

## EACH OTHER'S HARVEST

---

In the months since the publication of our last issue, our communities have been tragically confronted by challenges unforeseen and challenges all too familiar. Although the coronavirus may be “novel,” there is nothing new about the systemic racism, white supremacy, and institutionalized brutality that have long plagued the United States. Far from representing exceptions to the rule of law and order, the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery, to name but a few, represent a norm that stretches back to the very beginnings of European colonization of North America. Not only have our institutions failed us, they have propagated division, violence, and betrayal. “[W]e are each other’s/harvest:” wrote Gwendolyn Brooks in her poem “Paul Robeson,” “we are each other’s/business:/we are each other’s magnitude and bond.”

To my way of thinking, each of the contributors to the Summer 2020 issue offer both oblique and direct commentary on gestures of human connection that are tensed, much like *currere*, through the past, present, and future of our public and private selves. AAACS Executive Board members Hannah Spector and Todd Price offer critical reflections on the 2020 annual conference, which for the first time was held entirely online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Drawing primarily on the work of Hannah Arendt and Robert McClintock, Spector and Price provocatively highlight the paradox inherent to the use and valorization of the kind of online video communication that enabled the AAACS to be held despite the global pandemic.

In “Curriculum Scholars Reflections on the Curriculum Field,” Kelly Vaughan and Isabel Nuñez look to the past in replicating a study of professional influences in the curriculum field that was first undertaken by William Schubert, George Posner, and Ann Lopez Schubert in 1982. The update by Vaughan and Nunez reveals some fascinating insights into the intellectual touchstones that have helped define the contours of the contemporary curriculum studies field.

As part of the ongoing JAAACS exploration of the intersection of curriculum studies and science/speculative fiction, guest editor Peter Appelbaum introduces Brittany Tomin’s article *Worlds in the Making: World Building, Hope, and Collaborative*

*Uncertainty.* Tomin recounts the explorations of science fiction and speculative storytelling that she and a participating teacher undertook with secondary students in an urban alternative school. Engaged together in the complicated, contentious project of envisioning a future amid the fissures of a broken present, these students found themselves voicing hope.

Two of the contributions to this issue fall within the category of speculative essay. In “Currere at the Cross-Roads: The Deeply Theological in the Age of COVID-19,” Marla Morris shepherds readers through the meditative glades of the “deeply theological.” Through a rich variety of sources that includes Munro Hendry, Buber, Doll, Britzman, Huebner, Wittgenstein, Tillich, and Schweitzer, Morris gently draws our attention to the parallels between theology and education, chaplaincy and teaching. As she writes, “Currere at the cross-roads is a beginning that has no end-space.”

“‘Arms Outstretched in Love Toward the Further Shore’: A Conversation,” is an extended email conversation between Ted Newell and David Jardine prompted by Newell’s struggle to help his graduate students understand “the strengths and weaknesses of historicist truth”. What unfolds is a complicated conversation working its way toward understanding both within and between the participants. In an effort to retain the conversational tone of this piece, as well as the “pitch and flow” of technologically mediated communication, we are publishing it with only light editing.

Finally, we conclude our Summer 2020 issue with “Inscape,” William Pinar’s moving and wistful appreciation of the life and work of Mary Aswell Doll. In addressing himself directly to Doll, Pinar offers a love letter of sorts, not only to Doll herself, but also to the bonds of human friendship and intellectual communion. It is deeply personal piece of writing, and in these terrible times, it strikes a note of hope that, together with the other pieces in this issue, anchors a most graceful chord.

*Patrick Roberts*