ASTROVITAE

Purpose of the Magazine

We are a group of kindred spirits each with interesting ideas and unique artistic styles. The purpose of Astrovitae is to highlight the creative endeavors in the speculative evolution community to build a larger audience for our projects and develop relationships with smaller artists and creators.

Issue Release Frequency

The magazine is planned to be released biannually. The first issue of the year releases in mid-April, while the second issue releases in mid-September. It is possible that issues can come out more frequently than twice a year, but for the time being this will be the plan unless new opportunities arise.

Submission Deadlines

The cut-off date for April entries is **March 15th at 11:59 PM Eastern Time**, while September entries are due **August 15th at 11:59 PM Eastern Time**. This includes both the write-up and high-quality images for your entry. Before the final release of an issue, I will allow all participants access to the journal and suggest edits if necessary. The issues will be available for download on the magazine's official website for free. Issues may be released on additional websites like Yumpu.

Magazine Features

The magazine is primarily interested in displaying speculative evolution artists and their projects, however, there are several other sections that incorporate other forms of content. Below are descriptions of the types of content that will be featured in each issue:

Spec News | 2 – 3 Pages, 5 – 10 images or entries, 100 – 200 words
A brief blurb or explanation of something specific going on in the scientific community, such as a new interesting paper or study about astronomy, paleontology, or another scientific field. It will also include announcements for ongoing art and writing contests in the community.

Captivating Worlds | ★ *Main Feature* | 4 – 8 Pages, 8 – 10 images, 500 – 1,000 words
Captivating Worlds is the primary content of the magazine. This feature showcases your speculative evolution project, the world associated with it, along with notable environments and creatures. You can choose to provide a general overview of your project or choose to focus on specific interesting features.

Artist Spotlight | ★ *Main Feature* | 2 – 5 Pages, 4 – 6 images, 200 – 400 words
The Artist Spotlight will feature an artist and their work. This feature allows you to elaborate on your art process, research, and inspirations that drive your work forward. You may include several images of your art that relate to your process or illustrate how you develop ideas.

The Creature Compendium | ★ *Main Feature* | 1 image, 60 – 80 words
The Creature Compendium will consist of an image of an interesting creature. A small write-up describing the organism and its features should be included. Creatures that have been created by you are acceptable, but we would also like to see you enter creatures created by other artists you are fond of! *Disclaimer: Make sure that you have received the artist's permission to submit their work.*

Meme Zone | 1 image, and an optional 20 word description
A short section containing the greatest scientific or speculative biology memes.

Spec Review | 1 – 3 Pages, 1 – 2 images, 400 – 800 words
General article or essay that focuses on reviewing sci-fi media or sharing thoughts about recent scientific findings.

Content Categories

In order to provide clarity for the reader, content in the magazine will be tagged with specific categories. The content might include only one tag, although sometimes they can include two or more. Each tag will have its own unique symbol and will accompany featured submissions near the title or byline. Below are descriptions of current tags:

Alien Spec - Content that focuses on the speculative biology of extraterrestrial animals on other worlds.

Earth Spec - Content that focuses on the speculative biology of life currently on Earth.

Environment Spec - Content that focuses on one or more speculative environments and their features.

Hard Spec - Content that goes into depth about scientific technicalities and biomechanics. The content possesses research oftentimes thorough.

Micro Spec - Content that focuses on organisms that are extremely small or participle to the human eye, like bacterium, viruses, and other microorganisms.

Mythos Spec - Content that focuses on the speculative biology of cryptids, mythological creatures, or creatures from fiction like dragons, elves, giants, etc.

Paleo Spec - Content that focuses on the speculative biology of prehistoric creatures, such as ice age megafauna, dinosaurs, and other animals that had existed on Earth in the past.

Planet Spec - Content that focuses on one or more speculative planets, their planetary features, and physics.

Soft Spec - Content that does not go into depth about scientific technicalities or biomechanics. The content is more focused on speculation or concepts more than on research and is much easy for casual readers to digest.

Universe Spec - Content that focuses on speculative universes with unusual physics.

Magazine Length

The magazine will consist of approximately 10 – 15 Captivating World entries, 8 – 12 Artist Spotlight entries, and 15 – 25 Creature Compendium entries, totaling around 40 – 56 pages (not including Spec News, Spec Review, and other sections). *Note: Features may exceed these approximations sometimes.*

How to Participate

Make a Decision | Before participating first decide on whether you want to make a Captivating Worlds or Artist Spotlight entry. In addition you can create a Creature Compendium, Spec News, Meme Zone, or Spec Review entry if you are participating in Captivating Worlds or Artist Spotlight already. Do not feel pressured to create a Captivating World or Artist Spotlight as you can opt to submit multiple entries for the smaller sections instead!

Find Images | Gather images you wish to show in your submission. Remember that your images should be high-quality (at least 300 dpi resolution) or close to this. Photographs should be properly exposed and edited before being submitted. If submitted images do not meet these requirements they may be rejected.

Start Writing | Create a write-up that is roughly the word-length of the type of entry you are planning for submission (*see Magazine Features*). Include a title for your entry, your full name (or whatever you wish to be referred as), your Instagram username, and mark your entry with content categories it might fall under (*see Content Categories*). Make sure that your content is checked for any spelling or grammar mistakes before submitting it. Try and find someone else to look over your writing too!

Submit your Entry | Your text document should be sent to me via email as a .pdf file, .docx file, or as a google doc link. The current email taking submissions is projectperditus@gmail.com however this email address will change in the future when the magazine's website is published. Images should be included in your email or can be sent in a separate email.

Submission Checklist

What to include in the email of your submission:

1. Your first and last name, or any name you wish to be referred as.
2. Links to your personal website, portfolio, or any social media account. Although this step is optional.
3. Title of your Submission.
4. Type of feature your submission falls under *(see Magazine Features)*.
5. Types of tags that are relevant to your submission *(see Content Categories)*.
6. The final draft of your text entry in a docx, .pdf, or google drive format.
7. Your image(s) you wish to include in 300 dpi resolution or higher.

Dates to remember:

1. The deadline for early annual submissions is **March 15th at 11:59 PM Eastern Time**.
2. The deadline for late annual submissions is **August 15th at 11:59 PM Eastern Time**.

Disclaimer: Submissions that lack quality or do not meet word counts may be rejected. You should be 16+ years of age to be able to enter, anyone younger than 16 needs their parent or a guardian's permission to participate.

Suggestions & Questions

Feel free to brainstorm features that you think would be fun or interesting to include in an issue! The magazine is always open to new ideas, especially if it can include more artists and creators. For any questions, you can email me at projectperditus@gmail.com or direct message me on Instagram at [@project_perditus](https://instagram.com/project_perditus).