
HAIKO EXPO

Arizona inspired Japanese Poetry

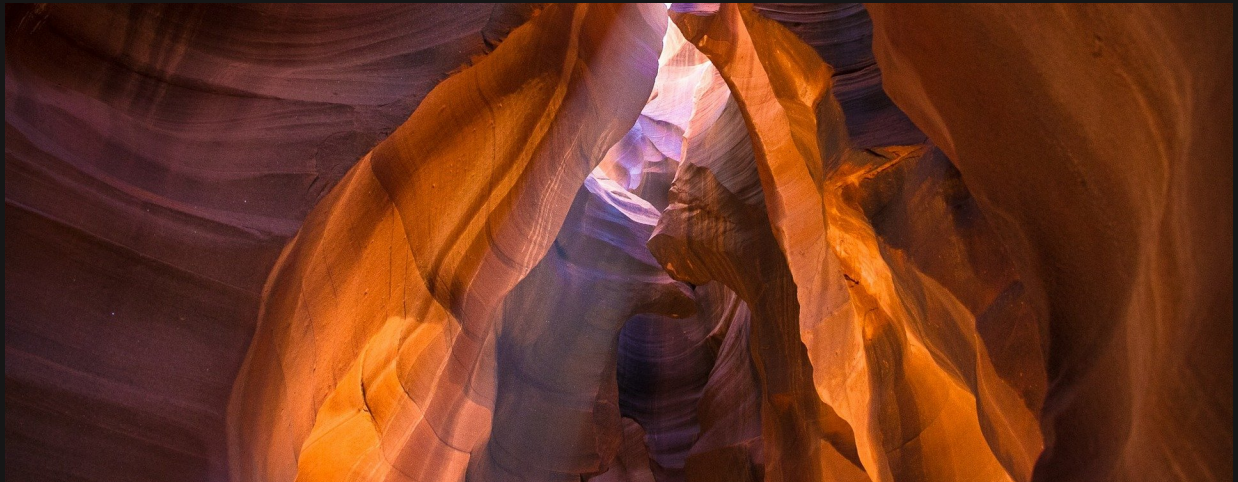


ARIZONA MATSURI – A FESTIVAL OF JAPAN

Selection of 2021 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 37th annual Arizona Matsuri virtual festival held on February 27th and 28th, 2021.

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.

A 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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2021 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Grades K-3 Haiku

Winners:

Jake Eisenstein, Madison Heights Elementary

Two healthy palm trees
live with their friend the cactus
they can touch the sky



Isabella ominaga, CTA Liberty

cute colorful kimonos
sharp and shiny swords clashing
running fast as the wind

Gavin Stine, Madison Heights Elementary

Feathery leaves burst
and fracture the foundation.
Now it's shredded wheat.

Benjamin Diaz, Madison Heights Elementary

Take shelter quickly
Watch out for the dust devil
Wow! Bye, dust devil!

William Reimer

Thunderous downpour
Awakening creosote-
Releasing magic.

Honorable Mention

Maxwell Curtis, Madison Heights Elementary

Raw oranges hanging
Dark brown branches pushing out
Green leaves floating down

Avni Hardin, Madison Heights Elementary

Trunk grows very tall
Leaves are growing on the roots
Bumpy roots with holes

Keira Clarke, Madison Heights Elementary

Blooms of the winter
Multi colored flowers grow
Twisted stems grow big

Landon Mann

The large palm tree thrives.
The spiky leaves are up high
The beautiful plant.

Luke Kessler, Madison Heights Elementary

Little red flowers
Spread over the field like fire
Glowing just for me



2021 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Grades 4-6 Haiku

Winners:

Isabella H., Madison Heights Elementary



Oranges like the sun
I rest among the tree's shade
Leafy green branches

Karis Tucker, Madison Heights Elementary

Branches swing away
Leaves whisper hello to me
On the tall willow

Thalia Loughran-Wilcox, Madison Heights Elementary

A rock lies in dust
Made with the earth's love and blood
Tough and beautiful

Luc Arreola

on a lily pad
the pond is very silent
splish splash peace again

Kendall Von Burg, Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies

Rain pours from the sky
The gray clouds shroud the sunrise
Fearsome thunder booms

Honorable Mention

Emma H., Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies

Misty Air today
Might as well go out and play
Looks like it will rain

Kendall Von Burg, Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies

Saguaro cactus
Standing proud in bright sunset
The black silhouette

Lauren Cooper, Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies

That was wind, blowing.
Flows left to right, up to down.
Right now it's snowing.

