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# Undergraduate Research Journal at UCCS

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## Editor's Introduction

Thank you for reading the Undergraduate Research Journal of the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. The URJ-UCCS provides a place for students to publish original work in a freely accessible medium. All content is produced, reviewed, and edited by undergraduate students.

As we have done before, this volume of the Undergraduate Research Journal is multidisciplinary, with diverse fields such as philosophy, media studies, and history represented. Upon review of the submissions, the theme that emerged pertained to art and how we interact with it culturally, historically, and as individuals.

Our first article, "A Modern Interpretation of the Beautiful: The Aesthetics of Instrumental Music," considers the question of what is considered "beautiful" in music and how this question has been contemplated by several influential philosophers in the canon. Aesthetics of instrumental music throughout history have often been tied to the concept of ethics, and through close study, the author shows how our own experiences of music can be made more full.

Next, "All-Girl Bands: The Little-Known Legends of the Early Jazz World," brings to light some of the lesser-known history of jazz, the quintessentially American contribution to the arts. Women's contributions to jazz in the early twentieth century are discussed at length, giving voice to an integral part of history that has all too often been intentionally silenced.

To finish out this volume, "A Rhetorical Analysis of 'Black Mirror:' Entertaining Reflections of Digital Technology's Darker Effects" takes a look at how the recent television series *Black Mirror* comments on the effects of technology and digital culture on social influence and control.

We hope you enjoy Volume 8.1 of the URJ-UCCS. As we move forward with future issues of this journal, we look to promote undergraduate research and writing on all levels from all disciplines and introduce our reads to the wide range of student research interests.

As the journal is still evolving and establishing its niche within the academic community, we are always looking for new members of the team. With your help, we will continue to do so, offering more content and more student involvement. If you are interested in being a reviewer, copy/layout editor, or as a part of the URJ's marketing team, please contact us through the URJ website.

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