
HAIKU EXPO

Arizona inspired Japanese Poetry



ARIZONA MATSURI - A FESTIVAL OF JAPAN

Selection of 2015 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 this year's Arizona Matsuri festival held in downtown Phoenix on February 21st and 22nd, 2015.

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

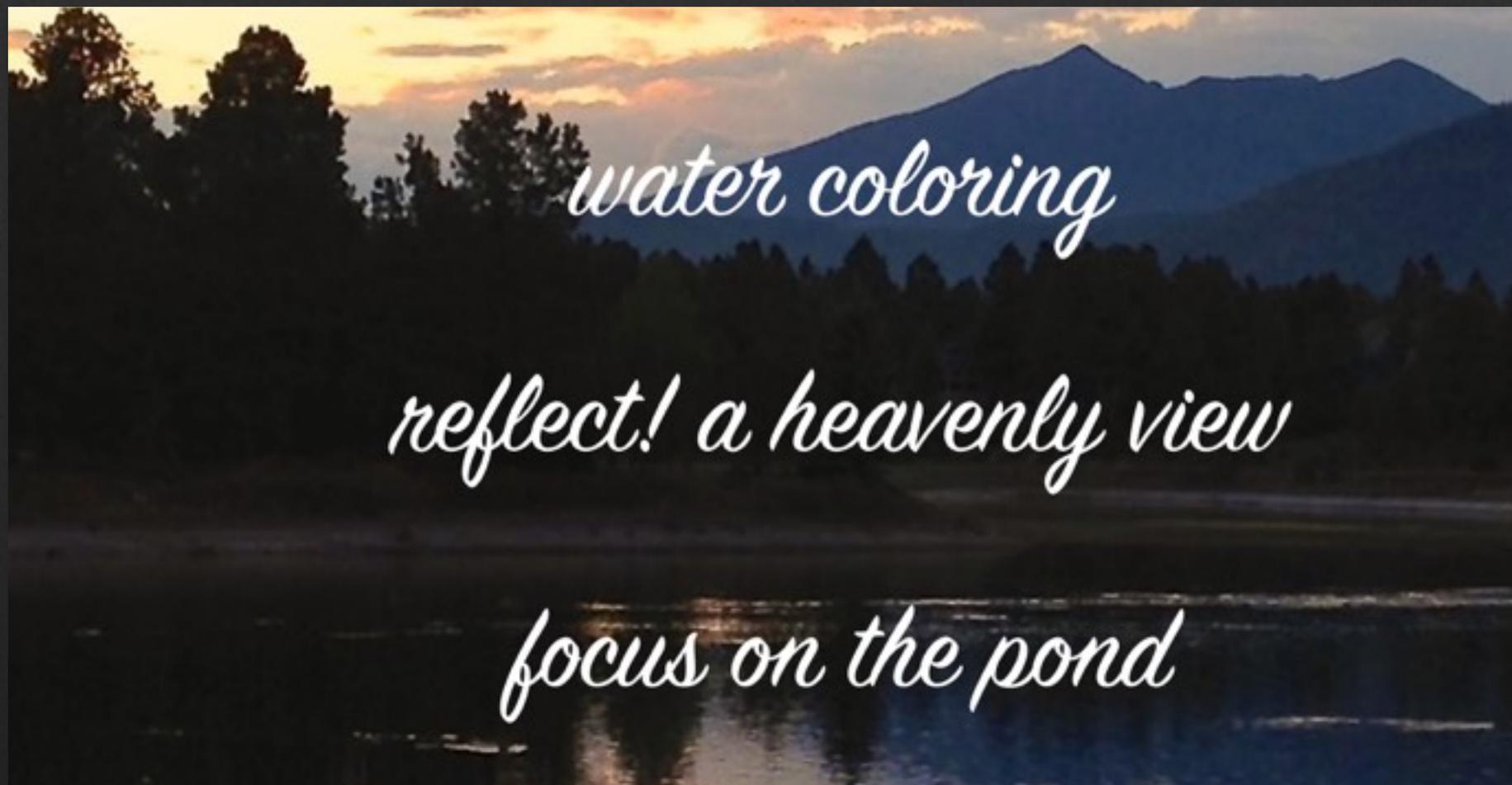
The seasonal word in this Haiku is clouds, indicating the rainy season. Haiku poems are valued for their simplicity, openness, depth and lightness.

