
HAIKU EXPO

Arizona inspired Japanese Poetry



ARIZONA MATSURI - A FESTIVAL OF JAPAN

Selection of 2016 Haiku

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 32nd annual Arizona Matsuri festival held in downtown Phoenix on February 27th and 28th, 2016.

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 insight 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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2016 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Grades K-3 Haiku



*mountains surrounding
everything in my sight
life in the valley*

Lucas W.
Knox Gifted Academy, Grade 2
Gilbert, AZ



EARLY MORNING MIST

Encanto Park in Phoenix is centrally located in the city and its ponds have many ducks who call this place home. This haiku gives one the sense of early morning light shimmering on the water in winter whereas the rise in temperature is creating a slight mist on the water as the ducks flock together and enjoy the warmth of a new day.



snowflake on my hand
shiny, so bright, cold like ice
crystal from the sky

Christian M.

St Louis The King Elementary School, Grade 3

Glendale, AZ



a flash of lightning
bright sky with a loud boom!
mice scatter and run

Evelyn R.

St Louis The King Elementary School, Grade 3

Glendale, AZ



*in the desert silence
suddenly I hear a screech
an eagle passes by*

George C.
St. Louis the King Catholic School, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ



HONORABLE MENTION

*very hot summer
reaching 100 degrees
time to go swimming*

Lucas W.
Knox Gifted Academy, Grade 2
Gilbert, AZ

*palo verde green leaves
God looks down and says
oh what a beautiful world I've made*

Kaell S.
St. Louis the King Catholic School, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

*green growing cactus
a home for desert creatures
standing tall and proud*

Emily B.
St Louis The King Elementary, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

*I can feel the wind
blowing on my skin so good
feel the wind, you'll see*

Madison N.
St. Louis the King Catholic School, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

*as light at a feather
snowflakes sharp and delicate
falling from the sky*

Brant S
St Louis The King Elementary, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

*leaves falling from the sky
red like the planet Mars in space
as if heaven was near*

Christian M.
St Louis The King Elementary, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

*a spark from a campfire
you want to touch it, but don't
step back, leave the spark*

Natalie L.
St Louis The King Elementary, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

*summer day, waking up
hot, tiny birds in the sun
hopping around the sand*

Christian M.
St Louis The King Elementary, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

*a snowflake on my hand
like a tiny, crystal star
angel's gift from heaven*

Christian M.
St Louis The King Elementary, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

2016 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Grades 4-8 Haiku



dry fields, mesquite trees

*Arizona is blooming
as the days lengthen*

Naomi M.

BASIS Phoenix, Grade 6

Chandler, AZ



MIRAGE ON THE HIGHWAY

Driving on a dry desert Arizona highway in mid summer it is not unusual to see a mirage or a naturally occurring optical phenomenon in which light rays are bent to produce a displaced image of distant objects such as a pool of water.



bright lightning crackles

rain drops plummet from the sky

water fills the streets

Alyssa V.

Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6

Phoenix, AZ



a golden blessing

leaves of orange and crimson

autumn paints the earth

Naomi M.

BASIS Phoenix, Grade 5

Phoenix, AZ



*birds begin to fly
as winter fades away
buds reach for the sky*

Naomi M.

BASIS Phoenix, Grade 6

Phoenix, AZ



*the shimmering sun paints
the silhouettes of cacti
shadows on the ground*

Alden M.

Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6

Tempe, AZ



*cactus flowers bloom
cactus water dripping down
birds drink thankfully*

Mareena N.

Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6

Tempe, AZ



*night of dancing stars
tall cacti scattered throughout
a moonlit desert*

Lucy K.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ



*cacti coat the land
lined up like straight, wise soldiers
waiting for commands*

Kareem M.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ



*clear, blue cloudless sky
sun baking the desert floor
A summer breeze blows*

Natalie M.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ



*puffy, angry clouds
fiercely huddled together
rain pummels cracked earth*

Samantha V.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ



*loud lightning crackles
above, sprinkles plummet down
winds whisper monsoon*

Elizabeth I.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ



*lightning rends the sky
reverberating rumble
locking in retreat*

Maeve W.
BASIS Oro Valley, Grade 6
Tucson, AZ



HONORABLE MENTION

*stinging rays of sun
and the hot breeze in your face
makes you want ice cream*

Shia D.
Grade 4
Laveen, AZ

*dust plumes high above
covers cars like a blanket
blinded by debris*

Danielle D.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*the sandy desert
what a lot of sun
oh! Arizona!*

