Authors' Biographies

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Kate Berman: Kate Berman is a senior political science major. Kate studied abroad through the IWU London program in the fall of 2019. They have been a member of Pride Alliance and Habitat for Humanity. Kate's future plans include attending graduate school to pursue a master's in social work.

Melinda Burgin: Melinda Burgin is from Chicago, Illinois, and is a freshman double majoring in political science and art. She writes op-eds for the *Argus*, is a Writing Center Tutor and the secretary of Amnesty International, participates in University Choir, and is a member of SAI. She enjoys crocheting and reading in her spare time. After college, Melinda plans to attend law school and eventually work in advocacy or human rights law.

Zach Burhan: Zach Burhans is a sophomore political science and business double major, looking to pursue law school post-grad. He is a member of the football team, as well as different clubs such as FCA and Intramural sports. He is also the Advocacy and Awareness Commissioner for Student Senate, which has allowed him to grow as a leader.

Carlo Chavez Linares: Carlo Chávez Linares is a senior majoring in political science and minoring in advocacy with a focus on nonprofit management. He is an old-timer Spanish tutor, vice-president of Titan Catholic, and has written several bilingual pieces for IWU's Creative Arts Journal, *Tributaries*. As a Peruvian, Carlo is grateful that readers will be able to learn more about his own country, on which all his research is based.

Brynn Mitoraj: Brynn Mitoraj is from Downers Grove, Illinois, and is a junior double majoring in English and advocacy with a pre-law focus. After college, Brynn plans to study law and practice law in Chicago someday. Writing is a passion of hers. She loves to write creative pieces and research articles.

Emile Ottinger: Emile Ottinger is an environmental studies/English writing major from Shawnee, Kansas. They are happily involved on-campus as a tutor at the Ames Writing Center and as the Lead of Communications for *Tributaries*, IWU's creative arts journal. They have also been the Sierra Student Coalition's secretary for two years, and have that group to thank for enabling its dedication to sustainable development theory. In fall 2022, they will be stepping into the role of the IWU Pride Alliance's Community Outreach and Alumni Relations Chair. Emile will always vouch for the weight of the written word, and so they are especially grateful to *Res Publica* as an outlet for publication.

Sofia Papoutsis: Sofia Papoutsis is a senior political science major with double minors in biochemistry and public administration. Her interests include American politics, healthcare policy, and advocacy. Sofia is a member of the IWU Women's Soccer Team. She is also involved in Student Senate and served as the Civic Engagement Commissioner on the 2021 Executive Board.