

A Brief History of the *Journal of Anime and Manga Studies*

Billy Tringali

Volume 5, i-viii

In 2017, I stood in front of the ‘Welcome!’ greeting at the Kyoto International Museum of Manga.

Amidst sketches, and several incredible notes about the value of this artform to society and the importance of its preservation, the museum’s Executive Director Hiroshi Aramata wrote of his “sense of burning” when it came to the importance of manga – both in his life, and all around the world. I remember so clearly how he encouraged those reading his message, and visiting the museum, to ‘do all they could’ for manga.¹

I enrolled at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign not long after that fateful trip to Kyoto, where I began attempting to research the scholarly side of anime. To my horror I discovered that, even in the third largest library in the United States, while pursuing a degree from the best library school in the United States, finding reputable resources was still all but impossible. Academic papers about anime lived across dozens of journals in as many subjects - education, travel, information science - and each of these journals required a paid subscription to a different database. Paywall after paywall sealed away crucial information from those who wanted to follow that ‘burning’ passion that Aramata described.

So, as part of my Master’s in Library and Information Science, I pitched an open access journal to the Illinois Open Publishing Network. After a year-long notes process, JAMS was approved, and I launched our first ‘Call for Papers’ in June of 2019.

But the work didn't stop there. As part of building up my new project, I flew myself to an academic conference in Washington, D.C., where I was fortunate enough to share the idea of JAMS with Frenchy Lunning, the founder of *Mechademia*. While sitting together at the hotel bar, Frenchy connected me with dozens of scholars who would be eager to peer review for JAMS or submit work for consideration: her word lent trust and legitimacy to the hard work of a young scholar with no connections yet in the field. I will always be grateful to Frenchy for her kindness, and now her friendship, and I still feel so lucky she was willing to use her voice in the field to give JAMS a chance to find its footing in the world of anime and manga studies.