Luc Arreola

small drops of water
falls beautifully from the sky
clear blue so peaceful

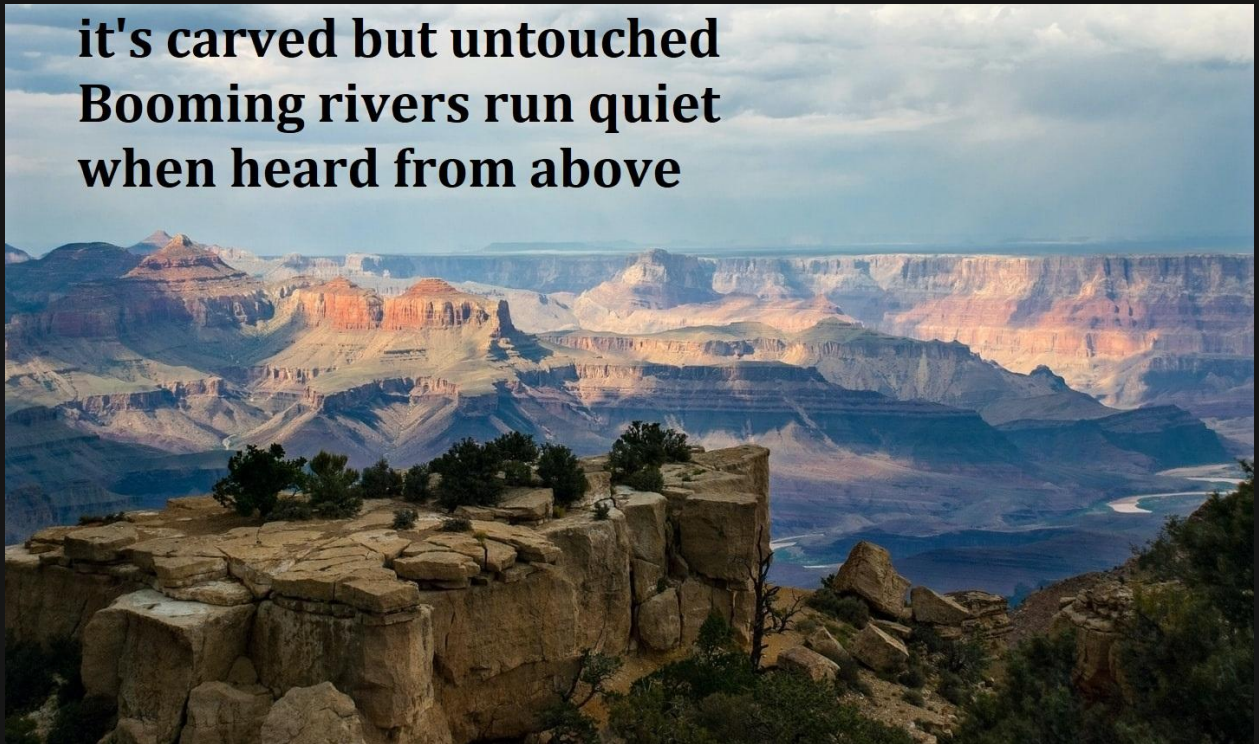
2021 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Grades 7-8 Haiku

Winners

Arya Suresh, Kyrene Digital Academy

**it's carved but untouched
Booming rivers run quiet
when heard from above**



Caden Yap, Madison #1

Shadow of the hill
Blanketed in the morning
Wrung out by the sun

Parker D., Kyrene Digital Academy

a drumroll begins
a flash lights up the warm air
tears run down the cacti

Gracie M., Kyrene Digital Academy

Cactus Wren alighted
looking around for some prey
a beetle flies by

Zion B., Kyrene Digital Academy

they stretch for miles long
more layers than a sweet mousse
the grand canyon glimmers

Honorable Mention

Arya Suresh, Kyrene Digital Academy

the dust blows inward
a cloud stories tall and dark
a twisting shadow

Juan E., Kyrene Digital Academy

blazing sun setting
Saguaros dark as the night
Javelinas roam

Lila G., Kyrene Digital Academy

tumbleweed roll on
rolling through the vast desert
scaring the bobcat

Julia Hirtz, Kyrene Digital Academy

the sun blazing down
curious hawks in trees that
locked themselves away

Anita S., Kyrene Digital Academy

night fell on the land
the still desert came alive
life hummed in the sand

Kimberly Frank, Madison #1 Middle School

Air so crisp and cold
I love to feel the wind blow
Winter without snow



2021 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

High School Haiku

Winners

Raquelle Wuollet, BASIS Oro Valley

**Shining desert stars
Lanterns for javelinas
Beacons for the bats**



Catalina C.

Mesquite leaves play tag
The sun sleeps under soft clouds
A rare light drizzle

Madison Heustess, Agua Fria High School

The coyotes howl
echoing sound of thunder
clapping to their song.

Raquelle Wuollet, BASIS Oro Valley

In a cloak of night
The coyote braves the road
Not once looking back

Somer Gautereaux, Chaparral High School

Quiet sound of rain
Dogs barking in the distance
Static in the air

Honorable Mention

Frida V., Dobson Academy

A bee yearns to fly,
For he is tired of work.
Honey obstructs his dream.

