

Sidewalk Poetry Winners Announced

(Saint Paul) Saint Paul Public Works and Public Art Saint Paul today announced the winners of the 2009 Everyday Poems for City Sidewalk Contest. The Sidewalk Poetry project, conceived and managed by Saint Paul Artist in Residence, Marcus Young, kicks off its second year with today's announcement.

Young commented, "For the second consecutive year, I'm proud to be a part of a wonderful collaboration between Public Works and Public Art Saint Paul. This process results in the efficient installation of beautiful poetry into this everyday element of our lives. Our partnership has produced an award-winning and innovative program which invites Saint Paul residents to write in our city-book of poetry."

Young went on to note that, "Last year, we made ninety-nine installations of twenty poems throughout the City. This year, we will add five new poems to our collection."

This year's contest garnered over four hundred submissions. "I wish to extend my thanks to everyone who entered," said Young. Poems about the weather, pets, memories, family, baseball, love of Saint Paul, the stars, even nonsense, stirred, amused and made us laugh. There was a lot of good work, yet we could only pick five winners and five honorable mentions. We offer our congratulation to the following poets:"

WINNERS

Anna Everett Beek
Mary Davini
Pam Haas
Marianne McNamara
Kurt Schultz

HONORABLE MENTION

Jakob Allrich
Olivia Baker
Austin Butterfield
Rosemary Davis
Gretchen Rueth

(Judging Panelists: Carol Connolly, Margaret Hasse, John Minczeski, Hans Weyandt, Marcus Young)

Winning poems will be posted on the City website in July, and they will start appearing in the sidewalks in August.