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An Endless Skyway Press Release, 2011

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg

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Information: Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg 785/766-7159

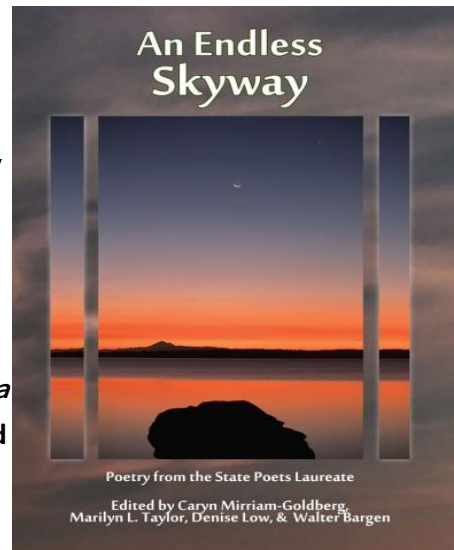
Press Releases Historic Anthology of State Poets Laureate

An Endless Skyway: Poetry from the State Poets Laureate of America
edited by Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, Walter Bargaen, Denise Low, and
Marilyn Taylor

North Liberty, Iowa: Ice Cube Press ISBN 9781888160529

\$24.95 perfect bound soft cover, 286 pages

Publication date: March, 2011. Contact Steve Semken, steve@icecubepress.com



An Endless Skyway: Poetry from the State Poets Laureate is a historic anthology, bringing together the poetry of 40 poets laureate from across the United States in a single collection, being released March 12, 2011 by Ice Cube Press of North Liberty, IA.

Again and again, State Poets Laureate offer their citizens the opportunity to take refuge in words, in images, in metaphors—and to be invigorated and enlightened. This collection grew from a gathering of State Poets Laureate in Lawrence, Kansas, in 2009, and coincides with *Poet Laureati: A National Convergence of Poets Laureates* that will bring 20 poets laureates, including former U.S. poet laureate Ted Kooser, to Lawrence, KS. March 13-14, 2011. The 40 poets featured in the anthology are a generous selection from this group. From Alabama (Sue Brannan) and Alaska (Peggy Shumaker), and Wisconsin (Marilyn L. Taylor) to Wyoming (David Romvedt), readers will find arresting, innovative writing from poets writing from the height of their powers. While the poetry speaks to the diverse geography and traditions of each poet's home state, collectively, this collection reveals a vivid and unique collage of 21st century America. New readers of poetry as well as *aficionados* will enjoy, revisit, and come away from this collection of poetry consistently renewed.

Maxine Kumin, Pulitzer-prize winner for her collection, *Up Country*, writes, "This vigorous anthology deserves a place in every library." Ted Kooser, former U.S. poet laureate, write, "Each poet adds a unique style to the anthology and a unique slant on what it means to write from 'this land made for you and me.' This book is made for every American to roam and ramble within. Open these pages and enjoy the journey."

An Endless Skyway also shows readers the vital work of our nation's poets laureate in maintaining and growing the light of literature. Kevin Prufer, editor-at-large of *Pleiades* and a professor of Creative Writing at the University of Texas, writes, "Our state poets laureate programs are central to the health of our literature, bringing a bounty of talented writers to good readers across the nation....This anthology brings together an astonishing array of poets, each of them listening closely to the music of our language and writing with clarity, passion and intelligence."

Caryn Mirriam-Goldberg, one of the four poet laureate editors of the book, explains that the idea for the book came out of the reading six Midwestern poets laureate gave in Lawrence, KS. in March of 2009. "By the end of our reading, several people rushed up to us, enthusiastically calling for an anthology, and in no time at all, we went from the spark of an idea to a call for poetry. We

were thrilled that so many present and past poets laureate sent their strongest poetry to us to share collectively in this astonishing anthology, and We trust that readers, like those of us who had the pleasure of editing this anthology, will find revelations, delights and gifts on each page."