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About the Authors

Kristine Avena, author of “‘The Good of the Country Rises Above Party’: Roosevelt, La Guardia, and O’Connor and the Works Progress Administration in New York City During the Great Depression,” is a summa cum laude graduate of Chapman University with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. She received research grants from both the History Department and Office of Undergraduate Research at Chapman and did extensive work at the New York Public Library, Library of Congress, and the National Archives. Her research interests include American History, Legal History, and Political History. Kristine will pursue her Juris Doctor at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in the fall.

Taylor Dwyer, author of “‘I’ve Had A Bully Good Feed!’ and ‘I’m Waiting in the Bread Line for Mine!’: The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Food Donations and Jewish American Identity during and after World War I,” graduated from Chapman University with a Bachelor of Arts in History. As an undergraduate, Taylor served as Secretary of Phi Alpha Theta, worked as a Henley Lab Research Assistant, and interned at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. She was the 2016 co-recipient of the Outstanding History Student Award and is continuing her education at UCLA in the fall, pursuing a Masters in Library and Information Science.

Alfredo Gonzalez, the author of “What Is and What Was: The Ottoman Empire According to a 19th Century American Diplomat” will be graduating Chapman University with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a minor in Philosophy after fall 2016. His research was heavily influenced by his additional interest in Psychology, Postcolonial studies, Post-Structuralism, Gender studies, Sociology, Literary Criticism, and International Relations. He primarily utilized the collected letters of David Porter from 1831-1834 which were compiled and printed by the University of Michigan Libraries Collection. Alfredo hopes to obtain a Ph.D. in History, studying international relations between the United States, Middle East, and Latin America with an emphasis toward the exchange and influence of knowledge on these interactions, the construction of historical difference, and a postcolonial theoretical approach toward these issues.

Bijan Kazerooni, the author of “‘All this Shim-Sham Story of Pyrates is an Impudent Libel upon Great Men’: The Suppression of Pirates and the Suppression of Dissent in Walpolean Britain,” is a cum laude graduate of Chapman University with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a minor in Secondary Education. He served as President of Phi Alpha Theta at Chapman and received multiple grants by the History Department, Office of Undergraduate Research, and Wilkinson College of Humanities and Social Sciences to conduct research at the National Archives and British Library in London, United Kingdom this past January. His research interests include Maritime History, Early American History, and Early Modern European History. Bijan will return to Chapman in the fall where he is currently enrolled in the Master of Arts in War and Society Program.

Maci Reed, author of “‘A Singing Army is a Fighting Army’: American Soldiers’ Songs and the Training Camp Experience in World War I,” is a magna cum laude graduate of Chapman University with a Bachelor of Arts in History and minors in Philosophy and Integrated Educational Studies. She served as the Vice President of Chapman’s chapter of Phi Alpha Theta and was a co-recipient of the 2016 History Outstanding Student Award. She was also awarded research grants by Chapman’s History Department and Office of Undergraduate Research and used these to conduct primary research at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland. An abbreviated version of her paper won a “Best Undergraduate Paper” prize at the Southern California Phi Alpha Theta Conference held at California Lutheran University this spring. Her research interests include World War One, American History, and Military History. Maci will return to Chapman in the fall to pursue a Master of Arts in War and Society.

Brittany Walsh, the author of “‘A Question of Adapting’: Mediating Return Migrant Identity in Twentieth and Twenty-first Century Ireland” recently graduated magna cum laude from Chapman University with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing. Brittany studied History at Trinity College Dublin and used her semester there to analyze the social, emotional, and economic consequences of migration and return in Ireland over the last 100 years. She conducted her research working with returnee interviews to trace the sources of improvements in Irish return migrant adaptation. Her research interests include American History, Modern Irish History, and Migration Studies.