Here is a package,
a program of passwords.
It is to bring strangers together.
- William Stafford, “Passwords”
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Passwords, a literary magazine of poetry, prose, and visual art from Claremont Colleges students, is published each semester. Our mission is to provide a literary forum for the 5C community. We hope that this issue of Passwords serves as a historical document, allowing readers insight into our community and the creative work we’re producing at this unique moment in time—Fall 2012.

This semester, we designed the magazine as a self-devouring historical document, requiring of the reader a little destruction in order to access all of the contents. Now that we publish the magazine online simultaneously, the physical codex must assert a reason for its existence. We tried to build such a reason.

A word about our selection process: our editorial board is open to all students. Writers’ and artists’ names are omitted from all submissions before they are distributed to board members, and final selections are made through deliberation by the editorial board. Although the process is by nature subjective, we strive to make it as fair and collaborative as possible.

We would like to thank the Associated Students of Pomona College, the Pitzer College Student Senate, the Associated Students of Harvey Mudd College, the Scripps Associated Students, and the Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College for their financial support, as well as everyone who submitted their work this semester. Finally, thank you, dear reader, for picking up this issue of Passwords.

For more information about submitting to the magazine or joining the editorial board, please send us a message at passwords@pomona.edu.

Mike Opal and Madeleine Wolf
Editors-in-Chief