

## **Northfield's Arts and Culture Commission 2018 Sidewalk Poetry Contest Winners Announced**

The Arts and Culture Commission (ACC) of Northfield, in partnership with the *Friends and Foundation of the Library*, is pleased to announce the winners of the City's eighth annual *Sidewalk Poetry Contest* and congratulate them for their efforts. Chosen from among 64 poems submitted for judging, five poems have been selected for imprinting in city sidewalks.

The Arts and Culture Commission applauds and thanks the many local poets who submitted their poetry to the competition. We are pleased to announce the following winners, in alphabetical order, of this year's contest:

Becky Boling  
Avery Eastvold  
Steven McCown  
Julie Ryan  
Marie Vogel Gery

The five contest judges were drawn from across the community, representing the colleges, city staff, the community, professional writers, and published poets. Judging was completely blind, in that poems were not identified by authors' names at the time of judging. Judges were: Northfield's Poet Laureate Rob Hardy; Diane LeBlanc, Director of Writing/Professor at St. Olaf College and a published poet; Leslie Schultz, published poet; Scott Jensen, community member and poet; and Emily Lloyd, poet and Director of Children's Programming at the Northfield Public Library.

The winning poems will be on display at the Northfield Public Library and City Hall. They will also be posted on the ACC page of the City of Northfield website and on the website of the *Friends and Foundation of the Library*. Copies of the poems will also be shared with local media. Poems will be installed in City sidewalks over the spring and summer, as weather permits. Following the installation of this year's winning poems, a Sidewalk Poetry celebration will take place on Thursday, August 30, 2018, at 7 pm on Bridge Square in downtown Northfield.

ACC Contact: Bonnie Jean Flom ([bjflom@gmail.com](mailto:bjflom@gmail.com))

###