## **About Our Contributors**

**Karen Frances Britton** grew up in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and decided to stay close to home for college. She is currently enrolled at Methodist University (MU) as a Graphic Design major and expects to graduate in 2021. Upon graduating, she will pursue a career in graphic design with a focus on public relations.

Sheryl Brock plans to graduate in May of 2019 with two bachelor's degrees, one in Biology and one in Environmental and Occupational Management with a concentration in Natural Resources and Regulatory Compliance. She is a native of Fayetteville, North Carolina. During her Methodist University career, Brock served as the president of the Lector Club, College Panhellenic Council, and Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society while also participating in numerous other clubs and organizations. Brock has presented two of her essays, "Compassion" and "Nature and its Consequences," during the Honors Program Panel at MU's annual undergraduate research symposium. After graduation, Brock plans to attend graduate school for a degree in Coastal and Ocean Policy.

**Khalil Coleman,** a resident of Fayetteville NC, will graduate in May 2019 with a B.F.A. in Graphic Design. He plans to work for a great company where he can share his creative ideas and have a positive impact on the company. He has always loved art and has always known that he wanted to continue creating and expressing himself through art in his career.

Katayoon (Kate) Dowlatshahi graduated *summa cum laude* from Methodist University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry with a concentration in Biochemistry and a minor in Biology. Originally from Tehran, Iran, Kate was involved in multiple organizations while at Methodist, including Sigma Tau Delta, Health Occupations Students of America, Gamma Sigma Epsilon, Beta Beta Beta, Phi Kappa Phi, and the MU Chemistry Club. She worked extensively throughout her senior year to create the Pre-Health Professions Club to benefit undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career in healthcare. During her senior year, she was recognized with the prestigious Chemistry Mendelevium Medallion and the Ott-Cooper Science Award, and also became the first research fellow to successfully complete the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creativity Fellowship Program. She is currently a first-year medical student at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. She is deeply passionate about patient advocacy and hopes to work with underserved populations in the future.

**David McNeil** is a graduate of MU's Winter Class of 2017. He majored in Psychology and minored in Biology, and has presented his research at the MU symposium for undergraduate research and at the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Carolina Psychology Conference. Currently a second lieutenant with the North Carolina National Guard, David has been accepted into the masters of counseling program at Northwestern University's online program.

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Heather Miller is a ceramic sculptor and painter who teaches art to children in a home school setting with the aid of biblical principles. She is currently working toward a second bachelor's degree in Arts with a concentration in painting and ceramic sculpture at Methodist University. Heather served in the U.S. Army for eight years and is a 2005 graduate of the United States Military Academy with a concentration in sociology. She also attended Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma, where she studied Fine Arts and worked in printmaking, mixed media sculpture, and pencil, charcoal and pastels on paper. As a Christian, an Army wife and a mother of two boys, Heather uses her passion for art to encounter God and finds that creating art sometimes brings about revelation and other times pure joy.

Cheri Todd Molter is a researcher, writer, and historian who graduated *summa cum laude* from MU in 2017 with a triple major in History, English, and Writing. Currently, she is employed by the N.C. Civil War & Reconstruction History Center where she does genealogical research on North Carolinian USCT soldiers and works to raise awareness of the NCCWRHC's "100 Stories from 100 Counties" project. Cheri's poems and essays have been published in *Corners: Voices on Change, Kakalak, Tapestry, Aletheia,* and MU's *Monarch Review.* 

Mary Sue Parker is majoring in Graphic Design at MU and expects to graduate in the year 2021. Originally from Saxapahaw NC, she has many dreams for future careers, such as traveling as a merchandise designer for a band and also designing on movie sets, but ultimately she looks forward to going wherever the Lord calls her.

**Taylor Porter** will graduate from Methodist University in May 2019 with a triple major in Psychology, Criminal Justice, and Applied Forensic Science. A member of the Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology and of Alpha Phi Sigma, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society, she was recognized as MU's outstanding criminal justice student in the spring of 2018. Outside school, she has completed the training and volunteers as a Guardian Ad Litem in NC Judicial District 4 and holds a job in applied behavior analysis. An interest in the Innocence Project awakened her desire to find a way to more accurately detect deception than with the common polygraph. She has presented her research findings at local, state, and national level conferences. After graduating from MU, she plans to earn a PhD in Legal Psychology and continue doing research to improve the criminal justice system.

**Sierra Romero** was born and raised in North Carolina. She is currently majoring in Graphic Design and minoring in Marketing, and expects to graduate in 2020. Although Sierra has always had a strong interest in the arts, it was not until she decided to attend MU that she began to aspire to a life and career as a visual artist. After graduation, she hopes to pursue a master's degree.

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**David Shane** retired from the United States Marine Corps in December of 2014 and subsequently enrolled as a student at Methodist University. In 2018, David graduated *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and a minor in Religion. He is a graduate of the MU Honors program and a member of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society. David was the first recipient of the Best Composition Award, as well as a recipient of the Balaez-Ambrose Award for mathematics. In January 2018, David gave a presentation on Mathematical Philosophy at the national mathematics conference. He is currently focused on raising his five children and intends to pursue an advanced degree in mathematics.

**Tony Taylor, Jr.**, is a senior majoring in Graphic Design and will graduate in May 2019. A North Carolina native from Raleigh, he has always had a creative mind. He hopes, after graduation, to work as a designer.