

---

# HAIKU EXPO

Arizona inspired Japanese Poetry



---

ARIZONA MATSURI - A FESTIVAL OF JAPAN

*Selection of 2022 Haiku*

---

## OVERVIEW

# HAIKU EXPO

---



In the spirit of raising awareness of the arts and culture of Japan to the people of Arizona, we challenged residents of Arizona to write their own Arizona-inspired haiku poem for the 38th annual Arizona Matsuri virtual festival held on February 26th and 27th, 2022.

Haiku is an ancient unrhymed Japanese verse form. Generally written in three short lines containing a total of 10 to 17 syllables to convey a vivid message, Haiku typically contain a reference to nature.

Haiku uses simple concrete images of things we can see, smell, taste, touch, or feel. The best haiku poems reveal the essence of a thing so clearly that the reader can experience the

momentary scene or in-sight that inspired the author.

One of the greatest Haiku poets was the Samurai, Basho (1644-94). Basho's father was also a Samurai from the Iga province. To become a Samurai, Basho served a local lord who was fond of writing. Basho learned the style of writing Haiku and wrote under the name Sobo.

During those years, Basho traveled throughout Japan writing and further developing the Haiku style. A few samples of Basho's haiku style are listed in the example section below.

Your poem should contain a sentence fragment (one line) and a phrase (two lines that complete a thought). The fragment can be either the first line or the third line. To keep your poem simple and direct, write in the present tense. Haiku typically do not make use of capitalization, punctuation, or titles.

Each traditional Haiku should contain a reference to a season, which indicates what season of the year the Haiku is set. For example, blossoms would indicate spring, snow would give the idea of winter and mosquitos would imply summertime. The seasonal word is not always that obvious, you might need to consider the theme of the poem to find it.

Structural Rules for traditional Haiku:

- Use exactly 17 syllables
- Syllables are arranged in three lines of 5-7-5
- Avoid similes and metaphors
- Refers to a season of the year

Clouds appear and bring  
to men a chance to rest from  
looking at the moon

The seasonal word in this Haiku is clouds, indicating the rainy season. Haiku poems are valued for their simplicity, openness, depth and lightness.

English-language haiku have generally followed the form of five syllables used in the first line, followed by seven syllables for the middle line and five syllables for the third. However, English-language haiku no longer adhere to this syllable count, and are therefore as brief as the poem needs to be while keeping to the fragment-phrase structure. In English language haiku, the middle line is typically longer than the first or third lines.

The Arizona Matsuri and its Haiku Expo committee initiated this event in late 2014 by inviting participants from the general public, Statewide universities, community colleges, high schools, culture and language clubs and public libraries. The theme for this event was for participants to submit up to three of their own original Arizona inspired haiku. This booklet is the collection of selected haiku poems which we feel deserve Honorable mention and Outstanding recognition which we would like to share with the general public. Thank you to all participants, organizations and individuals who helped support this event. Thank you very much and we hope you enjoy this wonderful collection.

**NOTICE : All Authors in this publication retain copyright to their work. The materials contained in this publication are protected by applicable copyright laws.**

---

2022 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

# Grades K-3 Haiku

---



*Desert cactus live*

*Flowers owls birds make their home*

*Drinking from the plant*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Joy N.*





*Scurrying family*

*Different shades of feathers*

*A covey of quail*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Akur Chol*

*The dry desert sand*

*In the hot summer evening*

*Dead bushes shaking*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Justin H.*

*Hurry on inside*

*On this stormy summer night*

*The monsoon is here*

*Honorable Mention*

*Norah W.*

*Beautiful sunset*

*The Northern Lights in AZ*

*Pretty sight to see*

*Honorable Mention*

*Norah W.*

*Beautiful flowers*

*Smelling very very good*

*Budding in the sun*

*Honorable Mention*

*Emma B.*

---

2022 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

# Grades 4-6 Haiku

---



*Scent of fresh sweet air*

*The coral colored petals*

*Teardrop leaf adorned*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Leela P.*



*They are true magic.*

*Beautiful as life itself.*

*Wings of pure fire.*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Paxton E. F.*

*Abandoning trees*

*Many colors of aging*

*Independant leaves*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Declan B.*





*Nanoscopic Plants*

*Flowers Appear Plentiful*

*Might as well be Snow*

*Honorable Mention*

*Landon M.*

*A violet flower,*

*Delicate, fresh, fuzzy,*

*Feels like wet paper.*

*Honorable Mention*

*Avni H.*

---

2022 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

# Grades 7-8 Haiku

---



*Blow dandelions*

*And watch a thousand wishes*

*Scatter in the wind*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Erick A.*



*Lightning strikes the floor*

*Fire spreads in grassy fields*

*Firefighters help*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Garrett G.*

*Sedona appears*

*Red rock shimmers in the sun*

*Iron swirled throughout*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Kylie S.*

*Bobcat growl deep*  
*Let your voice be heard so clear*  
*That the cactus shakes*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Kristen S.*

*Melted crayons sink*  
*Horizons look like heat waves*  
*Illusions run wild*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Hayden B.*

*Water rushing by*  
*Flowers are growing again*  
*Life is returning*

*Honorable Mention*

*Heather S.*



*Wind pushes the dust*  
*Strokes the desert with hot rocks*  
*The rest cools at night*

*Honorable Mention*

*Kennet R. H.*

*Heavy rain atop*  
*Clogging drains with leaves and sticks*  
*During the monsoon*