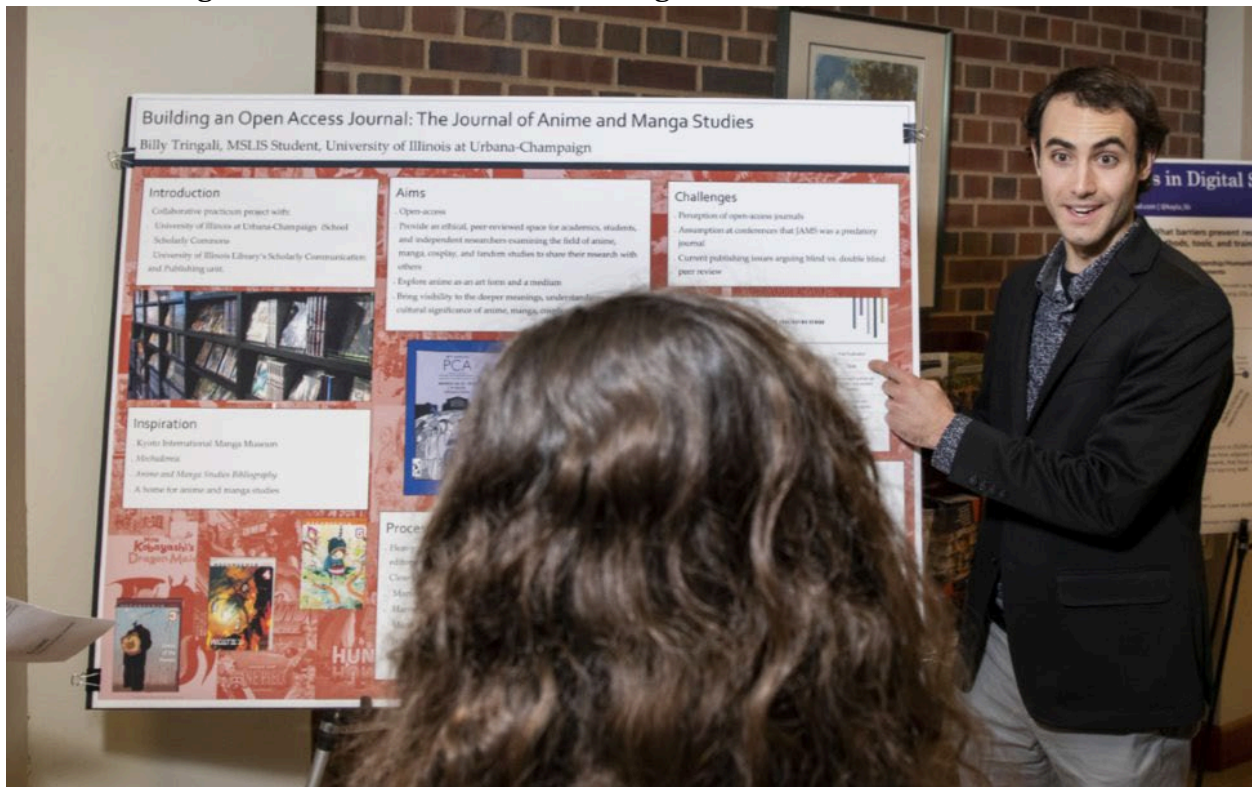


Figure 1 - Billy Tringali presenting the concept of JAMS to the University of Illinois iSchool in 2019

The inaugural volume of JAMS was launched in November of 2020, where it totaled 173 pages of open-access, free-to-read scholarship on anime and manga, ranging from discussions of Utopian Dystopia in *Puella Magi Madoka Magica* to media representations of the Ainu people and so much in between.

The volume you are about to read stands at 314 pages.

And JAMS has continued to expand over these last five years of existence. More big milestones included JAMS being added to the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) in 2022,²³ and then in 2024, being added to EBSCO's 'Academic Search Complete' – each of which increased JAMS' visibility across institutions of research and

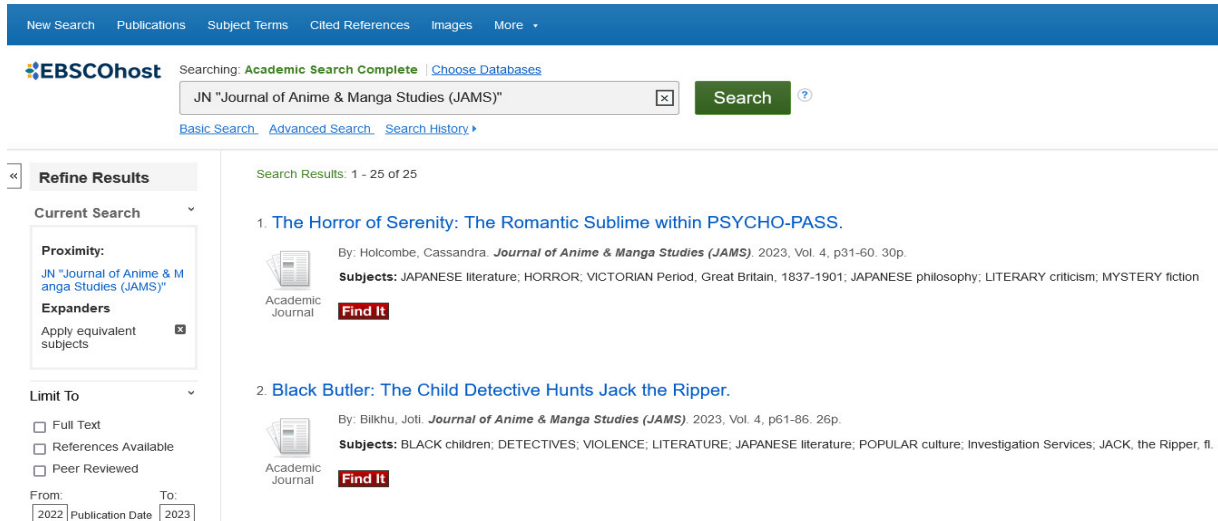


Figure 2 - JAMS in Academic Search Complete

learning all around the world.

