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## Introduction from the Editors

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## Introduction from the Editors

**Gary D. Beckman and Josef Hanson**

A warm “latest issue” welcome to all our readers and SAEE members. As spring finally turns to summer and an end to the pandemic (hopefully), we are pleased to present this issue of the *Journal of Arts Entrepreneurship Education*. There is no doubt that the long-term collective stress and uncertainty COVID inflicted on many has taken a toll, which may not be known for many years. However, we trust a renewed entrepreneurial spirit is materializing.

The focus of this issue is as much a representation of the latest scholarship as it is demonstrative of our emerging scholars’ vital contributions to the field. As many realize, graduate students are the key to the longevity of the field and they will likely see our disciplinary establishment. What follows in this issue is a continuum demonstrating the evolution of student scholarship — albeit in retrograde.

One of the important markers for graduate students are their first few published articles (always cause for celebration and accolades). While some students move on from their initial disciplinary scholarship, others do not. For those pursuing life in other forms, their efforts are not (in many cases) in vain; eventually, a scholar may find these works and use parts in their scholarship. Yes, this is our established research model, but students who exit their discipline’s scholarship still provide a valuable contribution. Yet for those who continue publishing and move into higher education, it is easy to forget those first articles. This issue is both an acknowledgement and celebration of student scholarship and the role our field’s educators play in this process.

### Article Abstracts

Continuing Dr. Jason White’s critical efforts in theorizing the field, this issue begins with his *A Theory of Why Arts Entrepreneurship Matters*. For those wishing to witness or mark the scholarly process of disciplinary development, this is a vital and landmark article for the field. Next is Dr. Steven Sparling’s *Motivation to Act: A Critical Evaluation of the Actor-Entrepreneur’s “Why” in a Post-COVID-19 Landscape*. Using actors as the study’s focus, Sparling describes the connection between self-actualization and the pandemic, suggesting arts entrepreneurship training is key to a creative’s sustainable career motivations.

Moving away from our established scholars’ works, we transition to the realm of students as co-authors. We begin this section with Dr. José Valentino Ruiz-Resto and his student co-authors Derris Lee and Chris Shelton’s article *Entrepreneurial Responses to the COVID Era: A Qualitative Study of Five Professional Music Entrepreneurs*. Similar in

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methodology to Sparling's *Motivation to Act*, Ruiz-Resto et al. examine entrepreneurs in the music industry to gain insight on COVID's impact in this realm. For those interested in Joseph Campbell's "Hero's Journey" as a broader metaphor for the act of entrepreneuring as self-actualization, this is an important addition to that inquiry. Following is a work by Lindsey Castellano and Dr. Drew X. Coles: *Amplifying the Transdisciplinary Nature of Arts Entrepreneurship Education Through Online Education*. This timely paper advocates for the field engaging more fully in the digital education space. Finishing this part of the issue is Nina Rapisarda and Dr. Ellen Loots' *A Closer Look into the Scope of Arts Entrepreneurship Education: Is There Any Such Thing as the American and European Approach?* In this foundational study, the field and its pedagogical foci are examined from both sides of the Atlantic.

Last is Conner Tomlinson's *Industrial Strategies: Rhetoric at the Intersection of Arts and Entrepreneurship*. This student work uses industrial music as a case study demonstrating how the genre entrepreneurially uses rhetoric to "challenge the divide between business, artistic and social practice." For those interested in rhetoric as (or in addition to) entrepreneurial practice in both the arts and the field, this is a must-read.

The editors and editorial board hope you enjoy this special issue of the *Journal of Arts Entrepreneurship Education*.

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