



For Immediate Release
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Plano Art & Poetry Book Event at Barnes & Noble Coming This Saturday

A book signing featuring Alan Birkelbach, the poet of Translating the Prairie, will be held this Saturday, Aug. 15 at 2 p.m. at the Barnes & Noble store on the northwest corner of Park Boulevard and Preston Road. Translating the Prairie combines poetry about the city of Plano with visual art inspired by the words.

In addition to being a Plano resident, Mr. Birkelbach is an honored Texas Poet Laureate who was commissioned to write a collection of 25 poems communicating the story and culture of Plano. The artists chosen to create visual art all live, work or go to school in the city. Their uses of artistic media vary as widely as their ages, genders and ethnicities.

The Plano artists are: Mirtha Aertker, Chad Doty, Bart Forbes, Ansley Grizzle, Nathan Kwan, David Lerry, Vincent Li, Theresa Lii, Jacie Moore, Radhika Ramki, C. Marie Renfro, Alan Reynolds, Kristin Sheehy, Julio Suarez, Karen White, Janell Wimberly, Vivian Wu and Emily Xue. Also included is the work of commissioned public artist Teresa Camozzi

Phil Dyer
Mayor

Harry LaRosiliere
Mayor Pro Tem

Lee Dunlap
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

Pat Miner
Place 1

Ben Harris
Place 2

Mabrie Jackson
Place 3

Lissa Smith
Place 4

Jean Callison
Place 7

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck
City Manager

from San Francisco, California, whose award-winning installations are featured in the city libraries.

Translating the Prairie is a hardcover, full-color, 10" x 10", "coffee table" book with a dust jacket. Copies of Translating the Prairie will be available for sale at the book signing event for \$24.99 each plus tax. Purchasers may have their books personalized by Mr. Birkelbach. The book showcases the city of Plano in a visually inviting and creatively expressive way, and is an ideal book for longtime residents, newcomers and children of all ages.

On an ongoing basis, books are available for purchase at all city libraries and recreation centers, as well as area Barnes & Noble retailers. For more information, visit www.planopublicart.com or call (972) 941-7740.