About the Saint Paul Almanac

The Saint Paul Almanac is an annual calendar and guide to take the curious urban adventurer through the year in Minnesota’s capital city.

Our mission is to build community through sharing our stories of home

The Saint Paul Almanac was created with the artistic 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 collaborative decision-making in publication activities, public readings, and mentorships.

We provide new and established writers and artists with a welcoming annual forum for stories, poems, memories, photographs, and current events, in celebration of the rich and diverse life of our city and our shared experiences of home.
Our Values at the Saint Paul Almanac

Sharing a story is both an act of giving and receiving and works to connect our diverse community and honor our perspectives and history.

We intentionally invite diverse perspectives reflective of authentic experiences.

We value the history of Saint Paul and its many neighborhoods, families, and individuals.

The infusion of art into lives and life into art is a catalyst for change for individuals, families, and communities.

The sharing of stories (based on personal experience) changes lives by having an impact on both the giver and the receiver.

Our role is to be inclusive of all people who have stories to share and a desire to learn more about the lives of the people of Saint Paul.

Our Vision at the Saint Paul Almanac

Creating a better Saint Paul by celebrating our differences and commonalities through sharing our stories and encouraging this vision of community building through the art of story in other cities across the United States and the world.

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We Saint Paulites are a quirky bunch, and the Almanac embraces the paradoxes in our marvelous community of diverse neighborhoods and local businesses. The Almanac brings you Saint Paul stories, old and new.

The Saint Paul Almanac brings you the voices of people who know and love the city. The Almanac gives the lowdown on various facets of the city, from the rebirth of Lowertown to stories about growing up on the East Side.

Led by publisher, 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 the *2011 Saint Paul Almanac*, the community editors blind reviewed over 450 submissions until agreeing on a final 129 stories and poems by 116 contributors, including:

Gordon Parks • Meridel LeSueur • Garrison Keillor • Alexs Pate • Patricia Hampl • May Lee Yang • Mahmoud El-Kati • Carol Connolly • David Mura • Diego Vázquez Jr. • Marcie Rendon • Jim Heynen • Kao Kalia Yang • Bao Phi • Phoebe Hanson • Arthur C. McWatt • Diane Wilson • Todd Boss • Deborah Torraíne • Loren Niemi • Kate Cavett • Dwight Hobbes • Ethan McKiernan • Tim Nolan • Deborah Keenan • Tou SaiKo Lee • Mary Gardner • Mike Hazard • Nora Murphy • Jim Moore • Katie Ka Vang • Rose McGee • Kevin FitzPatrick • Kathryn Kysar • Greg Brick • Ann Iverson • Brian Thao Worra • Patricia Kirkpatrick • Cary Griffith • Jan Zita Grover • Richard Broderick • Pamela Espeland • Mary Kay Rummel • Linda Back McKay • Greg Watson • Margaret Hasse • Steve Trimble • Judith Niemi • Sasha Aslanian • Daniel Bacchuber • Norita Dittberner-Jax • Julia Klatt Singer • Su Smallen • Kathleen Vellenga and many more writers…

With over 110 writers and poets every year, and distribution at over 55 local bookstores, coffee shops, pharmacies, and grocery stores, the *Saint Paul Almanac* is a mechanism by which a broad cross-section of Saint Paul residents have a media vehicle with wide local distribution for expressions of local history, activities, literature, and reflection. Eleventh grade Saint Paul Public School students receive *Saint Paul Almanac* books as part of their curriculum.

The *Almanac* includes: Maps • Theater • Calendar • Historic Sites • Annual Events • Museums • Restaurants • and much more!

Included is a datebook with Saint Paul happenings and events listed throughout the calendar year. There is also plenty of room to pen in your appointments. You can schedule your out-of-town excursions around your favorite Saint Paul activities, like the Winter Carnival, Selby JazzFest, the Saint Paul Classic Bike Tour, or the Festival of Nations. Read it, write in it. Wherever you go, bring the *Saint Paul Almanac* with you!

The *Saint Paul Almanac* is homegrown each year. Published in September, find it in your neighborhood bookstore, coffee shop, or gift store. Or have it delivered right to your doorstep by clicking the graphic that leads to our shop at the top of every page on this site.

The *Saint Paul Almanac* is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Every $25 puts an *Almanac* in the hands of 2 Saint Paul high school students. Your donation is tax deductible!

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