



**For Immediate Release**

March 4, 2021

**Omaha-Based Creative Writing Journal Celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*Fine Lines* reflects on its impact over the last three decades

**OMAHA** – *Fine Lines* is a nonprofit creative writing journal that began in a 1991 remedial English classroom with the founder of *Fine Lines*, David Martin, teaching a group of bright but unmotivated students. He recalled in an interview with the *Midlands* newspaper in 2002 that the students were, "... angry at school. They were angry at their parents. They were angry at teachers. They were angry at themselves for not achieving." Martin decided to take these strong emotions, channel them into the students' writings, and share them with whomever would listen.

David Martin's passion for *Fine Lines* is evident. It is seen in the hours of dedication poured into emails, proofreading, updates, and his own writing, too. Martin's profound quotes about writing are countless, and in speaking to a group of campers in 2013, he created another, when he stated, "We are all little birds with broken wings, yearning to fly. Every time we pick up a pen or pencil to write, our wings stretch and get stronger. The more we write, the healthier we become." This speaks volumes about the power of healing Martin believes is held in creative composition, something he wishes to share with members of *Fine Lines*.

This message has been well-received, for many original submissions to the *Fine Lines Journal* hold extraordinarily impactful messages. Rachel Danford created a writing, which helps readers feel they are not alone in their thoughts. Her essay, "In Search of *The Missing Piece*," states, "We all know what it is like to feel as though our lives are empty, like we are missing a piece, a purpose, or a reason in our lives." Although messages, such as these, can leave readers in awe, *Fine Lines* has had just as great an effect on its writers as their pieces have had on others. When presented with prompts on topics such as appreciation and how *Fine Lines* has changed lives, authors provided a variety of responses sure to touch the heart:

- Cathy Porter detailed, "This journal draws you in. Will you love—or, even like—every piece you read? No. But that doesn't matter. What DOES matter is writers of all abilities share their creativity in a quality journal, one that inspires, and one that encourages. In addition, yes, there WILL be something in every issue to enjoy. You might even check yourself on a previously held conviction or bias. That alone is worth the cost of the journal...."
- Alex Andy Phuong wrote, "I can honestly say that the reason why I write is because of influences I have had during my nearly twenty-six years of being alive on my only home called the Earth."
- Joseph S. Benson stated, "The best educators provide the tools and ignite the desire to use them. Thank you, David."

*Fine Lines* blossomed, after years of progress. Now, it is a quarterly journal dedicated to supporting a variety of original authors, who include prose articles, essays on widely varied topics that reflect life experiences, poetry in all forms, mixed media, and more. Even a summer camp program is held each year. It is designed for young writers of all ages and occupations to let their voices safely be heard. Anyone wishing to improve their craft is welcome. For thirty years, *Fine Lines* has found a source of pride in the diversity of their contributors, having published at least one author, poet, and artist from 85 different countries, ranging from the ages of 6 to 94.

*Fine Lines* has provides a perfect space for those who have thought time and time again, "I know I have a voice; I just did not know there was anyone to listen." To learn more about this creative writing journal and how you can make a submission yourself, visit [www.finelines.org](http://www.finelines.org).

***Fine Lines* Contact:**

David Martin

[fine-lines@cox.net](mailto:fine-lines@cox.net)