

INSPIRED by SCIENCE

“Arts and sciences are branches of the same tree.”

— Albert Einstein

The arts and sciences share the same mission: to better know the world around us. Scientists and artists investigate, experiment, interpret and innovate—all tasks that require creativity and skill. At their core, both are motivated by wonder.

In this issue, Douglas Paul explores the wonder of agriculture through its metaphors and relationships to other academic subjects. After participating in OSU’s Summer Ag Institute, a weeklong class for K-12 educators like himself, Paul responded to the experience in true English teacher form—with a sonnet. He presents a beautiful meditation on the legacy and significance of agricultural work in communities.

THE VIEW FROM CHESHIRE HILL

I’ve often wondered what John Steinbeck saw,
His California Eden now long gone.
Replaced by nearly every modern flaw
And man in a state of isolation.

But standing here in the soft evening light,
The dairies, farms and fields spread out below
While high above a wandering hawk takes flight,
The beauty of creation whispers low.

Generations tied to the timeless land;
Sacred bonds redeemed by mutual toil;
The soil, enriched and tilled by loving hands—
Honest, proud, ingenuous and loyal.

The substance of the word “community”
Derives its power not from “I” but “we.”

Douglas Paul (2019)