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 inaugural event 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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Grades K-3 Haiku



cacti living life
living with me forever
for many years, tall

Catalina C.

St Louis The King Elementary School. Grade 3

Surprise, 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.



cacti everywhere
a drifting leaf that is me
scorpions and oak trees

Catalina C.

St Louis The King Elementary School, Grade 3

Surprise, AZ



a tiny bird hops
shallow rivers, cactus buds
wind whispers to me

Catalina C.

St Louis The King Elementary School, Grade 3

Surprise, AZ



fast, small, road runners
quickly running to his small food
pretty little bird

Mary R.
Montessori Children's House, Grade 1
Phoenix, AZ

a shy roadrunner
pretty white and black feathers
a long slender tail

Valery A.
St Louis The King Elementary, Grade 3
Glendale, AZ

Grand Canyon, large, cliffs
beautiful, sunny and fun
nature everywhere

Calista M.
Montessori Children's House, Grade 3
Phoenix, AZ

*winter in Phoenix
has no snow touching the ground
but it is still cold*

Lucas W.
Knox Gifted Academy, Grade 1
Gilbert, AZ

in Arizona
the mineral is copper
it's abundant here

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

Grades 4-8 Haiku



*look into the clouds
hot air balloons dot the sky
then float out of sight*

Melody W.

Arizona College Preparatory - Oakland, Grade 6

Gilbert, 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.



*blazing ball of flame
giving all it's lavish heat
to our arid land*

Sean N.

BASIS Ahwatukee, Grade 8

Phoenix, AZ



*a butterfly wing
glides through the sky like an angel
as a swift breeze sings*

Naomi M.

BASIS Phoenix, Grade 5

Phoenix, AZ



*pretty pink pigeons
sitting on a cherry tree
cooing quietly*

Noel S.
Redfield Elementary, Grade 4
Scottsdale, AZ

*cactus beg for rain
the rain floods the desert floor
cactus flowers bloom*

Melody W.
Arizona College Preparatory Oakland, Grade 6
Gilbert, AZ

*known for the five C's
always hot, sunny, blazing
my Arizona*

Cole S.
Ryan Elementary School, Grade 5
Chandler, AZ

*the rain is like pearls
like jewels from a broken string
that shatter when touched*

Naomi M.
BASIS Phoenix, Grade 5
Phoenix, AZ

*the snowflakes glitter
falling from the starry night
on that New Years Eve*

Naomi M
BASIS Phoenix, Grade 5
Phoenix, AZ

*raindrops fall from the sky
like cystals from the heavens
as the gentle wind sings*

Naomi M.
BASIS Phoenix, Grade 5
Phoenix, AZ

*body shivering
warm cup of cocoa in hand
blizzard wind blowing*

Hailey C.
Northwest Christian School, Grade 5
Phoenix, AZ

*the sun rises up
bright orange streaks the blue sky
a beautiful sight*

Bryce W.
Arizona College Preparatory - Oakland, Grade 6
Gilbert, AZ

*mountains pierce the sky
blocking my surrounding view
in all directions*

Bryce W.

