Historical Dialogues
Call for Submissions

The research network Dialogues on Historical Justice and Memory (DHJM) and the Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability (AHDA) at Columbia University are exploring the possibility of launching a new e-magazine. Historical Dialogues will serve the civil society activist community, scholars, and policymakers by providing a central source of information, analysis, and exchange of ideas for those engaged in dialogues about difficult pasts with the hope of creating a better future. The magazine will achieve this through two primary formats: (1) reportage and essays written by activists, scholars and policymakers, and (2) review essays of the current literature in the field. By combining practice and theory, the magazine will strive to build greater understanding of how communities and societies can successfully engage their difficult histories, address historical fears, and build hope for the future.

At this time, the editors for this proposed magazine are soliciting open contributions from those working in the area of historical dialogues. We will review new, as yet unpublished material as well as previously published material, if allowed by publisher. The goal at this time is to create a mock issue of the magazine as the first step toward establishing a publication, with the ultimate goal of generating a professionally managed quarterly publication in an e-magazine format.

During this initial phase, authors will retain all rights to their manuscript, which they can seek to publish elsewhere, if they wish. While the editors of the magazine cannot guarantee the publication of the submitted material, it is their intention to move from an initial mock issue to the first issue by December 2015, for the annual conference of the DHJM and the AHDA, which will take place at Columbia University (3-5 December 2015).

Authors may submit their work for one of five sections that will define the magazine.

1) Regional Coverage: Tell a story about an activity directed toward generating a positive engagement with the past in some specific part of the world. What is your organization engaged in? What sort of activities are being tried to bring opposing sides together in dealing with a difficult history?

2) Profile: Conduct an interview with a civil society activist, policymaker, artist, director, photographer and so forth. Tell us the story about an individual who is engaged in the historical dialogue process. What challenges have they faced?

3) Dialogues: Write an opinion piece about an on-going issue related to a specific historical dialogue process. Present an argument to provoke reflection.

4) The Fine Arts: Write a review of a theater play, movie, art or photography exhibit. Demonstrate how the arts can be a central part of this process. Tell the reader about the content of the art and, when possible, the reception of this by the public.

5) Book Reviews: Write a review essay of 3-5 related books in the style of the New York Review of Books. (3,000 words)

Please include any visual material you wish such as photographs or short videos.

Please send your submission, in English, to: mark.wolfgram@okstate.edu