Lilly R.
Home School, Grade 4
Scottsdale, AZ

*redwood colored land
dried plants atop dusty desert
grayed animals hide*

Isabelle L.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*cactus wren, state bird
palo verde, the state tree
the Grand Canyon state*

Noel S
Redfield Elementary, Grade 5
Scottsdale, AZ

*over centuries
generations come and go
yet cacti hang firm*

Kareem M.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*mesas fill empty spaces
the sweet and juicy citrus
full with copper mines*

Halley C.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*blazing sun will set
a deep mix of pink and red
creamed like a smoothie*

Kareem M.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

steep rocky canyons
how beautiful nature is
so silent, yet nice

Kenadl K.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*red, blue, yellow sunset
sun kisses the sky goodbye
a beautiful sight*

Natalie M
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*the desert so dry
no rain to soak up tonight
cold nights emerge*

Kenadl K.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*Pink, Glowing, Sun sets
Cacti cover dry desert
Hot sand under feet*

Emma S.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

soft, coral sunset
slight breeze tickling my skin
cold night cooling me

Liliana
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

raking leaves for days
yellow,brown,red kids come out
demolished leaf piles

Solana
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*hot, dry desert day
sun will not play hide and seek
winter, where are you*

Kaylee J.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*The big cactus wren
State bird of Arizona
lies high through the sky*

Bryce W.
Arizona College Preparatory - Oakland , Gr 7
Gilbert, AZ

watching us since birth
mountains loom above our heads
even in our death

Melody W.
Arizona College Preparatory -Oakland, Gr 7
Gilbert, AZ

*the canyons so high
a smooth red wall follows up
a bright morning light*

Elizabeth I.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*The crackle of sand
The light hits the horizon
The red rocks glimmer*

Elizabeth I.
Kyrene Middle School, Grade 6
Tempe, AZ

*Persimmon sunrise
brave new world awakening
the sound of darkness*

Maeve W.
BASIS Oro Valley, Grade 8
Tucson, AZ

2016 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Grade 9-12 Haiku



*a gloomy night
coyotes roam all around
cold foggy mountains*

*Nicole A.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ*



FLASH FLOODS

Late in the summer months the Arroyo or empty creeks seasonally fills and flows after heavy downpours of rain. These flash floods are common in arroyos during thunderstorms bringing these dry creeks to life and crossing roads commonly become impassible.



*saguaro cactus
mirrored in moonlit water
spines waver gently*

Joanna J.

North High School, Grade 11

Phoenix, AZ



*the smell of wet dirt
I hear the droplets outside
nostalgic thoughts come*

Brenda A.

South Mountain High School, Grade 10

Phoenix, AZ



*a howling wind blows
how I dream to fly with you
and quietly drift away*

Shelly P.

Paradise Honors High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ



*I've seen the sun laugh
his joy warms the land and man
he smiles if you look*

Destiny C.

Paradise Honors High School, Grade 11
Surprise, AZ



*deep in the desert
waves of light swim through the sand
as the sun rises*

Destiny C.

Paradise Honors High School, Grade 11
Surprise, AZ



*a vultures death stare
oasis waves beckoning
the desert circle*

Austin D.
Paradise Honers High School, Grade 11
Surprise, AZ



*the hot wind blows east
and carries a tumbleweed
a hawk screeches above*

Alexis L.
Paradise Honers High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ



*the flower blooms pink
it basks in the warm sunlight
trapped by cactus pricks*

Alexis L.
Paradise Honers High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ



glowing horizon

color tainted desert sky

flowers in bloom

Roxanne R.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ



HONORABLE MENTION

*flaming clouds of red
pass above the torrid desert
earth's star gently sinks*

Gina S.
Desert Ridge High School, Grade 11
Apache Junction, AZ

*the sky's tears drip down
leaving craters in the sand
desert is reborn*

Gina S.
Desert Ridge High School, Grade 11
Apache Junction, AZ

*burning rays of sun
steaming streams run through mountains
I know this as home*

Emily Z.
Trevor G. Browne High School, Grade 11
Avondale, AZ

*mystery roses
bloom as the full moon whispers
the midnight hour strikes*

Joanna J.
North High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*light shines through the sky
waiting to strike upon us
innocent lives spared*

Brianna B.
South Mountain High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*a glimmer of hope
unexpected kiss of rain
wanting more sunlight*

Emily I.
South Mountain High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ

*flowers Blossoming
picturese saguaros
in the desert sun*

Carla F.
South Mountain High School, Grade 12
Phoenix, AZ

*beautiful sunrise
escaping the horizons
leaving memories*

Angela E.
South Mountain High School, Grade 12
Phoenix, AZ

*spread across the sky
like gleaming lanterns above
paving paths for us*

Shaniqua D.
South Mountain High School, Grade 12
Phoenix, AZ

*the sky cries above
clouds darken slowly
rain falls solemnly*

Maria V.
South Mountain High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*clear skies and dry nights
when the rain touches, I dance
rain leaves at a glance*