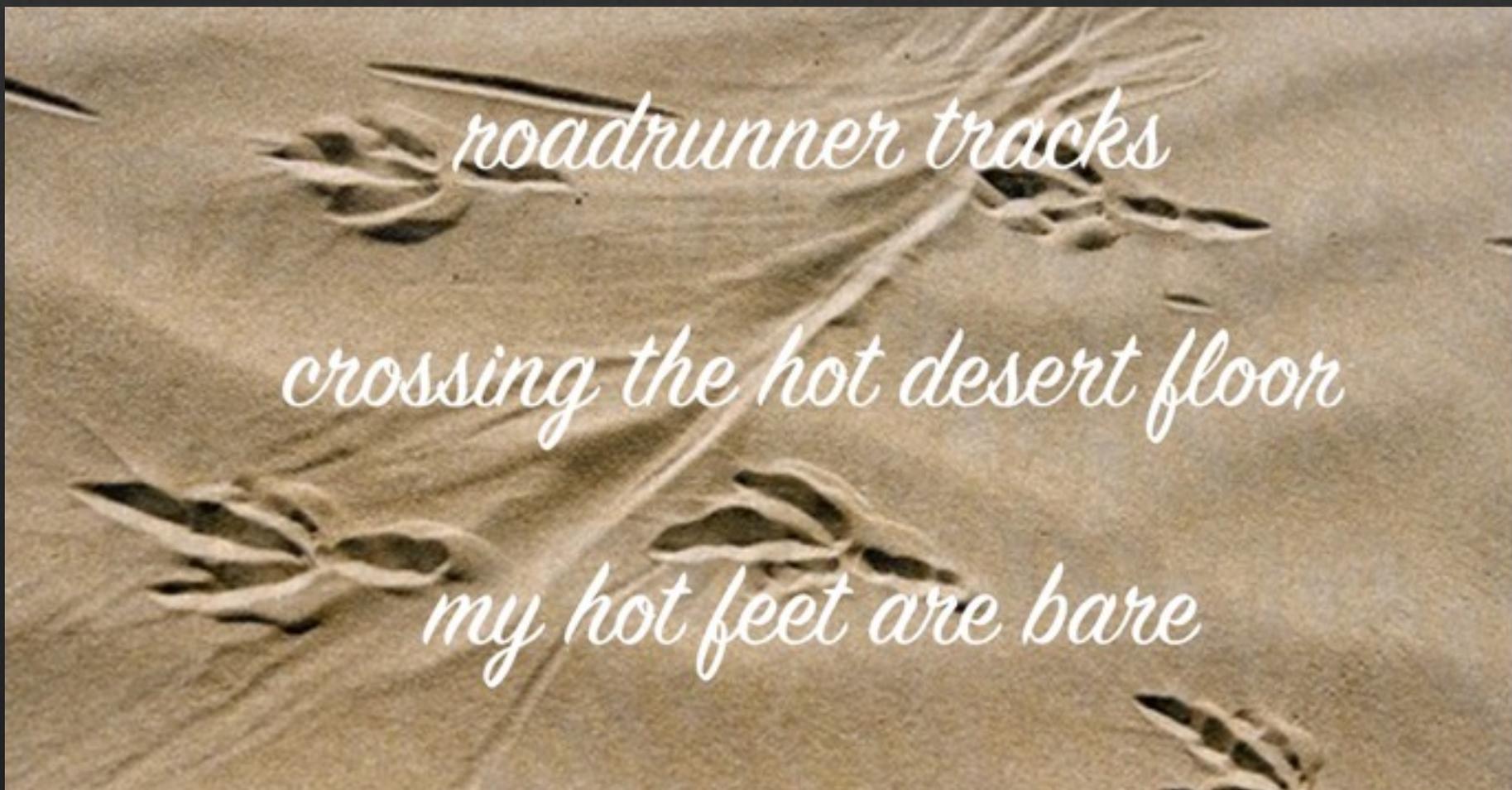
Arizona College Preparatory - Oakland, Grade 6
Gilbert, AZ

*land of rough mesas
home of vast desert creatures
and to the five C's*

Sean N.

BASIS Ahwatukee, Grade 8
Phoenix, AZ

Grade 9-12 Haiku



*four tall, stoic peaks
on a lonely desert site
watching over us*

Richelle H

Apache Junction High School, Grade 12

Apache Junction, 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.



paint dotting the sky
here's the sun's daily goodbye
bright colors fading

Cemeryn J

Apache Junction High School, Grade 12

Apache Junction, AZ



listening at night
coyotes howling loudly
lulling me to sleep

Tatiana C.

