HAIKU EXPO
Arizona inspired Japanese Poetry

ARIZONA MATSURI - A FESTIVAL OF JAPAN

Selection of 2017 Haiku

Selection of 2017 Haiku
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 mosquitoes 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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birds flying sky high
soaring up through the thin air
sunlight next to them

_Outstanding Haiku_

_Jillian G_

_Wilson K-8, Tucson_
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.

I have my own horse
my horse is very cool too
his name is Elvis

Outstanding Haiku
Brennan P
Kyrene Del Norte, Tempe

sun blazes through day
drinking to cool down would do
sunlight is fading

Honorable Mention Haiku
Morgan B
Wilson K-8, Tucson

I love her so much
she sleeps in my room and snores
she is annoying

Honorable Mention Haiku
Hayslie W
Kyrene Del Norte
as the sun sinks down
silhouettes of waving palms
line the horizon

Outstanding Haiku

Jocelyn J

Kyprene Middle School, Tempe
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.

the frosty, dry night
coyotes prayed to the moon
wind whispered in trees

Outstanding Haiku
Kyla W
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

cactus in moonlight
highlighted with moon aura
spines dance in shadow

Outstanding Haiku
Jason L
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix
leaves fall to the ground
bare branches against the sky
fleetly blossoms shine

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Tess M*
*Phoenix*

*I sulk in the heat*
small dust clouds with every step
my sandy footprints

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Shea Z*
*Tempe*

*pretty sand below*
*owls stare deep into your soul*
cactus all around

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Cooper W*
*Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix*
gleaming sun above
cool chill on the desert sand
beauty lines the sky

Outstanding Haiku
Cooper W
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix

dark clouds overhead
water falling on the ground
smells like desert rain

Outstanding Haiku
Charlie P
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix

fire raging far
smoke is soaring through the air
watch the fire roar

Outstanding Haiku
Ruby D
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix
dusty canyon cliffs
desert floods with tumbling rocks
the valley heats up

Outstanding Haiku
Sephir B
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

roars of loud thunder
scattered lighting in the sky
and cries of gray clouds

Outstanding Haiku
Kaeya B
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

the desert breeze comes
the sky whispers it's time for
dust storms and monsoons

Outstanding Haiku
Jaeden M
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe
quiet wind whispers
lightning smashes earth's deserts
the sky cries with rain

**Outstanding Haiku**

Jose F

**Kyrene Middle School, Tempe**

jackets, scarves, and gloves
building snowmen just for fun
snowflakes falling down

**Outstanding Haiku**

Abbey R

**Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix**

sunlit morning sky
aroma of last night's rain
glistening pine trees

**Outstanding Haiku**

Kaylahni J

**Kyrene Middle School, Tempe**
a whiff of crisp air
in the timber, creatures dash
refreshing Four Peaks

Outstanding Haiku
Tatum S
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

winds of frustration
crack, boom, lightning in the night
battles of nature

Outstanding Haiku
Larissa A
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

shady trees stand tall
watching the land scorch and burn
from the desert sun

Outstanding Haiku
Grantham M
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe
the devils of dust
tiny, harmless tornadoes
over dry, cracked fields

Outstanding Haiku
Angela C
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

cactus arms outstretched
waiting for a prickly hug
a hawk calls somewhere, lonely

Outstanding Haiku
Abigail L
Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix

alone in the woods
vast green trees
a boom in the distance

Outstanding Haiku
Tyler J
Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix
long bushy grass
a faint breeze of wind
whoosh, and silence again

Outstanding Haiku
Tyler J
Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix

bobcat prowling close
his roar echoes through the frost
in the winter freeze

Outstanding Haiku
Sally F
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix

a lone cactus stands
no friends, no foes, just cactus
standing all alone

Outstanding Haiku
Olivia C
Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix
a lone cactus stands
no friends, no foes, just cactus
standing all alone

Outstanding Haiku
Olivia C
Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix

fire in the night
burning brightly for it's life
down the house did fall

Outstanding Haiku
Marc S
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix

oh tall saguaro
standing proud in the dry heat
giving homes to all

Outstanding Haiku
Morgan H
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix
windy snow falling
covers winter habitat
morning leaves scatter

