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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

22 Under 22 a wide-ranging collection of stories, essays and poetry from young writers

Profits from the anthology go to support a St. Paul community-based non-profit that works to end poverty.

A new collection of short stories, essays and poetry explores relationships, immigration and families, racial unrest and COVID-19, and much more — all by writers between 16 and 22.

While being a young person has always had its challenges with relationships, getting started in life, and navigating a world not of their making, 2020 has for many been a special challenge. Young people are often dealing with Zoom classes, layoffs, and social distancing, all while coming of age in a time of open racism, hate, and xenophobia.

22 Under 22 defies easy categorization, taking a diverse and deep pool of experiences that go well beyond the usual national discourse. 22 under 22 is edited by present and former college students Madelaine Formica, Abby Doty, and Kayla Gray, led by executive editor Emma Harrington. Together they gathered work from across the country and internationally as well. The project began late fall 2019.

"Little did we realize how crucial this perspective would become in the coming months," said Harrington in her introduction. "Since the start of the project, there has been a global pandemic, protests, and uprisings against police brutality, as well as an overall upheaval of what "normal' life seemed to be."

The book cover art, selected by the editors, is by artists Chad Lowther and Bob McNeil, who say that they "dedicate their work to one cause — justice."

22 Under 22 is published by Flexible Press, a Minneapolis publisher dedicated to supporting authors, communities, and mission-driven non-profits through story. Profits from 22 Under 22 go to Model Cities, a St. Paul, Minnesota, based non-profit that since the '60s has been working to provide social and economic prosperity by providing access to opportunities that stabilize and develop families and communities. Find out more: https://www.modelcities.org/.

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