## 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.

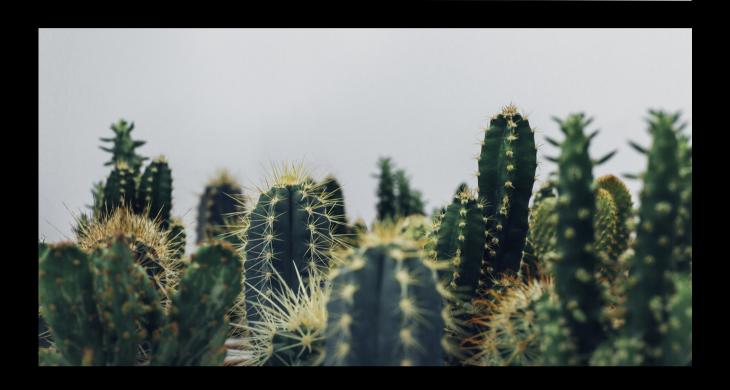
English-language haiku have generally followed the form of five syllables used in the first line, followed by seven syllables for the middle line and five syllables for the third. However, English-language haiku no longer adhere to this syllable count, and are therefore as brief as the poem needs to 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.

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#### 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 R

#### 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,

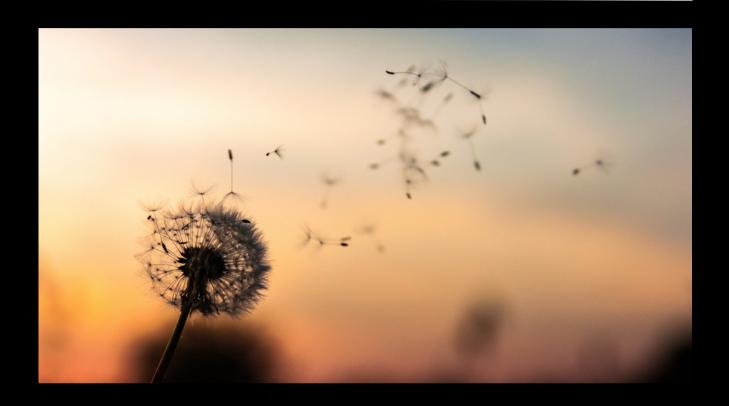
Feels like wet paper.

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 サワロ飲む

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
<u>Ame no</u> 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

Toru K