Apache Junction High School, Grade 12

Gold Canyon, AZ



*this tree tall and proud
growing in the sunny plain
watching the river*

Joshua H.
Camelback High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ



*water droplets shine
like small incandescents stars
that pass by at night*

Adolfo L.
South Mountain High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ



*the fierce coyote
walks the dim lonley desert
seeking his purpose*

Hector A.
Cesar Chaves High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ



*warm gusts bring fresh air
to wake the sleepy desert
blossoms now emerge*

Gina S.
Desert Ridge High School, Grade 10
Apache Junction, AZ



*desert rain is rare
turning dirt to muddy sludge
revealing lost stones*

Alexandra W.
Valley Vista High School, Grade 12
Surprise, AZ



*snow covered desert
small paw prints in the cold snow
foxes sneaking by*

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



*In hot summer days
sun burning down on pavement
no one to be seen*

Nayely G.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*rain seeps underground
forgotten toads awaken
yawning little chirps*

Thomas C.
Apache Junction High School, Grade 12
Apache Junction, AZ

*Indians stand still
guardians of the rock now
the floods left a ring*

Richelle H.
Apache Junction High School, Grade 12
Apache Junction, AZ

*beads fall down my face
burn baby burn the sun screams
so unmerciful*

Cemeryn F.
Apache Junction High School, Grade 12
Apache Junction, AZ

*buds, once again new
trees shake the cold from within
now they face lightning*

Jordan B
Apache Junction High School
Apache Junction, AZ

*strange weather today
the Superstition Mountains
vanish in the fog*

Lanae W.
Apache Junction High School
Apache Junction, AZ

*empty road I walk
tumbleweeds rolling down
light dusty winds blow*

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

*the weeping sky's sound
echoing through the canyons
suddenly washed out*

Molly H.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*a soft summer breeze
the sky painted bright orange
a desert sunset*

Kolbe W.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*a great myriad
of changing rainbow rays
it rests in the west*

Rigel B.
Paradise Honors High School
Surprise, AZ

*clouds cry many tears
the sky is melancholy
flowers bloom in joy*

Rigel B.
Paradise Honors High School
Surprise, AZ

*waves of heat burn twice
cool waters dry and warm clouds melt
cacti bloom - this is Summer*

Andrew M
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*as cool rain withdrawls
the scorching sun dries land to dust
and cacti wither*

Hayley S.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Waddell, AZ

*bright rays of the sun
across the empty desert
rain is bound to come*

Ryan M..
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*the thundering rain
echoing through the canyons
in another world*

Molly H.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*Arizona's sun
blazing bright on sun-kissed skin
wind like a heater*

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

*the beautiful sun
shinning as much as it can
my Arizona*

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

*a moment of peace
fog moves into the clearing
with the moist sigh*

Estafania L
South Mountain High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*the haboobs are big
I was on the roof that day
it was very cool*

Yamil R.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*the two-faced desert
raging day and stoic night
connected by sky*

Morgan E.
Mesquite High School, Grade 12
Gilbert, AZ

*AZ states my birth place
where the Phoenix bird can rest
knowing it has arose from the ashes*

Luz M.
South Mountain High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ

*the desert is hot
winter is what we wait for
soon those days will end*

Jasmine B.
High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*saguaro cactus
standing still as the wind blows
with arms that don't move*

Yatziro R.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*the simmering days
it will never change, it's hot
I wish it would snow*

Zabrina E.
Cesar Chavez High School, Grade 11
Phoenix, AZ

*the hot sun beats down
on those who call this place home
thank God for AC*

Heidi S.
Betty H. Fairfax High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*you make people melt
Arizona you are hot
I love you so much*

Maritzn F.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*bright sunlight
sunsets that will stun you
night skys that are cool*

