



The Annual Saint Paul Sidewalk Poetry Contest



Online Submissions Deadline: Sunday, March 28, 2010
Up to 5 poets will receive a \$150 prize and citywide honor!

Saint Paul sidewalks are paved with poetry! The Department of Public Works and Public Art Saint Paul invite residents to enter this unique annual contest. Winning poems will be permanently published in city sidewalks. We are looking for short poems that provide a delightful moment of outdoor reading. Poems may be uplifting, funny, thoughtful...anything appropriate for the general public. There's a poet in each of us, so we encourage everyone to enter. Here are two examples of previous contest winners:

Bad day

The red lid unscrewed
from the jar of extra crunchy
almost empty
and the full, mounded spoon
half shoved in my mouth
says it all –
I don't want to talk.

By Caley J. Conney

The sky
fell on
my
toes
and
I was
a fast
runner.

By Diego Vázquez, Jr.

Guidelines:

- All residents of Saint Paul—young or old, professional writers or amateur—are eligible. Past winners are not eligible. Past honorable mentions are eligible to enter again.
- Submit up to two poems. Text and subject matter must be appropriate for the general public.
- Poems must be in English; and must fit within a maximum of 10 lines, 40 characters per line including spaces, and 250 characters overall including spaces.
- Poems can be previously published or unpublished, as long as it is original work by the entrant.
- All entries are reviewed by a panel in a blind judging process.
- Selected poets will receive a \$150 prize and installation of their poem in city sidewalks. Poets' names will be credited on the project website, but not in the sidewalk. Some selected poems may receive editing suggestions from the panel.
- Entry deadline is **Sunday, March 28, 2010, at midnight**. Winners will be announced by May 1, 2010.
- Entries are accepted online only. There is a \$3 entry fee. Visit: www.stpaul.gov/poetry.
- If submitting on behalf of a school group, please review the online submission form well in advance for additional instructions. Entry fees are waived for school groups.

For more information about this project, visit: www.stpaul.gov/poetry. For questions, please contact Dave Hunt at dave.hunt@ci.stpaul.mn.us, 651-266-6134. Thank you!

The Annual Saint Paul Sidewalk Poetry Contest is funded by Public Art Saint Paul and produced in collaboration with Saint Paul's Department of Public Works. This project is led by Marcus Young, City Artist in Residence.

