

## EDITOR'S LETTER

The *Aonian*, in all of its elegance and well-earned prestige, initially appeared before me like an inaccessible and daunting dream. My nerves overtook my first staff interview as a freshman, and from then on, I was merely catering the Murphy-funded reception, putting out the perfectly shaped cream puffs and only glancing at the perfectly put-together art. It wasn't until I took a chance and immersed myself into the workings of the magazine a second time, still behind the scenes but more closely involved, that I realized it wasn't unapproachable; it was merely presenting a challenge for one to reflect and to improve within. Confidence instilled, I only continued up from there.

It's been an honor to serve as Editor-in-Chief this year, despite 2020 being the most bizarre and emotionally taxing year ever experienced (and I think that goes for just about everyone). In times of uncertainty, moving our magazine to an online format still ensures that we have a magazine at all; it brings comfort and familiarity for myself and for others, reminding us that amidst change, some traditions will never be forgotten. Just as I learned to grow and adapt in ways that brought forth my potential in writing and leadership, the *Aonian* is learning to grow and adapt in ways that a pandemic will never defeat.

Though I look to past editors for inspiration, I am beyond excited to observe where we go from here. Rather than dwelling on the past and mourning what has been lost in our online transition, it is essential that we turn our attention to the future, to surprise ourselves and one another, to remain open-minded of what is yet to come. As I leave our beloved magazine in next year's equally capable hands, I hope to provide a reassurance that while the *Aonian* is always susceptible to change and to growth (just as we are), its essence and significance will forever be constant.

**Sierra Tribbett-Collins**  
**Editor-in-Chief**