Gilberto O.
South Mountain High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ

*saguaros stand still
on warm Arizona sand
with arms that don't move*

Yatziro R.
South Mountain High School, Grade 9
Phoenix, AZ

*beautiful sunset
so many amazing sights
it's Arizona*

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

*our beautiful wren
representing this state
in the hot, hot heat*

Marya G.
South Mountain High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ

*hot chiming wind blows
across the crystalline sand
but no one listens*

Molly H.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Surprise, AZ

*flowers bloom softly
on a single cactus branch
the beauty of spring*

Jenna B.
Paradise Honors High School
Surprise, AZ

*the coyote howls
at the bright and misty moon
as darkness descends*

Haily S.
Paradise Honors High School, Grade 10
Waddell, AZ

*always been a dreamer
the golden sun shining bright
western setting sun*

Marya G.
South Mountain High School, Grade 10
Phoenix, AZ

University & Adult Haiku



*night's shadow broken
above Superstition Mountain
monsoon lightning*

Andrea Jane Dickens

Mesa, 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.



*misty morning light
shimmers yellow cottonwoods
the eagle's wings shine*

Steven D.
Phoenix, AZ



*under winter sun
seven turtles share a log:
Phoenix Zoo canal*

John E.
Tempe, AZ



*majestic mountains
standing tall against the sky
river running through*

Salli M.
Phoenix, AZ



*wild flowers blooming
the desert awakening
bursting with color*

Salli M.
Phoenix, AZ



*mountains sing with glee
as the desert explodes
in an array of blossoms*

Gayle S..
Mesa, AZ



*pale light follows dawn
mountains ripple in the sky
coyote's last howl*

Candace D.
Phoenix, AZ



*tall, green saguaro
arms laced white, with frozen snow
sunlit from behind*

Martha K.
Cave Creek, AZ



*summer's end is near
clouds of dust and monsoon rain
hover in the sky*

Candace D.
Phoenix, AZ



*night falls on desert plain
no cell, no people, just Pisces
and the milky way*

Scott W.
Tucson, AZ



*bolts of lightning play the earth
thunder adds the bass
desert monsoon symphony*

Linda K.
Sun City, AZ



*seen from the night sky
city lights glow like embers
fire bird, born from dust*

Haley D.
Tempe, AZ



*In snowfall silence
the night is mutely humming;
a branch cracks and falls*

Karen C.
Sierra Vista, AZ



*a whirlwind of sand
rustle of sage and cactus
voice of the desert*

Andy S.
Mesa, AZ



*a dry twilit sky
hulls the slanting Tempe sun
into winter sleep*

Don F.
Phoenix, AZ



*monsoon sunset clouds
fading crimson lips whisper
an apology*

Steven D.
Phoenix, AZ

*fog settles in yard
ghosts come out of the closet
cat under the bed*

Paula A.
Glendale, AZ

*eighty beats per sec
hummer flutters almost still
sucking sugar juice*

Pinna J.
Scottsdale, AZ

*the gray clouds opened
quickly quenching earths yearning thirst
monsoons arrived*

Jesus D.
Maricopa, AZ

*mockingbird greets day
my leaden heart is lightened
by his joyful song*

Rhonda B.
Mesa, AZ

*sonoran magic
magnificent saguaro
sun drenched magesty*

Steven K.
Phoenix, AZ

*badge hidden by lapel
rustler's campfire crackles
justice in billowing smoke*

Virgil M.
Glendale Community College
Phoenix, AZ

*north winter winds blow
snowbirds escape to the south
sunshine warms the heart*

Kathy C.
Sun City West, AZ

*old friend coyote
crosses blacktop stealing home
down dry arroyo*

*Kerry W.
Mesa, AZ*

*ancient red mountains
reach for the pink and gold sky
dawn of a new day*

*Rachel H.
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ*

*chiricahua cliffs
a great apache stronghold
arizona speaks*

*Denise K.
Phoenix, AZ*

*saguaro's sweet fallen fruit
desert's charming, vibrant red gift
for musky scented grunting forager*

