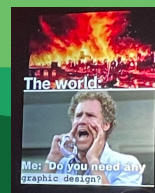


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Design Staff in L.A. at AIGA, Fall 2025



*Embrace the process
Be generous, not precious
If you want to go **fast** go alone.
If you want to go **far**, go **together**.*



AT THE CONFERENCE

We were able to take 8 Design staffers since we arranged to volunteer at the conference, opening up great connections with the National AIGA.

We attended panels on **cultural resistance**; working with **the state of AI**, meaning across **mediums**, and **radical collaboration**; this was the largest group in Mag history to attend a conference!

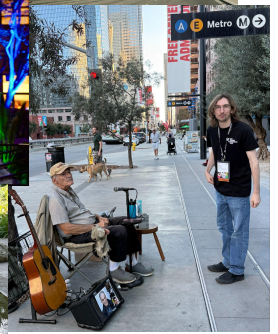


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Design Staff at AIGA, Fall 2025

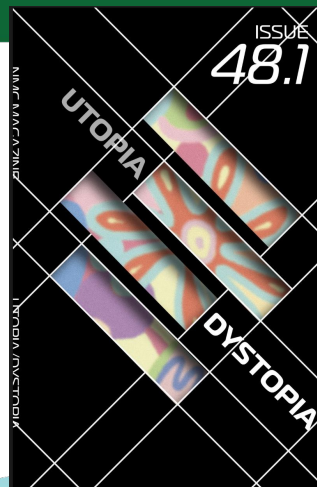
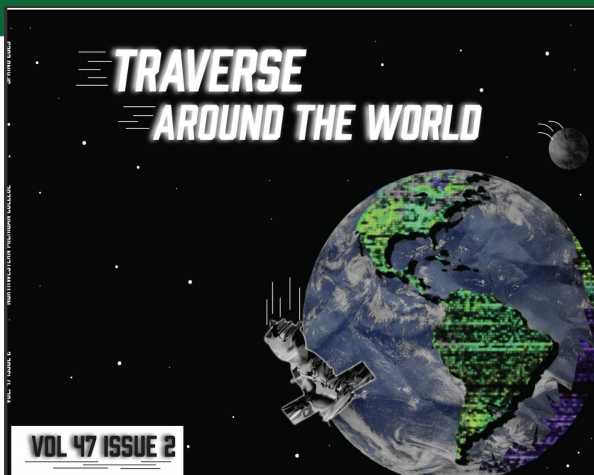


We visited many cultural experiences that related to our *Utopia / Dystopia* theme: saw **Disneyland**, explored art at the **Broad Museum**, photographed at the **Huntington**, happened to meet & jam with Hollywood Legend **Ed Trolta**, walked the **Walt Disney Concert Hall**, and toured a Design Factory in the fashion warehouse district of a former **VCA Alumni**!



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Recent 2025 Issues Traverse Around the World & Utopia / Dystopia



Click on each issue cover for full digital access to the magazine.

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Honors Convocation Accolades

Student Group Award, Visual Communication Award, and Honors Program winners



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Looking to the Future



Interdisciplinary Collaborations: We are planning a **group trip to an interdisciplinary conference** for literary and design staffs (possibly alongside White Pine Press students) for Spring 2027. We **include the Typography VCA classes** in the grid design and layout stages of the semester and students from **Creative Writing** to encourage **Experiential Learning**.

Career-Minded + Lifelong Learning: Each semester we create more nuanced staff roles including Staff Photographer, Illustrator, Archivist, Cover Designer, PR specialist, and Poetry Editor in addition to our established roles of Editor-in-Chief, Literary Editor, Design Editor, Design staff, and Lit staff. **Crafting new focused roles allows for students to take greater responsibility and ownership of specific elements of the magazine and publication process.**

Belongingness@NMC: We are organizing more social events and meetings for staff to connect with each other and other clubs on campus to heighten students' sense of community and engagement. In **Summer 2026** we'll join the **Scholars Hall crew** featuring magazine archives as a **stop on the History Walk** celebrating NMC's 75th anniversary.

In 2027 we'll celebrate our magazine's 50th anniversary with a special party and public reading/ art exhibition.

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