

Northfield Arts and Culture Commission Sidewalk Poetry Competition 2017 Winning Poems

A summer breeze chases the grass
Around the yard
The sprinkler makes galaxies
On the sidewalk
An old man turns the corner
In a red pickup truck.

-Jon P. Frasz

Crystal winter fog—
you hang on air, coat trees,
fur the evergreen.

-D.E. Green

Flip-flops and Birkenstocks
spongy running shoes,
muddy paws and tickling toes
stroller wheels and neon chalk
are all a delight for me,
but oh how hard it is
to see the toddler
about to skin his knee.

-Lucy Archibald

Sandhill Cranes

They are here!
Hear their fluted calls.
Great grey sentinels of Spring.
Whose sandy silver bones
Hearken to a time
When we were not.

-Andrew & Gina Franklin

A book is a place
to lose yourself.
Images portrayed,
thoughts being made,
Yet I don't even remember
turning the page.

-Caitlyn Clarey

Early butterfly, hummingbird,
silver flash of a distant plane
disappearing into its future,
all write their way into now
and away as a fish leaps gold,
catches a bright insect,
and disappears.

-Susan Jaret McKinstry

Prairie grass swaying.
Crickets saying,
 Rain.

Maple leaves shiver.
Earthworms whisper,
 Rain.

Come in, my darling.
Mama calling,
 Rain.

-Aimee Hagerty Johnson

The crickets
Held for my pet's dinner
Sing like a captive bit of summer
Stuck in the living room, which
Screens them from
The winter's empty gaze

-Anna Moltchanova

Under the murmur
of falling water
all the songs gather

until your voice
channels rain
and river

singing them down
to this precious
dust

-Leslie Schultz

Immigrant feet
Native feet
Walking alongside
The same path
And the trees talking about
The ever borderless land

-Mar Valdecantos