



**City of Monrovia, Art in Public Places
2023 Sidewalk Poetry Contest Winners**



Gratitude

A kind word,
a caring gesture,
a bird singing,
a glimpse of Monrovia's mountains,
God's love,
So much to be grateful for
By Arlene Dunson

Charm

Ah, Monrovia and its charm
The neighborhoods, the trees, the historical homes
We hover and stroll, giggle and chat
The downtown, the shops, the restaurants
We wander and munch, visit and savor
Monrovia charms us, warms us, keeps us
By Sally Olivas

My Instant Friend

Your tail is wagging, wet nose in my hand.
I was just going for a walk in the park,
not looking for anything in particular.
You help me meet a neighbor,
trade a few friendly words.
The day seems a little sunnier after
meeting you, my instant friend.
By Nicole McCoy

Home

What makes a place home?
A smile, a road, a soccer field,
A school, a store, a neighbor,
A dog, a walk, a flower bed,
and most of all, you.
By Hillary Wolfe

Working Mom

A bear pads down the mountainside at dawn
But first she bids her brood I'll be home soon
She punches in then tips a garbage can
and grabs enough to pay the rent today
Night falls
Her cubs cling to
Her iron legs
By John Shaw

Then Monrovia Called

I grew up as a rolling stone
With no town to call my own
Then Monrovia called, I came this way
To finally stop, and smile, and stay
By Jonathan Bernstein

Life Cycles

Life
Run to it
Embrace it
With passion
Rejoice
At the possibilities of it
The wonder of it all
And be humbled by the ability to live in it
And somehow making it through
Unbowed
By Marc Shapiro

Until You Walk It

There is no path until you walk it
Said Bear
Be it under the Monrovia sun
Or by the light of the flirtatious moon
Remember to chat with
Mesdames Myrtle, Oak and Magnolia
Nourish, splash and mischief
Today and always
By Golda Inquito