Outstanding Haiku
Sedona S
New River Elementary, New River

filled with lights, your eyes
guide me like stars guide sailors
both guide to find hope

Outstanding Haiku
Naomi M
BASIS Phoenix, Phoenix

the gorgeous sunsets
the blistering AZ heat
simple and so sweet

Outstanding Haiku
Jose
Sunset Ridge, Phoenix
cacti flowers bloom
the wind blows; the tumbleweeds
drift by in the breeze

*Outstanding Haiku*
Jaci
*Sunset Ridge, Phoenix*

the sun sets among
the clouds and rests with colors
bluish-red and pink

*Outstanding Haiku*
Haley
*Sunset Ridge, Phoenix*

the mountains are tall
in the sunlight they glimmer
I have to climb them

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Jason L
*Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix*

as the breeze comes in
the grand clouds cry and bellow
powerful nature

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Isabella T
*Kyrene Middle School, Tempe*
raindrops fall from clouds
glistening in the sunlight
rainbows soon appear

Honorable Mention Haiku
Isabelle K
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix

Havasupi falls
turquoise waters and wild dogs
orange and white cliffs

Honorable Mention Haiku
Maddy W
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

prickly, pointy, ouch
cactus flowers fool you all
pretty but painful

Honorable Mention Haiku
Natalie C
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

dusty rain drops fall
bulging clouds fill the dark sky
a cactus refills

Honorable Mention Haiku
Cameron D
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

a wall of dust comes
animals run for cover
dust blankets the land

Honorable Mention Haiku
Charlotte N
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

the summers are long
the earth crackles beneath us
as the heat waves rise

Honorable Mention Haiku
Dominic P
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

Arizona sky
collage of colors when the
sun glides gently down

Honorable Mention Haiku
Brian S
Kyrene Middle School Tempe

hidden behind shrubs
the coyote waits for its prey
on the desert road

Honorable Mention Haiku
Elliot C
Kyrene Middle School Tempe
sun waking up slow
cacti shadows hugging earth
waiting for slumber

Honorable Mention Haiku
Larissa A
Kyrene Middle School, Tempe

dwellings in the mountains
hidden in the red-brown rocks
above the red trees

Honorable Mention Haiku
Joshua G
Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix

in the dark we listen
in the silence we hear a howl
what a peaceful winter night

Honorable Mention Haiku
Montserrat G
Madison Traditional Academy, Phoenix

buzzards glide above
a mountain towering high
looking for dinner

Honorable Mention Haiku
Sally F
Madison No. 1 REACH, Phoenix

late summer afternoon
flowers blooming, sweet smell
beautiful river, running

Honorable Mention Haiku
Luke I
Phoenix

pretty snowflakes fall
they all look so beautiful
catch them with our mouths

Honorable Mention Haiku
Isis S
New River Elementary, New River

snow up on the top
dark it gets each day and night
cold moon shines brightly

Honorable Mention Haiku
Tess M
Phoenix

rain, rain falling down
making the trees wet with dew
winter turns to spring

Honorable Mention Haiku
Bobby M
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix
plants in the desert
thrive under the baking sun
feed the wildlife

Honorable Mention Haiku
Marcus G
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix

powder in the trees
falling down and spreading cold
winter has arrived

Honorable Mention Haiku
Charlie P
Madison No. 1 Middle School, Phoenix

the winding river
flows through the arid desert
for eternity

Honorable Mention Haiku
Preston
Sunset Ridge, Phoenix

the spiky cactus
has magnificent flowers
blooming from its arms

Honorable Mention Haiku
Katelyn
Sunset Ridge, Phoenix

the elegant sky
blossoms with many colors
pink, blue, and purple

Honorable Mention Haiku
Katelyn
Sunset Ridge, Phoenix
the sky is so blue
the meadow full of flowers
all I feel is peace

Outstanding Haiku
Maria P
South Mountain High School, Phoenix
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.

peaks and valleys deep
sun rays burn and guide me home
earth's star does not rest