Selene C.
South Mountain High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*today will soon leave
it's time for our sun to fall
glistering night skies*

Lina A.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*hot climate weather
summer in the spring and fall
hottest of them all*

Lina A.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*the deserts are dry
"Oh" but never will it die
the beauty is high*

Bernice A.
South Mountain High School
Phoenix, AZ

*solitude at night
my beautiful stunning stars
cool breeze on my face*

Ana P.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*a wicked wind blew
branches across the old trail
good morning walk*

Jesus M.
South Mountain High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*cactus through dry fields
shadows hiding behind them
still on a cool night*

Emily P.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*burning sun rising
the phoenix bird is passing
flames will never die*

Michael J.
South Mountain High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ

*under the clear blue sky
hiding in shadows it lies
tired lazy snake*

Darren F.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*breath taking colors
stretched across western skies
settling sunset*

John S.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*sun radiating
magenta flowers unfold
a prickly pear gem*

Rigel B.

Paradise Honers High School, Grade 11
Surprise, AZ

*jagged rocky faces
softened by snowy silence
the moon seems to pause*

Seyna A.

Paradise Honers High School
Surprise, AZ

*the clear skies are vast
yet only one cloud remains
alone in a sea*

Christine M.

Paradise Honers High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*sounds of the desert
coyotes howl like the wind
as the city sleeps*

Jennifer M.

Paradise Honers High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*sand stretching for miles
across the dry desert plains
specks of dust drifting*

Christine M.

Paradise Honers High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*dry and barren earth
waiting for impending storm
finally life springs*

Tyler W.

Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*cacti are cooling
birds arrive, exploring warmth
nature is alive*

Christopher S.

Paradise Honers High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*majestic Sunrise
comes over the mountain tops
shining on golden sand*

Stephen A.

Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*under moon lit skies
coyotes gracefully howl
stars shimmering bright*

Kaitlyn A.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 11
Surprise, AZ

*sun baking the earth
summer is finally here
splashing in the pool*

Kaitlyn T.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*the moon rises high up
all is quiet except for one
the coyote howls*

Alexis L.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*clouds roll in at dark
rain falls on the dead hot sand
cries of the last life*

Trinity M.
Paradise Honors High School
Surprise, AZ

*the wind becomes soft
purple and gold fill the sky
as the sun sets down*

Emily N.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 9
Surprise, AZ

*desolate sand winds
swimming like ocean-less dirt
as the red fades to black*

Molly H.
Grade 11
Surprise, AZ

*rabbits hop in fear
roadrunners have scurried off
the coyote sneers*

Alexis A.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

2016 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

University & Adult Haiku



cotton candy sky

orange blossoms perfume the air

my Sonoran bliss

Amy Dawn S.

Chandler, AZ



HIKER'S SOLITUDE

A late afternoon hiker may be treated to
spectacular valley wide sunsets as the sky
lights up out west and the eastern side of the
mountains quickly falls into darkness,
providing a desert solitude for the hiker.