*Honorable Mention*

*Thomas G.*

*Molded by rivers*  
*Spanning many miles down*  
*Crossing many states*

*Honorable Mention*

*Adam Diriye*



*Dark comes by quick  
Sweaters are all they think of  
Waiting for daylight*

*Honorable Mention*

*Hussein A.*

*Bunches of dirt blow  
On the window tapping it  
Satisfying noise*

*Honorable Mention*

*Dayanara G.*

---

2022 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

# Grades 9-12 Haiku

---



*The gleaming alpine*

*Silk snow rests on northern peaks*

*Longing for spring melt*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Ayden S.*



*Shifting seasons*

*Up there high on the tree tops*

*The leaves rustle with whispers*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Stephanie D.*

*The trees start to cry*

*Letting its leaves fall away*

*Tarrying to bloom*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Adrian G.*





*Polluted night sky*

*The innumerable stars*

*Eternally gone*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Noemi R.*

*A quail adventure*

*Chicks race in a messy line*

*To keep up with Mom*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Raquelle W.*

*When water falls down  
We look with a joyous smile  
Hoping it will last*

*Honorable Mention*

*Alan R.*

*Seasonal birds migrate  
Time to fly to a new home—  
Summer breeze on my wings*

*Honorable Mention*

*Ziporah T.*

*Prickly green cactus  
Growing pink flowers on top  
A dangerous home*

*Honorable Mention*

*Kirsten J.*



*Dandelions seeds*

*Scattered, dancing in the wind*

*Hope you made a wish*

*Honorable Mention*

*Maria H.*

*The weather change helps*

*Nature growing essentials*

*Into lovely art*

*Honorable Mention*

*Kimberly M.*

---

2022 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

# Adult Haiku

---



*Coyotes and djinns*

*Howl through the desert night air*

*Tent walls shudder on*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Ginger Franklin*



*Wet footprints on stones:*

*Evidence of existence*

*Fades with each breeze.*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Scott Shields*

*Palpable silence*

*Dust laden shadows scurry*

*Stubborn old ghost town*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Robert Jordan Sr.*

*Lizard aerobics*

*You dash across the pool deck*

*Pausing for push-ups*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Debra VanDeventer*



*Ink penned artist strokes*

*Etched on watercolor skies*

*Trace winter branches*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Debra VanDeventer*

*Rolling tumbleweed*

*The homeless of the desert*

*Nowhere to set roots*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*John Fedyna*



*Clouds glow at sunset shifting*

*Hues fade to shadows*

*Living portraits lost*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Scott Shields*

*Heat is in the valley*

*Ghosts are in the riverbed*

*Hope of rain abates*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Ginger Franklin*



*Rabbit on the road*

*Hawk maneuvering above*

*Each poised for pursuit*

*Honorable Mention*

*Scott Shields*

*Creamy white*

*Grow-in-the-dark lipstick—*

*Crescent moon smile*

*Honorable Mention*

*Karen Admussen*





*On the empty stage*

*No flags, no sound of taiko*

*All is virtual*

*Honorable Mention*

*Emma Sansone*

*Bitter wind cuts deep*

*Coyote cries out in vain*

*Red rock feels nothing*

*Honorable Mention*

*Keith Cliver*

---

2022 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

# Japanese Language Haiku

---



あかいとり  
せみをたべます  
まんぞくだ

*Akai tori*  
*Semi wo tabemasu*  
*Manzoku da*

*Red bird*  
*Eats cicada*  
*Satisfactory*

*Outstanding Haiku*

**Ryan F.**

山の雪  
谷をながれる  
サワ口飲む

*Yama no yuki  
Tani wo nagareru  
Sawaro nomu*

*Snow of the mountain  
Flows in the valley  
Saguaro drinks*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Jackson K.*

サボテンは  
渦巻く熱に  
歪みます

*Saboten wa  
Uzumaku netsu ni  
Yugamu*

*Cactus  
Warps  
In the surging heat*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Taylor P*

せみ歌う  
すながながれる  
熱風で

*Semi utau  
Suna ga nagareru  
Neppū de*

*Cicada song  
And sand flow in the  
Hot wind*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Carla L.*

砂の間に  
酷い荒野に  
町が立つ

*Suna no aida ni  
Hidoi kouya ni  
Machi ga tatsu*

*In the sand  
Cruel wasteland  
The town rises*

*Outstanding Haiku*

*Terrence L.*





くらい朝  
きもちいいふとん  
あと十分

*Kurai asa*  
*Kimochi ii futon*  
*Ato juppun*  
  
*Dark morning*  
*Nice-feeling futon*  
*Another 10 minutes*

*Honorable Mention*

*Hana M.*

雨がふる  
ぽつぽつ落ちて  
雨の歌

*Ame ga furu  
Potsu potsu ochite  
Ame no uta*

*Rain falls  
Patter patter  
Rain's song*

*Honorable Mention*

*Emi M.*

木の葉ゆれ  
光が漏れし  
松の枝

*Ko no ha yure  
Hikari ga moreshi  
Matsu no eda*

*Tree leaves shake  
Leaking light  
Pine branches*

*Honorable Mention*

*Ritsu K.*

時流れ  
水も流れる  
日々続く

*Jiryuure*

*Mizu mo nagareru*

*Hibi tsudzuku*

*Fashions flow*

*And waters flow*

*The days continue*

*Honorable Mention*

*Devon I.*

クリスマス  
不法侵入  
サンタさん

*Kurisumasu*

*Fuhoushinnyuu*

*Santa san*

*Christmas*

*Trespassing*

*Santa-san*

*Honorable Mention*

*Teru K.*