



CONTENTS

3
The Brief

13
The View

20
The Fire Next Time

Eleven months after wildfire devastated Altadena, Calif., the recovery effort is a cautionary tale on climate disaster response
By Justin Worland

28
Playing Pandemic

It's public-health experts who take notes when students simulate the response to a major virus outbreak
By Dominique Mosbergen

34
Best Photographs

Through the most evocative, noteworthy, and striking images of 2025, TIME's photo department tells the story of the year that was

49
Time Off

Cherry blossoms at the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C., on March 27
Photograph by Matt McClain—The Washington Post/Getty Images