Caden DeSoto, Agua Fria High School

Under the calm tree
Is where I lie to watch the
colorful leaves dance.

Meredith Fedyna, Chaparral High School

Footsteps like whispers
Haunt the shadowy figure
Stranger in the night

Meredith Fedyna, Chaparral High School

Stars gleam teasingly
The canyon smiles sheepishly
At the blushing moon

Meredith Fedyna, Chaparral High School

The ashen desert
Brought to life by fiery hues
The phoenix rising

Emily Celaya, Agua Fria High School

Beautiful colors
Gracefully losing their life
Today is the end

Madison Heustess, Agua Fria High School

Desert lunch awaits
hungry snake, the mouse at pace
the hawk flies above.

Raquelle Wuollet, BASIS Oro Valley

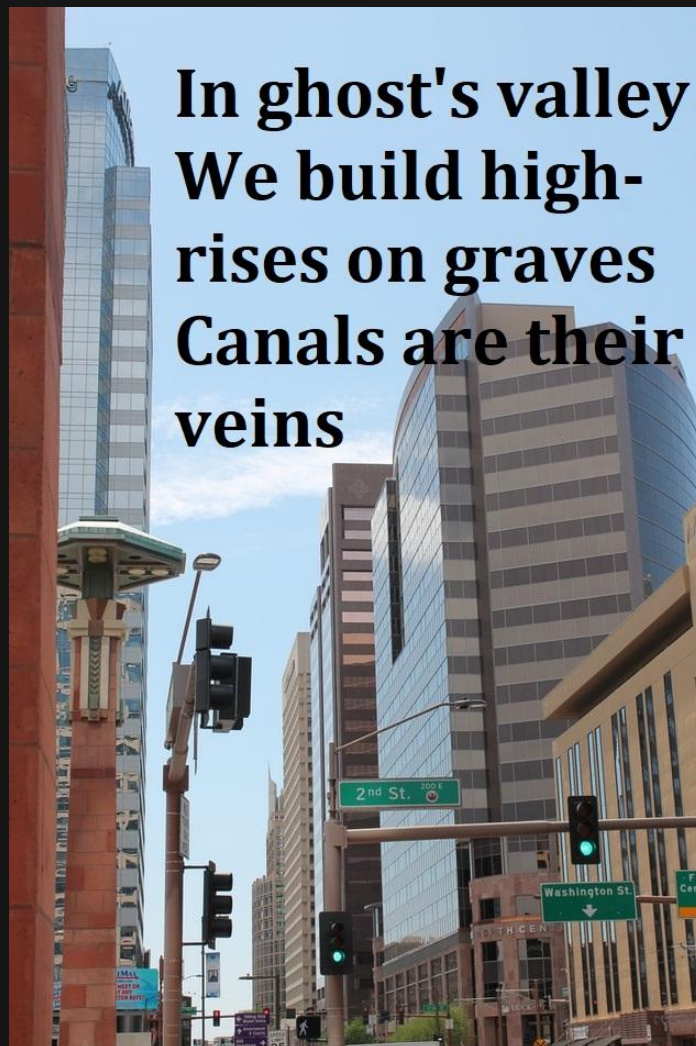
Sticks, twigs, and dried leaves
While her partner guards her work
The dove builds a nest

2021 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

College and Adult Haiku

Winners

Jasjeet Kaur, Phoenix



Murray Writtle, Chandler

Inspiration dry
As dusty desert rivers;
Haiku sparse as rain

Karen Falkenstrom, Tucson

Hummingbirds, soft jewels,
Sear the air around a flower —
Mine, for an instant.

Robert Jordan Sr., Glendale

Sagging old adobe
Sighs beneath the careless rain
Weeping down its sides

Ryan Wells, Tempe

Dry breeze inviting
Tumbleweeds to a frolic
In my swimming pool

Honorable Mention

Scott Shields, Mesa

Canyon Wren calling:
fluid melodies echo
across weathered stones.

Veronica Hosking, Avondale

Summer monsoon feeds
Fragrant aloe blossom
Hummingbird hovers

Daniel Gronseth, Mesa

wear your helmet
protect fellow Mandalors
This, friend, is the way.

John Fedyna, Phoenix

Desert burial
The ribs of the saguaro
Exposed to the sun

Jonathan Levine, Phoenix

Scent of creosote
Lingers in the morning air
Arizona rain

Norine Heinrich, Phoenix

hiker steps aside
as the rattlesnake slides by
owner of the path

Robert Jordan Sr., Glendale

Hungry guardian
Hiding beneath my flowers
Grumpy old toad

Michael Marcanti, Mesa

Spinning dust devil
Dancing among the gray ash
Blacken cacti husk.

