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I am thrilled to present the 2018 edition of *The Echo*. *The Echo* has a long, respected history at Furman—since its creation in 1893, *The Echo* has been a steadfast platform for student excellence and creativity. Following the development of the creative writing track by Furman’s English department, we reimagined *The Echo* as not solely a publication but also as a way to celebrate art in the Furman community. We did so by emphasizing art as a lived experience and bringing *The Echo* to campus. We hosted events, including a spotlight on Greenville poets, a painting event, a poetry writing event, and numerous giveaways and activities. We have been delighted by the enthusiastic response from many Furman students and faculty.

None of this would have been possible without the support of *The Echo* community. First, thank you to my assistant editors, Lizzy Coyle and Maddie De Pree, who continuously supported me, challenged me, and kept me sane. Thank you also to the editorial board, who lent constant enthusiasm, flexibility, and always fresh eyes despite facing a rather demanding tenure. Finally, I owe endless debts of gratitude to my faculty advisors, Dr. Tevis and Dr. Morris, for wisely and patiently guiding me through the successes and trials of this role. Leading *The Echo* over the last year has been an unparalleled honor and joy for me. I thank you all for your interest in *The Echo* and hope you enjoy the beautiful pieces that the Furman community has created and shared with us.

Maddie Allums
Editor-in-Chief
Class of 2018
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Cover Art: I’m Okay by Ren Zimmerman