Moreover, this journal's footprint has grown exponentially since that initial publication. In April of 2024 JAMS saw our highest download count to date, with 3,137

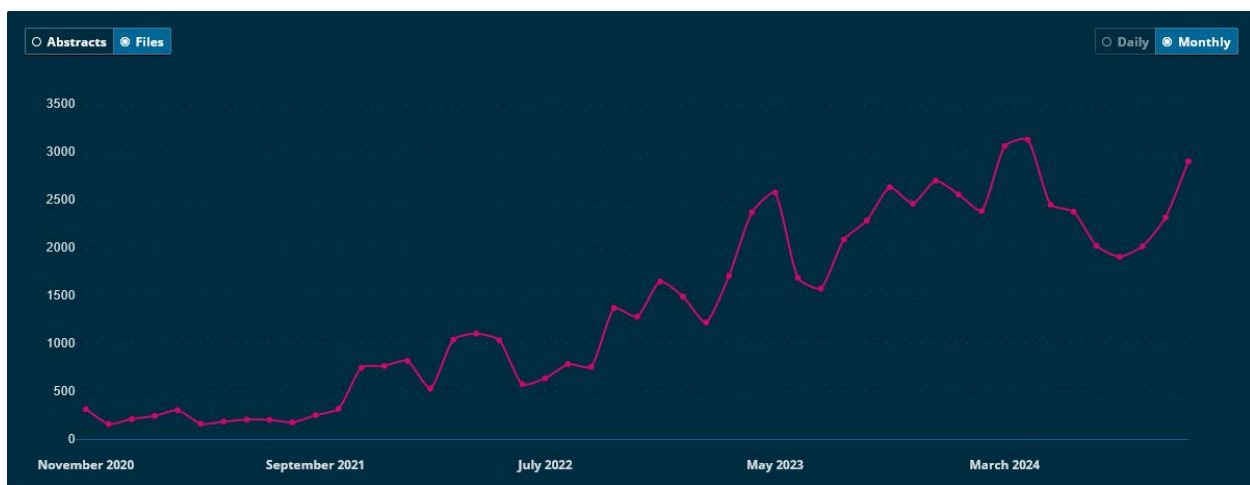


Figure 3 - JAMS Downloads from 11/20 - 11/24

unique downloads. And overall, since the publishing of our inaugural volume in November of 2020, articles in JAMS have been viewed and downloaded 136,241 times.

This steady growth has led to a necessary expansion of editors on JAMS, and I am extremely happy to announce and welcome Maria K. Alberto to the *Journal of Anime and Manga Studies* as Associate Editor. Maria has served as a reviewer and copyeditor for JAMS since its inception, and her expertise has helped the journal immeasurably over the past five years.

I first met Maria at that same 2019 conference in Washington, D.C., where she accepted one of the fliers I was handing out attempting to spread the word about what was then an upcoming, yet-to-be-released, open-access journal. In the years that followed, Maria has become a rock for the journal, a trusted colleague, and most importantly, a remarkably dear friend whom I truly cannot imagine my life without.

With that, I want to dedicate this volume of JAMS to:

Maria K. Alberto

Very special gratitude, and a warm welcome, must be given to JAMS' new Associate Editor. Thank you, Maria, for coming onboard officially! I am so excited to see what we will publish together in the future!

To close, I have one final note to share with you all. Founding and continuing to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Anime and Manga Studies* has added so much to my life. For two years now, I have been fortunate enough to coordinate a conference at Anime Expo, where hours of lectures by anime researchers have been heard by thousands of people. I have presented at conventions like New York Comic Con and conferences like the Popular Culture Association. I have served on committees for

Japan Past & Present and *Mechademia*, and met with agencies like the Japan Foundation. Without JAMS, I never would have been given these incredible opportunities, and being able to meet with so many amazing people makes all the time poured into this open-access journal more than worth it. I am so grateful to serve as JAMS' Editor-in-Chief, and beyond honored to be able to share and publish the works of so many amazing scholars from all around the world.

