

Saint Paul

ALMANAC

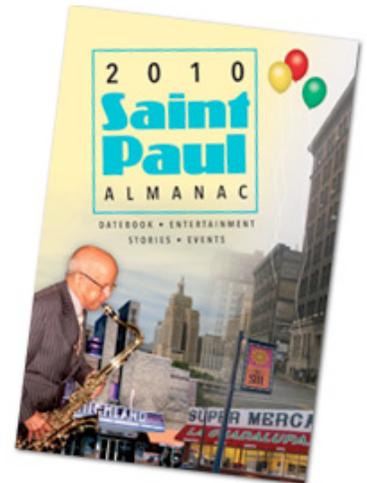
saintpaulalmanac.com

Introduction

Book launch party planned for September 17, 2009 at Black Dog Café to celebrate the release of the homegrown story collection, calendar and guide for tourists and residents wishing to explore the cultural and social breadth of Saint Paul throughout the year.

July 31, 2009, SAINT PAUL, MN – Now in its fourth year, the *Saint Paul Almanac*, published by Arcata Press, offers an eclectic and often quirky mix of evocative essays, history, reviews and profiles, alongside poems and limericks by both critically acclaimed and new, unseasoned writers. The *Almanac* is the only guidebook to Minnesota's capital city—Saint Paul—as well as an experiment in democratic publishing.

Led by managing editor, Kimberly Nightingale, the *Saint Paul Almanac* mentors a group of community editors who collect stories in their communities—both written and oral—and together decide which essays and poems to include in the *Saint Paul Almanac*. This collaborative and democratic approach with a cross-cultural and cross-generational team strengthens the relationship of the *Saint Paul Almanac* to the community it serves. For 2010, the community editors reviewed over 400 submissions and ultimately included 135 works by 110 writers.



Often described as “a literary campfire around which the diverse Saint Paul community gathers to share its stories,” the [Saint Paul Almanac](#) provides entertainment, photography, maps and listings of events, restaurants, theaters and other cultural venues within a datebook format. By combining the calendar aspects of an almanac with literary stories, the *Almanac* encourages readers to use their books and read the stories and poems throughout the year. It’s a way to bring good writing into the daily life of the city.

Contributors to the *2010 Saint Paul Almanac* include literary giants, everyday residents, students, journalists, new Americans, and lovers of Saint Paul who live in other corners of the world. Every story has a unique, individual voice that, when combined in the *Saint Paul Almanac*, become a chorus reflecting the energy of Saint Paul today. Publishing work by new writers alongside the likes of Garrison Keillor, Margaret Hasse, David Mura, Kao Kalia Yang, Todd Boss, Carol Connolly, Tim Nolan, and other acclaimed Saint Paul writers uplifts and influences the artistic identity of the entire community.

The *Saint Paul Almanac* invites all who love Saint Paul to join in celebrating the launch of the *2010 Saint Paul Almanac* at a book release party.

"Celebration Through Stories"

Thursday, Sept. 17, 2009 from 6 to 8 p.m.

2010 Saint Paul Almanac **Book Release Party**

[Black Dog Café](#)

308 Prince St , St Paul, Minnesota

Readings • Book Signing • Hors d'oeuvres • Cash Bar • Prize Drawings • Artist Interpretations

The *Saint Paul Almanac* will also present a series of **ten Reading Jams**, each curated and produced by well-known Saint Paul writers and spoken word artists, at Black Dog Café on the first Monday of each month beginning in October, 2009. In addition, a variety of independent coffee shops and public venues throughout the city will offer readings by contributors to the *Saint Paul Almanac* in the weeks following the launch. More information about the Reading Jams and related events will be announced as details are finalized.

The *2010 Saint Paul Almanac* sells for \$11.95 online at saintpaulalmanac.com, and will be available in independent and mainstream bookstores, including Barnes & Noble, Borders, and Amazon.com after September 1, 2009.

About the Editor: Kimberly Nightingale, Executive Director and Managing Editor of the *Saint Paul Almanac*, has been with Arcata Press since its inception. She has 12 years experience as an editor and five years of teaching. Nightingale received her Masters Degree in Public Affairs from the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota.

About Arcata Press: Incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2005, Arcata Press was created with the goal of bringing the diverse Saint Paul community together by supporting local literary arts through an experiment in democratic publishing. This mission is primarily accomplished through publication of the *Saint Paul Almanac*, public readings, mentorships, and other activities that showcase and honor local voices. The Arcata Press board of directors is an active board that is stunningly diverse and representative of the communities featured in the *Almanac*.

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