Desert vagabonds
Dry whispering tumbleweeds
Children of the wind

Robert J.
Glendale, AZ



bristling thorny shafts
ocotillo's orange flags
wave desert welcome

Rhonda B.
Mesa, AZ



*palo verde gold
blossom pools on desert floor
treasure blows away*

Rhonda B.
Mesa, AZ



*stately saguaros
sentinels of Sonora
stand their winter watch*

Louis H.
Oro Valley, AZ



*sweet sage aroma
after thundering monsoon
clears my mind of sand*

Donna M.
Prescott, AZ



*quail mom leads a trail
of feathered balls of toddlers
father standing watch*

JeanEtte H.
Scottsdale, AZ



*no rain or rainbows
yet the colors fill the sky
Arizona eve*

JeanEtte H.
Scottsdale, AZ



*Sonoran soldiers
stand guard over the desert
casting long shadows*

Susan C.
Scottsdale, AZ



*sky bursts with thunder
swift jets shadow desert sand
sounds of freedom roar*

Linda K.
Sun City West, AZ



*stinger poised to strike
a noisy cricket silenced
the moon just hung there*

Carolyn A.
Tempe, AZ



*cicada songs paused
for the scent of creosote
after monsoon rains*

Ryan W.
Tempe, AZ



*the first stars
flicker with the moon
coyotes howl*

C.B. W.
Phoenix, AZ



*coral stones
reflect a setting sun
hawks circle*

Candace D.
Phoenix, AZ



HONORABLE MENTION

*baby birds croon
snug in saguaro boot nest
anxious to be fed*

Martha K.
Cave Creek, AZ

*the clouds parted
the big dipper was waiting
to fill up my cup*

Charles P.
Fountain Hills, AZ

*dew drops of the night
rest on drapey spider webs
vanish at first sun*

Martha K.
Cave Creek, AZ

*the queen of darkness
such peace and serenity
glows of silver light*

Ynessa D.
Gilbert, AZ

*darkest beginnings
falling late into first light
morning star rises*

Pat B.
Chandler, AZ

*through the canyon depths
fierce gusts shape gnarled branches
longing for escape*

Lara B.
Gilbert, AZ

*upside down ocean
coyote howls at the moon
lost in endless blue*

Amy Dawn S.
Chandler, AZ

*musty cave echoes
return to me distantly
a ghostly chill climbs*

Lara B..
Gilbert, AZ

*the lonely cricket
fiddles in his solitude
saddening the heart*

Robert J.
Glendale, AZ

*summer night, hot stars
pavement cooling city calm
a/c humming ahhhhhh*

Carlos C.
Phoenix, AZ

*thorny old cholla
such vicious arms spread widely
nothing to embrace*

Christina H.
Mesa, AZ

*backyard summer skies
blue-green banners fly aloft
to mockingbird trills*

Dorothy D.
Phoenix, AZ

*desert breezes lift
bright acacia blossoms
in golden whispers*

Louis H.
Oro Valley, AZ

*silent sentinels
saguaro cacti in bloom
raised arms beg for rain*

Eva W.
Phoenix, AZ

*wall of sand, dirt, wind
cell phone screaming head for home
tomorrow, we dust*

Carlos C.
Phoenix, AZ

*purple, mauve and green
santa rita prickly pear
heart piercing beauty*

Donna M.
Prescott, AZ

*cherry blossom falls silent
dying through the midnight blue sky
beauty in stillness*

Nicholas J.
San Tan Valley, AZ

*streets swept with red clay
offering much needed rain
monsoons pelt the earth*

Roger F.
Spring Valley, AZ

*unfurled scarlet sails
floating on a beige sand sea
ocotillo bloom*

JeanEtte H.
Scottsdale, AZ

*golden suns dance west
oblivious of the earth
baking into dust*

Roger F.
Spring Valley, AZ

*in huachuca green
a brilliant streak of yellow
aspens touch the sky*

Karen C.
Sierra Vista, AZ

*wild river slices earth
winds through slick, black canyon walls
carries stories, life*

Linda S.
Tempe, AZ

*small taunting raindrops
gaining courage in numbers
seek to breach the wash*

Karen C.
Sierra Vista, AZ

*mesquite tree canopy
small brown birds in spring flutter
steal the chickens food*

Linda S.
Tempe, AZ

*silent hawk
moored in ageless sky
swoopes on prey*

Helen A.
Tempe, AZ

*hiking staff in hand
prickly cactus everywhere
ouch! watch out for spines!*

Shane T.
Anthem, AZ

*the candles come out
cinnamon, pumpkin, and clove
a desert sunset*

Rosemary B.
Tucson, AZ

*always a surprise
when the cold arrives and takes
the warmth from our feet*

Rosemary B.
Tucson, AZ

*bursting with color
balloons float silent over
desert blooms below*

Shane T.
Anthem, AZ

2016 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

Japanese Language Haiku



サボテンの背景赤く陽が染める

Saboten no haikei akaku yō ga someru

the cactus background painted by the red sun

Shoko W.

Gilbert, AZ



DESERT SUNSETS

The dry air filled with specs of dust and particles light up those thin feather clouds which catch light and filter it back to our eyes to make some of the most awesome sunsets in the world.



瑠璃色に光り輝く夕焼け雲

Ruri-iro ni hikarikagayaku yūyakegumo

Sunset clouds brilliant in lapis lazuli color

Kana K.

Phoenix, AZ



荒野でも住めば都春の空

Kōya demo sumeba miyako haru no sora

even if living in the wilderness

you'll find a spring city sky

Yukihiro I.

