

## Call for Submissions

### Special Issue of [The Journal of Positive Psychology](#)

#### *The Positive Humanities: Arts, Culture, and Well-Being*

### Overview of Special Issue

Arts and culture occupy a remarkable place in our lives. The Positive Humanities, a new field of inquiry and practice, integrates the science of positive psychology with the wisdom of arts and culture. Specifically, the field is interested in how domains like the visual arts, music, literature, theater, and film—and even philosophy, history, and religion and spirituality—can promote flourishing outcomes (such as empathy, mindfulness, subjective well-being, and social connection) and mitigate against languishing outcomes (such as anxiety, depression, and social isolation) that are increasingly common today. Recent years have seen a rapid increase in research tackling questions related to the flourishing benefits of engagement with arts and culture. In this special issue, we aim to bring together scholars working at the intersection of arts, culture, and well-being to build on foundational work within the Positive Humanities. This special issue will be guest edited by Drs. James Pawelski and Katherine Cotter from the Humanities and Human Flourishing Project at the University of Pennsylvania.

### Submission Details

#### *Scope of Submissions*

For this special issue, we are seeking submissions of manuscripts reporting primary research examining the connection between the arts, humanities, and well-being, broadly construed. We welcome submissions focusing on any domain within the arts (e.g., visual art, music, dance, theatre, film, etc.) or the humanities (e.g., literature, philosophy, history, religion, etc.) and how engagement with these domains is associated with well-being and human flourishing in general. We are especially interested in work that emphasizes causal relationships of arts and humanities engagement and well-being, work conducted in non-WEIRD contexts, and work with under-researched populations or arts and humanities domains.

Submissions should conform to the APA style and *The Journal of Positive Psychology* submission criteria (found [here](#)) and should be no longer than 7,500 words. Authors of primary research do not need to contact the guest editors prior to submission of their manuscript. Should an author wish to contribute a non-empirical work (e.g., theoretical article, review, synthesis), they should contact the guest editors prior to submission to the journal ([pawelski@psych.upenn.edu](mailto:pawelski@psych.upenn.edu) and [kncotter@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:kncotter@sas.upenn.edu)).

#### *How to Submit Your Manuscript*

All submissions will undergo external peer review and should be submitted through *The Journal of Positive Psychology* manuscript submission portal (found [here](#)). In the cover letter for your

submission, please indicate that you would like your manuscript to be considered for the Positive Humanities special issue.

**The deadline to submit for consideration in the special issue is June 1, 2024.** Accepted articles will be compiled in a special issue with a planned publication date in 2025, and articles will be made available online as they are accepted for the special issue.