

Uploading to the Cortex: Watcher Junior and the Process of Undergraduate Publication: Meghan Winchell, Jodie Kreider, Cynthea Masson, and Kristopher Woofter

Jodie Kreider and Meghan Winchell, current editors of *Watcher Junior: The Undergraduate Journal of Whedon Studies* will lead a roundtable discussion on the process of publishing undergraduate work in *Watcher Junior*. The intended audience includes undergraduate students who want to publish in the journal and professors whose courses yield potential submissions to *WJ*. Kreider and Winchell will outline their editorial perspective on the place of the journal in Whedon scholarship, as well as the requirements used to evaluate and edit articles published in *WJ*, with an emphasis on effective writing, use of evidence and argument, and connections to existing Whedonverse scholarship. Cynthea Masson teaches a course on *Firefly* and a number of her students have published high-quality essays in *WJ*. She will explain how and why she helps students revise the papers they have written in her class before sending them to *WJ* for potential publication. Kristopher Woofter, a long-time reviewer for *WJ*, will discuss the approach and tone he takes when reading and commenting on student submissions and give examples of the type of advice he offers students for the revision process. It is our hope that this roundtable will increase the number of student submissions to the journal as well as enhance the quality of those submissions. The roundtable will also build excitement for the journal and encourage instructors to add research-based assignments to their courses. The journal, and the organization as a whole, would also benefit from the additional international reviewers this roundtable could generate.