*Donna M.
Glendale, AZ*

*begging rain
kachinas dance to flute music
old dog seeks the sun*

*Jean Ellen W.
Cottonwood, AZ*

*sandal-footed desert explorer
leaping over fallen saguaro's decaying ribs
frozen by rattles sudden warning*

*Donna M.
Glendale, AZ*

*Life is a red rose
Opening itself to me
And I am the sun*

*Braxton H..
Arizona State University
Tempe, AZ*

*Solar radiance
sizzle, sweat and blooming smiles
for us Arizonians*

*Marie M.
Chandler, AZ*

*the sweet aroma
hundreds of orange blossoms
summer comes too soon!*

*Brad M.
Phoenix, AZ*

*sunblock melts my face
eggs fry on a sidewalk
desert in August*

*Linda K.
Sun City West, AZ*

*Arizona summer
hundred degrees in the shade
but, it's a dry heat*

*Jonathon L
Phoenix, AZ*

*sweet, sweet black cherries
juice dripping, seed spitting joy
stains my fingers red*

*Donna M.
Prescott, AZ*

*under the Lath House
shiba inu undisturbed
by taiko thunder*

*Emma S.
Chandler, AZ*

*a black wall of dust
engulfs the control tower
haboob delay*

*Bridget M.
Tucson, AZ*

*a White Mountain elk
bugles in a midnight meadow
city camper wakes*

*Virigl M.
Glendale Community College
Glendale, AZ*

*head down and homeless
chilled by winter's wind and cold
warmed by a stranger's smile*

*Jan C.
Peoria, AZ*

*cry from treetops
flapping wings encircle
I yell back at the screech owl*

Jarrett E.
Tucson, AZ

*low in the night sky
the brilliance of the moon
illuminates all*

Elizabeth M.
Gilbert, AZ

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

Robert J.
Glendale, AZ

*sparkling in the sun
black fur ripples on the cat
sun goddess blessing!*

Ben W.
Surprise, AZ

*cascading runnel
through tight sandstone canyon walls
feeds new life below*

Eva W.
Phoenix, AZ

*early morning rain
and the cool pitter patter
gift me with sweet sleep*

Ben W..
Surprise, AZ

*fluttering fall leaves
an explosion of colors
changing the landscape*

Elizabeth M.
Gilbert, AZ

*creosote bush scent
floats under grey clouds; pearls drip
from twigs: desert tears*

Emma S.
Chandler, AZ

*apricot tinted
crimson-edged, gold on turquoise
Phoenix sunset glow*

*Emma S.
Chandler, AZ*

*thunder, lightning, rain
daybreak outside the window
whole mountains missing*

*Jean Ellen W.
Cottonwood, AZ*

*datura blossoms
a hawk-moth labors
against the night wind*

*Autumn M.
Tucson, AZ*

*saguaros at noon
provide the narrowest shade
bliss for the lizard*

*Sharon S.
Tempe, AZ*

*rainbow in the clouds
sun shining thru heaven's tears
there is always hope*

*DM R.
Scottsdale, AZ*

*looming, arms raised high
magnificent silhouette
saguaro at dawn*

*Scott W.
Tucson, AZ*

*spacious open skies
sunset colors desert floor
moon hears howls of night*

*Cindi R..
Phoenix, AZ*

*as the lily slept
she dreamed of the coming rain
but, she never woke*

*Ginger S.
Phoenix, AZ*

Japanese Language Haiku



穴だらけ野鳥の棲家大サワロ

ana-darake

yachō no sumika

dai saguaro

Miki P.

Tucson, 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.



干上がった川もとうとうモンスーン雨

*hiagatta
kawa mo tōtō
monsūn ame*

Miki P.

Tucson, AZ



連山を染め行く夕焼火のごとし

*renzan wo
some yuku yuyake
hi no gotoshi*

Shima N.