Daniel Matlock, Gilbert

On windy days
palm leaves rustle together
make the sound of rain

J.R. Platt, Tempe

honey mesquite trees
parched and brittle limb to root
guzzle monsoon rains




2021 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Japanese Language Haiku

Winners

Mika Kikuchi, Phoenix



**Ichinen no
Asayake no ichi
Ie no naka**

One year's
positions of the sunrise
inside my home

Carla L., Scottsdale

暑い風
深紅雲海
空を焼く

Atsui kaze
Shinku unkai
Sora wo yaku

Hot wind
Deep crimson sea of clouds
The sky burns

Jackson Kirkpatrick, Scottsdale

太い牛
太陽に立つ
おいしそう

Futoi ushi
Taiyou ni tatsu
Oishisou

Fat cattle
Standing in the sun
Looks delicious

Miki Pimienta, Tucson

川底に
足跡残し
獣行く

Kawazoko ni
Ashiato nokoshi
Shishi iku

In the riverbed
Footprints remain
Beasts go

Miki Pimienta, Tucson

さぼてんに
帽子をかぶす
雪の朝

Saboten ni
Boushi wo kabusu
Yuki no asa

Morning snow
Covers the cactus
With a hat

Honorable Mentions

Bridie Li, Scottsdale

太陽は
すごく輝く
暑すぎる

Taiyou wa
Sugoku kagayaku
Atsusugiru

The sun
Shines immensely
Too hot

Mckenzie Goldner, Scottsdale

大雨や
日光煌めき
良い匂い

Ooame ya
Nikkou kirameki
Yoi nioi

Heavy rain and
Glittering sunbeams
Good scent

Maurits Koopmans, Scottsdale

せみうざい
まいにちあつい
ながいとき

Semi uzai
Mainichi atsui
Nagai toki

Noisy cicada
Every day is hot
Long hours

Wooju Lee, Scottsdale

熱い風
私は水を
飲みました

Atsui kaze
Watashi wa mizu wo
Nomimashita

Hot wind
I gulped
Water

Macy Schenck, Scottsdale

さむい夜
平和なでした
でも暗い

Samui yoru
Heiwa na deshita
Demo kurai

Cold night
Peaceful
Yet foreboding

Amethyst Stevens, Scottsdale

山火事の
炎始まり
破壊てき

Yamakaji no
Honoo hajimari
Hakaiteki

Forest fire
Flame's origin
Devastating

Jesse Brussow, Scottsdale

鳥は立ち
雨がほしくて
雲をみる

Tori wa tachi
Ame ga hoshikute
Kumo wo miru

The bird departs
In need of rain
It sees a cloud

Miki Pimienta, Tucson

久しぶり
百度を切って
秋近い

Hisashiburi
Hyakudo wo kitte
Aki chigai

After a long time,
A hundred degrees ends
Autumn changes

2021 HAIKU EXPO

HAIKU EXPO STATISTICS

We received entries from:

Avondale: 3%

Carefree: 0.2%

Chandler: 13%

Fountain Hills: 0.08%

Gilbert: 0.8%

Glendale: 2%

Goodyear: 0.2%

Laveen: 0.2%

Litchfield Park: 0.5%

Marana: 0.8%

Mesa: 12%

Oro Valley: 0.5%

Paradise Valley: 0.2%

Phoenix: 36%

Prescott: 2%

Sahuarita: 0.2%

Scottsdale: 10%

Surprise: 0.5%

Tempe: 6%

Thatcher: 0.2%

Tucson: 7%

Other: 1%

Participating Schools:

Chaparral High School

Agua Fria High School

Arizona State University

BASIS Oro Valley

Catalina Foothills High School

CTA Liberty

Desert Mountain High School

Dobson Academy

Dobson High School

Easter Arizona College

Freemont Junior High School

Kyrene Digital Academy

Madison #1 Middle School

Madison Heights Elementary

Maryvale High School

Mesa Academy for Advanced
Studies

Mesa Community College

Our House Montessori Elementary
School

Perry High School

Red Mountain High School

Age Ranges:

Youngest: 6 years old

Eldest: 91 years young

Total number of Outstanding Haiku selected: 30

Total number of Honorable Mention Haiku: 41

A special thank you to all those who participated and to teachers who encouraged participation among their students. We truly could not do this without you. This marked the 7th year of the Arizona Matsuri Haiku Expo, and the first ever virtual version of Arizona Matsuri. We thank everyone who took the time to submit such wonderful haiku despite the challenges we all face in the world today. Your entries mean a lot to us on the haiku committee and to those who are a part of the festival every year. Thank you for continuing to spread the joy of haiku.

Details for next year's Haiku Expo will be posted on the website and through social media by the end of 2021. Please check back for updates frequently. You are welcome to download this e-book, and the previous years' editions to read to help garner inspiration.

Thank you,

Lyndsey Hoffman
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