

Example Blue House Monthly Article Submission (65 Characters Max)

By Name of Your Choice (@discordtag or any other contact you wish to add)

General Introduction

Here is an example draft article for a Blue House Monthly (BHM) submission. It's important that the article title is both descriptive and unique. Equally important is that an article should have a clear aim or message to tell the reader. There should never be any ambiguity on what an article is "about" or what stance the article is taking. You can send us an article or article draft in any easily accessible format, such as .doc, .docx, .txt, .odt, email, Discord message, or link to any the above on a service like Google Drive or OneDrive.

General submission criteria can be found on the main BHM page. (1) Our preferred citation format is a parenthetical number after the end of a sentence, and the citation listed in the Sources section at the end. If the reference you're using can be accessed with a simple URL, such as a web page or YouTube video, then the URL alone is sufficient. If the reference that you're using cannot be accessed online – such as an undigitized book or email chain – then using a standard citation format that uses numerical indexes is preferred. For example, AMA or Vancouver citation formats work extremely well. (2)

Images are welcome in any article, but must be relevant and properly sourced. Images with Create Commons licensing such as Wikimedia, images you make yourself, or images used under "Fair Use" guidelines are acceptable. (5)

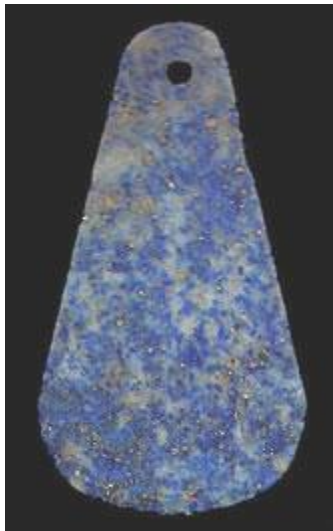


Figure 1, "Mesolapis," a tear drop shaped lapis lazuli pendant from Mesopotamia. (4)

Style Preferences

While it is acceptable to have footnotes, it is very preferred to minimize or eliminate the use of footnotes in an article. This improves readability and makes a cleaner looking article when we translate it to a standalone web page. For example:

Blue House is a trans-centric LGBT Discord server that began in October 2020¹.

It's much preferable to re-write this without the footnote, for example:

Blue House is a trans-centric LGBT Discord server that began in October 2020. It started its life as tttt-House, taking its name after the 4chan "/tttt/" board. It was later renamed in 2021 to distance itself from 4chan type culture.

It's important to strike a balance between being descriptive and not being overly verbose. For each issue, we aim to have normal articles be around 1500 words. We're happy to accept well-written and informationally dense articles under 1500, of course. For example, Hormones and Dry Eye by Ellie is roughly 1050 words. (3) That is perfectly acceptable, as the article is a very technical article with a high information to length ratio.

Work in Progress Submissions

[TODO: I should also talk about partially completed submissions]

[TODO: provide an example of a work-in-progress article that someone can submit]

We are more than happy to work with you to complete and polish a work-in-progress article. Put general ideas down, or topics that you want to explore in some way that is clearly not meant to be in the finished article. If you would like us to work together to polish an article, please submit a draft as early as possible. This ensures that we can work together on editing and expanding the article, and have it in the next issue.

Submissions can be written in any English dialect. Our only caveat is that you do not mix or alternate between different dialectical variations. For example:

*We **analysed** the **colour** of the BHM website, and changed it to increase readability.* (British English)

*We **analyzed** the **color** of the BHM website, and changed it to increase readability.* (American English)

Both of these sentences are acceptable, so long as the entire article follows singular dialectical convention. Mix-and-matching them, such as using "analysed" with "color" or "analyzed" with "colour" is not.

¹ Formerly known as tttt-House from 2020 to 2021, which was named after the 4chan /lgbt/ board – also known as the /tttt/ board. It was renamed to distance itself from 4chan culture.

Summary

Articles should have a closing paragraph that sums up the message of the article, and leaves them with the overall impression that you wanted to make. Having a clear example article will help writers start and complete their submissions. This example article can even be used as a template for the writers who aren't sure where to start. This small example article is only about 700 words. For even more complex topics, using this as a guide can help you make an exemplary article. 💧

Sources

1. <https://bluehouse.lgbt/blue-house-monthly>
2. <https://www.bibguru.com/blog/citation-styles-with-numbers/>
3. <https://bluehouse.lgbt/featured-articles/f/hormones-and-dry-eye>
4. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mesolapis.jpg>
5. <https://fairuse.stanford.edu/overview/fair-use/what-is-fair-use/>