As JAMS Editor-in-Chief, I have been able to speak with fans, journalists, academics, administrators, librarians, and government workers -- all of whom say the same thing, consistently.

They cannot find academic works about anime, even as anime continues to skyrocket in popularity all around the world.

From its initial concept in my brain in 2017, to writing this paper in 2024, I have always believed that JAMS exists to be part of the solution to that problem.

For five years now, the *Journal of Anime and Manga Studies* has been dedicated to building a space where anyone, anywhere, all around the world, can read, download, share, and cite high-quality academic works about anime. And beyond the digital space where you're reading these words now, this journal is made up of people who donate their time, knowledge, and expertise to make JAMS a valuable resource for those who wish to learn more about, and explore the potential of, the medium they love.

I remain so grateful to you, the readers of our journal, for your enthusiasm for JAMS and the incredible work we are fortunate enough to publish.

Thank you for your readership, and with so much warmth,

Billy Tringali

Editor-in-Chief

Table of Contents

From Manipulative Masterminds to Flirtatious Fools: An Examination of Male Sweet Voice Archetypes in Anime

Finnigan Lewis 1-30

The Eye of the Dragon: Ecological Thinking in *Delicious in Dungeon*

Daniel Ambord 31-50

Using Anime in Teaching and Understanding Major International Relations (IR) Theories: A Case Study of *How a Realist Hero Rebuilt the Kingdom*

Nathaniel Punongbayan Candelaria 51-74

Hong Kong's Anime: A Cultural History of Anime in Hong Kong's Last Decade

Mateja Kovacic 75-112

Ballet Immemorial: *Princess Tutu*, Meta-Ballet, and the Fatal Significance of Gesture

Kathryn Boyer 113-139

Gundam and the Japanese Media Mix: Novelizations, Model Kits and Statues

Shotaro Kinoshita 140-190

Cosplay Collaboration Videos: Community Interactivity in Times of Pandemic

Edmund Hoff 191-205

Cloning: A Technofeminist Narrative of Posthumanism on Tomie's
Character in Anime *Junji Ito Collection* (2018)

Aqilah Bilqiis Salsabiil Harahap, Sri Kusumo Habsari, Deny Tri Ardianto 206-
240

JAMS@AX24 Conference Report

Emilie Waggoner, Jaclyn Koshofer 241-253

Book Review: Manga in Libraries: A Guide for Teen Librarians

Sara Lowe 254-258

Book Review: The Early Reception of Manga in the West

Cetoria Tomberlin 259-262

FITV 1111: Anime Goes to College Syllabus

Emilie Waggoner 263-280

Syllabus: Intro to Manga

Lindsey Stirek 281-293

Syllabus: Intro to Japanese Animation

Lindsey Stirek 294-314

¹ Aramata, Hiroshi. "Message from the Executive Director." Kyoto International Manga Museum. Accessed December 5, 2024. <https://www.kyotomm.jp/en/about/greeting/>

² DOAJ. "Journal of Anime and Manga Studies." DOAJ.org. December 13th, 2022. <https://doaj.org/toc/2689-2596>.

³ Hazra, Adriana. "Journal of Anime and Manga Studies Joins Directory of Open Access Journals." Anime News Network. March 12th, 2022. <http://4NN.cx/.183360>.

Bibliography

Aramata, Hiroshi. "Message from the Executive Director." Kyoto International Manga Museum. Accessed December 5, 2024. <https://www.kyotomm.jp/en/about/greeting/>

DOAJ. "Journal of Anime and Manga Studies." DOAJ.org. December 13th, 2022. <https://doaj.org/toc/2689-2596>.

Hazra, Adriana. "Journal of Anime and Manga Studies Joins Directory of Open Access Journals." Anime News Network. March 12th, 2022. <http://4NN.cx/.183360>.