

2020 Sidewalk Poetry Contest Winners

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building Neighborhood and Business Services Planning Art in Public Places

Bears Wander

Bears wander down from the grey mountains Deer step calmly through the soft grass, While warm winds carry red-tailed hawks High above oaks and sycamores and Quiet streets with charming bungalows By Christine R. Langteau

Our Song

Monrovia grows, and dreams and sings – Can you hear our song?
We sing of diversity, of hope of home
The place where we belong
By Meredith Luiten

Explore

Go the opposite way around the corner, Walk a different direction around the block. You'll see things from another perspective The gardens, the trees, the houses and rocks By Kathlee Hennigan Bautista

Leaves Fall

Leaves fall to greet us Flying blessings...like God's mercy Wait for us to notice Floating towards us When we are occupied and unaware But covering us anyway By Kathlee Hennigan Bautista

Just Dance

You are hereby officially approved
Right here, right now to pirouette, or tap, or do a
Running man or conga line but when the yearn to move
Wells up again, you won't need license stamped in stone –
Just dance!
By John Shaw

Constant and Change

Picket fences, good neighbors Church bells ring in the distance. Kids play, dogs bark, flowers bloom in yards. The past alive, the future forthcoming. Constant. Change. Constant. By Brenda Trainor & Ernie the Wonder Dog

Hope

Despondent, distressed, discouraged or vexed?
Doubtful, depressed or maybe perplexed?
Tied in a bind of pandemic depression?
Explore your mind and escape your obsession!
Contribute, create, continue to strive.
For you make your fate and you are alive!
By Susan Levine

The Bird

I tried in vain to keep you but you were made with wings Not meant for holding onto – soaring beauty, songs to sing And when I held you loosely, your gifts for all to see A purpose so much greater – one intended to be free By Melissa Jolley