Instructions for Submissions to The Pharos

The Pharos welcomes material that addresses scholarly and nontechnical topics in medicine and public health such as history, biography, health services research, ethics, education and social issues. Poetry is welcome, as well photograph/poetry combinations. Photography, art and scholarly fiction may also be submitted.

All submissions are subject to Editorial Board review.

Contributors need not be members of Alpha Omega Alpha, however, if they are members they must have active status.

Papers by medical students and residents are welcome.

Submissions must meet the following criteria:

1. Submissions may not have been published elsewhere or be under review by another journal.
2. Essays should have a maximum of 15 pages (approximately 5,000 words), and be submitted in 12-point type, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. They should be accompanied by a cover letter and a title page with the word count, return address, E-mail address of the author, and any real or perceived conflicts of interest. References should not exceed 20 unique items (see below).
3. Poems or photograph/poetry combinations should be in 12-point type, with one-inch margins, with the author’s name, address, and E-mail address on the first page.
4. Send submissions to Dee Martinez, Managing Editor, thepharos@alphaomegaalpha.org.
5. After peer review, the Editorial Board decision will be sent to the author. Every attempt is made to complete preliminary reviews within eight weeks.
6. The editors of The Pharos will edit all manuscripts that are accepted for publication for style, usage, relevance, felicity, and grace of expression, and may provide appropriate illustrative material. Authors should not purchase illustrative material because the editors cannot guarantee that it will be used.
7. In accordance with revised copyright laws, each contributor will need to sign an Author’s Agreement, which will be sent with the edited galleys. Information on copyright ownership and re-publication of articles is detailed in the Author’s Agreement.

Reference Information

Authors are responsible for the accuracy of citations and quotations in their papers. Once a manuscript has been accepted for publication, the author will be required to provide photocopies of all direct quotations from the primary source material, including page numbers. (Please mark the quoted material on the photocopies with highlighter or colored markings.) The photocopies of references must include the title page and copyright pages of all books cited, the first and last pages of book chapters cited, and the first and last pages of journal articles cited, as well as the Table of Contents of the particular issue of the journal in which the cited article appeared. Reference materials cannot be returned to the author.

References should be double-spaced, numbered consecutively in the text, and cited at the end in the following standard form:


Each reference should be listed in the bibliography only once, with multiple uses of a single reference citing the same bibliography reference number. Sample articles from The Pharos (with correct reference form) are available from our Back Issues page.

Citation of websites as references is discouraged unless a site is the single source of the information in question or has official or academic credentials. Examples of such sites are official government web pages such as that of the National Institutes of Health. Encyclopedia sites such as britannica.com are not primary references.

For more information, please contact Dee Martinez at thepharos@alphaomegaalpha.org, or 720-859-4149.