Guest edited by Jungwon Kim (Columbia University), this October 2019 special issue is a first for the *Journal of Korean Studies*. While the *JKS* has published numerous articles over the years examining multiple dimensions of premodern Korea (including two articles on the Chosŏn dynasty in the spring 2019 issue), “Archives, Archival Practices, and the Writing of History in Premodern Korea” is the first *JKS* special issue to focus exclusively on the premodern period. Interest in premodern Korea is on the rise in North America, and a cohort of younger scholars engaged in cutting edge work across disciplines—history, religions, art, performance studies, literature, to name few—has emerged. The articles comprising this special issue tackle the notion of the “archive” in Chosŏn Korea in exciting and innovative ways. Paying close attention to the multilayered contexts in which divergent forms of recordkeeping—formal and informal—took place in Chosŏn Korea, this special issue casts new light both on premodern practices of documentation and the formation of modern, institutional archives that frame contemporary scholarship. We hope that this special issue paves the way for future collaborations not only on the Chosŏn dynasty but on earlier periods as well.

The editorial office of the *Journal of Korean Studies* is housed at the Center for Korean Research, Columbia University. The *JKS* is published by Duke University Press. Publication of the *Journal of Korean Studies* is made possible by a generous grant from the Academy of Korean Studies. For more information on the *JKS*, please visit the following websites: [http://jks.weai.columbia.edu/](http://jks.weai.columbia.edu/); [https://www.dukeupress.edu/journal-of-korean-studies/?viewby=journal](https://www.dukeupress.edu/journal-of-korean-studies/?viewby=journal).