

***Prairie Gold* celebrates new Midwestern literature**

Prairie Gold: An Anthology of the American Heartland is a collection of all new writing that explores and celebrates Midwestern culture and identity. Edited by Lance M. Sacknoff, Xavier Cavazos, and Stefanie Brook Trout, the book was released July 1, 2014, by Ice Cube Press, an Iowan book publisher.

The anthology includes 11 short stories, 13 essays, and 86 poems from 67 contributors, whose diverse perspectives speak to the complexity of the Midwestern experience.

“The Midwestern identity demands further characterization and recognition,” says managing editor Lance M. Sacknoff in his foreword to the collection.

“Each story in *Prairie Gold* extends beyond a perspective on a landscape; these stories tell us how Midwesterners define themselves.”

Prairie Gold features introductions by award-winning Midwestern authors Dean Bakopoulos, author of *Please Don't Come Back from the Moon*, *My American Unhappiness*, and the forthcoming *Summerlong*; Debra Marquart, author of five books including her memoir *The Horizontal World: Growing up Wild in the Middle of Nowhere*; and Mary Swander, Poet Laureate of the State of Iowa, whose latest book of poetry is *The Girls on the Roof*.

Copies of *Prairie Gold* are available now from the publisher at icecubepress.com/bookstore and will be offered by booksellers nationwide.

The release party will be August 29, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM at Design on Main in Ames, Iowa. A book tour promoting the release will include several events in Iowa such as Des Moines, Rock Island, Iowa City, and Cedar Falls—as well as readings in other Midwestern states. For event updates, follow *Prairie Gold* on Facebook at facebook.com/prairiegoldanthology.

Those attending the 2015 Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) Conference and Bookfair in Minneapolis are invited to an off-site reading at Subtext Books in St. Paul on Thursday, April 9, at 6:30 pm.

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Contact managing editor Lance Sacknoff (lancesacknoff@icecubepress.com) for questions related to event scheduling. Midwestern booksellers and libraries should contact publisher Steve Semken (steve@icecubepress.com).