Fountain Hills, AZ



アリゾナの冬が明ければ長い夏

Arizona no
fuyu ga akereba
nagai natsu

Kana K.
Grade 5
Phoenix, AZ



風吹けば砂舞い上がり砂嵐

kaze fukeba
suna mai agari
suna arashi

Shoko W.
Gilbert, AZ



影長く鮮烈な大空夕焼け映像

kage nagaku
senretsu na oosora
yuyake eizo

Caitlyn K.
Surprise, AZ



金の空と紫の雲今日の夕焼け

kin no sora to
murasaki no kumo
kyo no yuuyake

Michele N.
Glendale, AZ



雨がふるつきとたいよねたい強いかぜ

ame ga furu
tsuki to taiyo netai
tsuyoi kaze

Aspyn A.
Tempe, AZ

砂漠にも赤とんぼ飛び里心

sabaku ni mo
akatonbo tobi
satogokoro

Shizumi N
Scottsdale, AZ

いきをしない天ごくはなきたいしぼうのえがお

iki wo shinai
tengoku ha nakitai
shibou no egao

Aspyn A.
Tempe, AZ

遠吠えの砂漠に響く星月夜

tōboe no
sabaku ni hibiku
hoshi zukiyo

Shima N.
Fountain Hills, AZ

行く年の砂漠の風も寂しけれ

yukutoshi no
sabaku no kaze mo
samishikere

Shima N.
Fountain Hills, AZ

夏が来て水筒満タン氷入り

natsu ga kite
suitō mantan
kōri-iri

Kana K.
Grade 5
Phoenix, AZ

一粒の雨に震える蓮の花

hitotsubu no
ame ni furueru
hasunohana

Hisako P.
Mesa, AZ

はてしない大地と山と青い空

hate shinai
daichi to yama to
aoi sora

Shoko W.
Gilbert, AZ

真夏には暑い日続いて40°C

manatsu ni wa
atsui hi tsuzuite
40 °C

Kana K.
Grade 5
Phoenix, AZ

くろい空こころもくらく寒いもだ

kuroi sora
kokoro mo kuraku
samui mo da

Kevin N
Mesa, AZ

灼熱に舌も伸びきるペット犬

shakunetsu ni
shita mo nobi kiru
petto inu

Miki P.
Tucson, AZ

雨止みて秋の匂ひに包まれり

amayamite
aki no nioi ni
tsutsuma reri

Hisako P.
Mesa, AZ

春の雨大地の息吹き蘇る

haru no ame
daichi no ibuki
yomigaeru

Shizumi N.
Scottsdale, AZ

失敗を重ねて学ぶ老いの冬

shippai wo
kasanete manabu
oi no fuyu

Hisako P.
Mesa, AZ

今生きる証の俳句秋の声

ima ikiru
akashu no haiku
aki no koe

Shizumi N.
Scottsdale, AZ

満月や思ひは彼方千里まで

mangetsu ya
omoi wa kanata
senri made

Kayoko V.
Phoenix, AZ

異国にて大和魂我れ想う

ikoku nite
yamato damashii
ware omou

Akiko H.
Phoenix, AZ

灼熱の暑さ気にせぬゴルフ馬鹿

shakunetsu no
atsusa ki ni senu
gorufu baka

Shoko W.
Gilbert, AZ

Haiku Expo Statistics



HAIKU EXPO 2015 ENTRY STATISTIC

- Total haiku submissions received: 609
- Total haiku submissions accepted: 590
- Total unique Arizona zip code locations from across Arizona: 103
- Total unique Arizona cities of participants: 28
- Total number of participating schools: 36
- Total number of Outstanding Haiku selections: 45
- Total number of Honorable Mention Haiku: 99

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

Apache Junction	Phoenix
Avondale	Prescott
Cave Creek	Scottsdale
Chandler	Sierra Vista
Cottonwood	Snowflake
Flagstaff	Sun City West
Fountain Hills	Surprise
Gilbert	Tempe
Glendale	Tolleson
Gold Canyon	Tucson
Green Valley	Waddell
Laveen	Wickenburg
Maricopa	
Mesa	
Paradise Valley	
Peoria	

