



Erin D. Carter, Great River Passage Photographer in Residence

Biography

Originally from San Francisco, Erin grew up venturing out to the street fairs, parades, and protests of the city with her father's 35-mm camera and spending hours in the Harvey Milk Photo Center darkroom. The year after graduating from San Francisco State University with a bachelor's degree in geography, she moved to New York's Adirondack Park to work on a backcountry AmeriCorps trail crew. It was there that Erin was able to join her love for the outdoors with her passion for photography, taking pictures when she wasn't wielding a crosscut saw. For the last three years, she has been volunteering seasonally with Saint Paul Parks and Recreation's Natural Resources division to battle invasive plant species and photograph volunteer events. Erin enjoys using photography to explore people's relationship with the natural environment.

<http://www.erindcarter.com/>

What draws you to the river?

The sunrises and sunsets over the water, the birds, the walking trails, and the lure of the natural world winding its way through Saint Paul all draw me to the river. I'm looking forward to using this residency to document how people interact with the river and how it figures into daily life. I'm interested in exploring as many aspects of the river as I can from recreation to industry to how it functions as a natural habitat and the role that humans play in caring for it.

Favorite spot on the Mississippi River in Saint Paul?

While I was living in Minneapolis and contemplating a move to Saint Paul, I attended a volunteer natural resources event in Hidden Falls Regional Park. I fell in love with the park and several months later moved within walking distance of it. I enjoy walking the trails in solitude on chilly days when snow blankets the ground and fog hangs in the trees. Hidden Falls is the best backyard a city dweller could have.