

# MAKE YOUR MARK

The Arts and Culture Commission of Northfield announces the **2020 Sidewalk Poetry competition.**

All residents of the Northfield School District and students of any age, young and old, professional writers and amateurs – are eligible. Each person may submit up to two short poems that are appropriate for the public sphere.

We are pleased to announce that we are accepting poetry submissions in Spanish, as well as English, this year. Poets need not provide translations of their submissions.

This project is funded by the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council and the Friends and Foundation of the Northfield Public Library, and is a partnership with the Northfield Public Library and the City of Northfield's Arts and Culture Commission.

For further contest information and important submission rules, see Sidewalk Poetry on the Arts and Culture Commission page of the City of Northfield website.

The competition is open from Saturday, February 1, 2020, to Saturday, March 7, 2020. Winners will be announced in April 2020 National Poetry Month.

# 2020



The Arts and Culture  
Commission of Northfield  
announces the **2020 Sidewalk  
Poetry, New Voices,  
competition rules:**

All residents of the Northfield School District and students of any age may submit up to two short poems. 2019 winners are not eligible in 2020.

There is no charge for submission. All entries are reviewed by a panel in a blind judging process.

**The following are criteria for submission:**

- Each person may submit up to two poems in Spanish or English. Poets need NOT provide translations of their submissions. Text and subject matter must be appropriate for the general public. Poems that are explicitly religious, political, graphically violent or overtly sexual will not be considered.
- A panel of judges, including English and Spanish speakers, will carry out a blind judging process. In that panel members will be given no identifying information regarding the poets.
- Poems may be composed in either a **vertical format** (up to 11 lines; no line having more than 26 characters including spaces and punctuation), or **horizontal format** (up to 8 lines; no line having more than 36 characters including spaces and punctuation). If a title is included, it will count as two lines (title line plus a line space between the title and the poem). These size restrictions are strictly enforced.
- Poems can be previously published or unpublished, as long as they are original work of the entrant.
- All poems must be submitted online or in hard copy.
- Hard copy entries must be submitted in typewritten form on 8-1/2" by 11" paper, one poem per page. No poets name or other identifying text can be on the page on which the poem appears.
- Each entrant must also include one cover page with the poet's name, home address, phone number and email address, and the first line of each poem submitted. DO NOT use staples.
- Poets retain full copyright of their poems. Entering the contest poets agree that the ACC and the City of Northfield may freely use and/or print the poems as many times as they wish, and also use the poems in whole or in part of promotional, documentary, and/or celebratory purposes.
- Entries must be submitted online or in person to the circulation desk at the Northfield Public Library or mailed to: Friends of the Northfield Public Library, 210 Washington Street, Northfield, MN, 55057. Label the envelope: "Attn: Sidewalk Poetry"

**\*The deadline for submission of poems is 5pm on Saturday, March 7, 2020.**

Winning poems will be announced in April, National Poetry Month, and installed as soon as weather permits. Winning poems from the ninth previous contest can be found on the Arts and Culture Commission page of the City of Northfield website.

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