

# LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

MAY 2024

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Thank you for reading the fourth volume of *Dies Legibiles*! This year, the journal's reach continued to grow; we received more than double the number of submissions than we did during the 2022–2023 academic year, including submissions from more than fifteen colleges and universities. In a time when public support and funding for the humanities is falling, it has been an incredible experience to see such strong enthusiasm for the field of Medieval Studies.

In mid-April, we received a blow: the Humanities and Social Sciences Labs program at Smith College, through which *Dies Legibiles* receives faculty support and student editors, was defunded. Despite this setback, we plan to adapt and publish the fifth edition of *Dies Legibiles* in the 2024–2025 academic year. While the existence of this journal alone cannot alter the trend of diminished humanities funding within academia, we believe that the papers and book reviews contained within prove both the value and necessity of undergraduate research in Medieval Studies. By looking to the past, the upcoming generations of historians and literary scholars demonstrate the resonance of the Middle Ages in the modern age.

We are immensely grateful to every student who submitted a paper, to every faculty member at Smith and other institutions who shared our journal with their students, and to anyone, anywhere, who has spread their love of Medieval Studies to others. Without your passion, *Dies Legibiles* could not exist. Special thanks to Professor Eglal Doss-Quinby for her support with French submissions and to our faculty advisor, Professor Joshua C. Birk.

Dalia Dainora Cohen and the *Dies Legibiles* Team  
We proudly present: *Dies Legibiles* Volume IV