Tucson, AZ



HONORABLE MENTION

人口と平均年齢上がる冬

jinkō to heikin nenrei agaru fuyu
population and average age rise in winter

Shoko W.
Gilbert, AZ

空高く飛行機雲が何本も

Sora takaku hikōkigumo ga nanhon mo
high in the sky airplane contrails left
many streaks

Kana K.
Phoenix, AZ

野生馬たてがみなびかせ駆け抜ける

yasei uma tategami nabikase kakenukeru
the mane of the wild hoarse flutters
as it gallops past

Shoko W.
Gilbert, AZ

生きている深く根を張る砂漠の樹

Ikite iru fukaku newoharu sabaku no ki
the lively roots of the desert tree
extend deeply

Miki P.
Tucson, AZ

春よ来い待っているうちにもう過ぎた

Haruyokoi matte iru uchi ni mō sugita
while waiting for spring to come
it passed me by

Kana K.
Phoenix, AZ

寄り添って生かしてもらおう大サワロ

Yorisotte ikashite morau daisawarao
the large saguaro cuddles to keep alive

Miki P.
Tucson, AZ

ハバリナの群れに足止め散歩道

Habarina no mure ni ashidome sanpomichi
my feet stooped on the path, a herd of javelina

Miki P.
Tucson, AZ

荒野では稲妻太く天と地と

Kōyade wa inazuma futoku tentochito
heavy lightning in the wilderness
heaven and earth

Yukihiro I.
Tucson, AZ

ボランティア若き友増えハナミズキ

Borantia wakaki tomo fue hanamizuki
young volunteering friends
flourishing dogwood

Yukihiro I.
Tucson, AZ

Haiku Expo Statistics



HAIKU EXPO 2016 ENTRY STATISTIC

- Total haiku submissions received: 830
- Total haiku submissions accepted: 827
- Total unique Arizona zip code locations from across Arizona: 88
- Total unique Arizona cities of participants: 24
- Total number of participating schools: 25
- Age of participants: Youngest 7, Oldest 91
- Total number of Outstanding Haiku selections: 41
- Total number of Honorable Mention Haiku: 105

MONSOON SEASON

The late Summer months when the heat is relentless is a sign the monsoons will soon arrive and bring us a chance to have an increased chance of showers and escape from the heat.



Arizona participant cities

Ahwatukee	Phoenix
Anthem	Prescott
Apache Junction	San Tan Valley
Avondale	Scottsdale
Carefree	Sierra Vista
Casa Grande	Snowflake
Cave Creek	Spring Valley
Chandler	Sun City West
Fountain Hills	Surprise
Gilbert	Tempe
Glendale	Tucson
Laveen	Wadell
Mesa	
Oro Valley	
Paradise Valley	
Peoria	

Arizona participant schools, clubs

Arizona College Preparatory - Oakland
Arizona State University
BASIS Oro Valley
BASIS Phoenix
Desert Ridge High School
Home school
Knox Gifted Academy
Kyrene Middle School
Mary Burton
Mesa Community College
North High School
Osher Lifelong Learning
Paradise Honors High School
Redfield Elementary
Snowflake High School
South Mountain High School
St. Augustine High Catholic High School
St. Louis the King Catholic School
The New Foundation
Trevor G. Browne
University of Arizona



ARIZONA MATSURI 2016

The Arizona Matsuri, a Festival of Japan.

The Arizona Matsuri is an annual festival which celebrate Japanese culture and heritage, traditional and modern. The two-day event held at Heritage & Science Park in downtown Phoenix features the sights and sounds of Japan, art, crafts, music, dance and much more. The family friendly Matsuri is free to all. Japanese food and goods from over 60 vendors are available for purchase and the beer and sake garden is a great place to relax. The Arizona Matsuri was first held in 1984 and is celebrating its 32nd anniversary in 2016.

The Haiku Expo celebrated its 2nd year in 2016 following its inaugural event in 2015 where we had over 600 entries. The e-Book collection of 2015 winners is also available as a free download from the Arizona Matsuri website.

www.azmatsuri.org

Thank you to all participants in this 2nd year of the Arizona Matsuri Haiku Expo. We are very pleased with the growing number of participants this year and can only hope to grow this event in the future.

In subsequent years we aim to get more educators involved so that lesson plans can be prepared in a timely manner for wider participation in the classroom at all class levels. Our aim is to introduce the arts and culture of Japan through haiku poetry and we encourage people of all ages to continuously create, develop and share their own original haiku poetry.

The details for the next Haiku Expo will be posted on the Arizona Matsuri web site. Updates and notices will be posted on the Arizona Matsuri Facebook page so be sure to check back with us from time to time. Both the the 2015 & 2016 editions of the Haiku Expo Collection e-Book is also available as a free download from the Arizona Matsuri website.

Haiku Committee
John Sachen, Chairman
Beverly Washichek
Doris Asano



