

The 2011 ANNUAL SAINT PAUL SIDEWALK POETRY CONTEST

The panel selected from 584 poems by 362— entrants through an anonymous review process. Poems about the weather, weeds, cooking, love of Saint Paul, sports, dinosaurs, even fish food—everything under the sun it seems—made us think and laugh. There was an abundance of good poems, and the panel had the very difficult time of choosing 5 winners and 5 honorable mentions. We congratulate these writers:

WINNERS

Sarah Clark
Louis DiSanto
Michael Murphy
Lillian Rupp (youth submission)
Michael Russelle

HONORABLE MENTION

Gloria Bengtson
Destiny Carter (school submission)
Megan Marsnik
Charles Matson Lume
Susan Steger Welsh

If your work wasn't selected this year, we encourage you to submit again next time. We have 36 poems in our collection, and it continues to expand. We look forward to another year of sidewalk poetry, this unique annual tradition for our City.

Everyday Poems for City Sidewalk is a program of Public Art Saint Paul and the City's Public Works Department. As Public Works goes about its business fixing sidewalks, we efficiently install beautiful poems into this everyday element of our lives. This award-winning program invites our own residents to write in our city-sized book of poetry, Thank you for your submission, and thank you for helping Saint Paul pave its streets with poetry!

Sincerely,
Marcus Young

2011 Selection Panel Members:

Carol Connolly, Saint Paul Poet Laureate
Khary Jackson
John Minczeski
Diego Vazquez, Jr.
Marcus Young, City Artist in Residence

2011 POEMS
5 Winners

I can't remember
all the flowers she taught me.
Her pansies worry.

by Michael Murphy

Four feet tall and poised,
glove on, front row, third base line,
yearning for the foul.

by Michael Russelle

Evening Chores

When the door claps its frame
the goat runs as if I were
bringing the world instead
Of rotting squash. His
strong teeth search
for me more- gently
As if he couldn't bear to know-
that one world is all I have
to feed him
and one is not enough.

by Sara Clark

He's fat
My fault
No walks

by Lillian Rupp
(youth submission)

Love of Hockey

Life magazines for shin guards.
Skates too big, stick cracked and old,
jacket patched and tattered.
I ignored the smirks and winter's cold,
love of hockey was all that mattered.

by Louis DiSanto

5 Honorable Mentions

Sky like a mottled-gray egg
sits low in its nest
waiting to hatch winter

Gloria Bengtson

burdened by beauty
mammoth sunflowers bow their
heads, pray for plainness

Megan Marsnik

Tyrannosaurus

Tyrannosaurus so big and wide
Can gulp you up in one big gulp
He is one big fat guy to hide

Poor tyrannosaurus with big tears
when you cry
What am I going to do with you?

Destiny Carter
(school submission)

Sky Note #1

What trees do for sky:
bone work.
Holding upright
the onrushing
blue body
of heaven.

Susan Steger Welsh

The day seems tired,
it hasn't made
a single
cloud.

Charles Matson Lume