Arizona participant schools, clubs

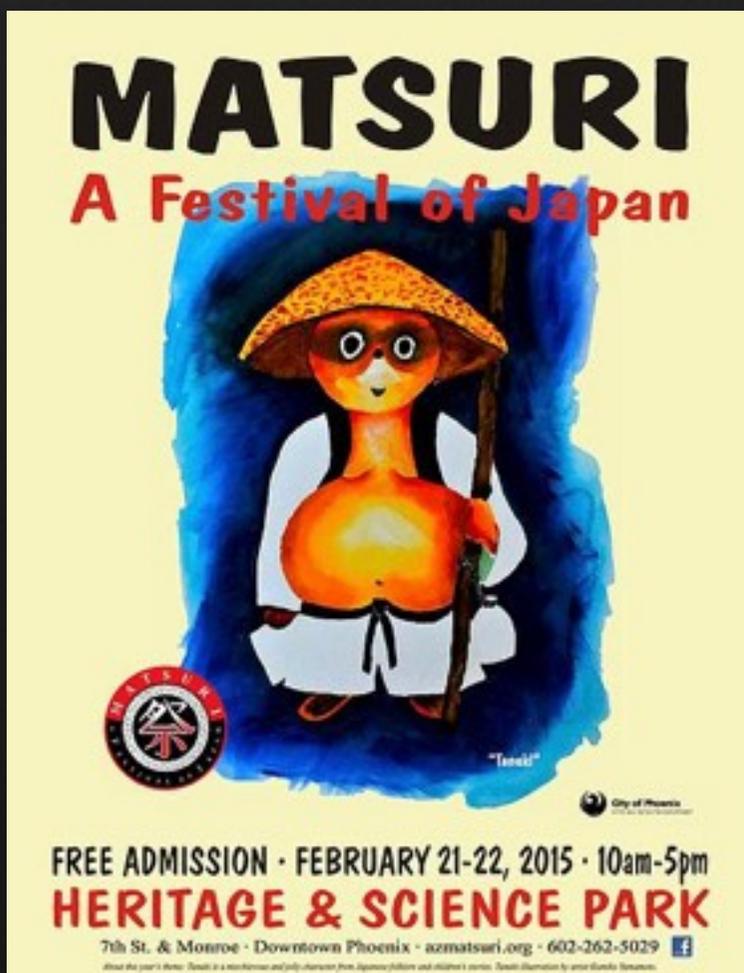
Agua Fria High School
Anime Club
Apache Junction High School
Arizona Buddhist Temple
Arizona College Preparatory - Oakland
Arizona State University
BASIS Ahwatukee
BASIS Phoenix
BASIS Phoenix Central
Betty H. Fairfax High School
Camelback High School
Catalina Hills High School
Cesar Chavez High School
Coyote Ridge Elementary School
Desert Ridge High School
Glendale Community College
Greenway High School
International School of Tucson
Knox Gifted Academy
Madison Heights
Mesquite High School
Montessori Children's House
Northwest Christian School
Our House Montessori Elementary
Paradise Honors High School
Redfield Elementary
Ryan Elementary School
Santan Elementary
Snowflake High School
South Mountain High School
St Louis The King Catholic School
Tavan Elementary
Trevor G. Browne High School
Valley Vista High School
Ward Traditional Academy
Willow Canyon High School



ARIZONA MATSURI 2015

The 2015 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 31st anniversary in 2015. The Haiku Expo is a new event at Matsuri starting in 2015.



Thank you to all participants in this inaugural year of the Arizona Matsuri Haiku Expo. We are very pleased with such great participation in this first 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 and updates and notices will be posted on the Arizona Matsuri Facebook page so be sure to check back with us from time to time.

Haiku Committee

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