*Outstanding Haiku*
Emily Z
Trevor G. Browne, Avondale

thunderous downpour
somehow the bright sun still shines
while rain cascades down

*Outstanding Haiku*
Jack H
Dobson High School, Mesa
sun calmly rises
exhaling a breath of love
warming bodies and hearts

Outstanding Haiku
Aarthi R
Hamilton High School, Chandler

over the mountains
a fiery symphony
valley of the sun

Outstanding Haiku
John Z
Paradise Honors High School, Waddell

a painted desert
the blue downfall commences
electricity

Outstanding Haiku
John S
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise
outstanding haiku

a tranquil river
leaves great canyons in its wake
carving through the earth

outstanding haiku

moves like a ninja
quietly waiting for prey
ferociously strikes

outstanding haiku

along barren sands
specks of green break the ground below
sun shines upon thee

outstanding haiku
a vast, dry desert
undisturbed by human life
cactus flowers bloom

Outstanding Haiku
Kasey B
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

the end of day near
pure blue sky turned shades of pink
a balloon floats by

Outstanding Haiku
Kasey B
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

moonlight floods the sky
the desert creatures will rest
awaiting dawn’s return

Outstanding Haiku
Jennifer M
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise
a single blossom
faces the hot desert sky
and pleads for the rain

Outstanding Haiku  
Desiree M  
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

as thunders crashes
lightning follows silently
in the darkened sky

Outstanding Haiku  
Desiree M  
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

soft touch of warmth
bright bold colors touch the eye
Arizona love

Outstanding Haiku  
Ana P  
South Mountain High School, Phoenix
a winter moon glow
cactus wear a silver glow
lovely winter scene

Outstanding Haiku
Griselda E
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

amazing art work
bright sun reflects everywhere
downtown Phoenix view

Outstanding Haiku
Bryan T
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

watch the rising sun
in a field of saguaro
nature all as one

Outstanding Haiku
Nicole D
South Mountain High School, Phoenix
oh lost baby deer
in need of a mother’s love
longing to be found

Outstanding Haiku
Elysia V
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

spring is a candle
full of warmth and happiness
smell of buds blooming

Outstanding Haiku
Alyssa B
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

the warm Phoenix breeze
graceful, scented desert plants
will always be home

Outstanding Haiku
Erick A
South Mountain High School, Phoenix
sunrise like rainbows
angels of color dancing
heaven’s masterpiece

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Jordan Nikole D*
*South Mountain High School, Phoenix*

canyon walls blaze red
desert awash in warm light
summer sun rises

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Gina S*
*Desert Ridge High School, Apache Junction*

bats chirp; winds whistle
wise toads chant a tuneful hymn
nighttime melody

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Gina S*
*Desert Ridge High School, Apache Junction*
standing tall and proud
regal kings of the low desert
old arms stretch towards the sky

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Kaitlin B*
*Franklin Police and Fire High School, Phoenix*

colors play and dance
Eos awakens, sprinkling dew
a prelude to heat

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Kaitlin B*
*Franklin Police and Fire High School, Phoenix*

fall falls more than leaves
bipolar sky, you will see
cacti get to breathe

*Outstanding Haiku*
*Gregory J*
*Paradise Honors High School, Surprise*
a gust of warm wind
a grain of sand swiftly pushes by
a desert wonder

Outstanding Haiku
Ashley D
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

a crack in the earth
many miles long and deep
started by the stream

Outstanding Haiku
Jack P
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

scorching summer heat
flesh literally burning
melting off your bones

Honorable Mention Haiku
Jack H
Dobson High School, Mesa
blindness fills the air
harmonic dancing of dust
a breathtaking sight

Honorable Mention Haiku
John Z
Paradise Honors High School, Waddell

incredible flash
blue streaks scar the evening sky
kids hide in covers

Honorable Mention Haiku
Jacob G
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

towering pillars
rainbows of red and orange
mirrored in the sand

Honorable Mention Haiku
Jack P
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

the skies open up
quietly a desert blooms
rejoicing in rain

Honorable Mention Haiku
Grypio M
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

the vast barren land
the echoing thunder storms
the sound in the night

Honorable Mention Haiku
Morgan M
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

the sun paints the sky
sand runs across the desert
as the canyon howls

Honorable Mention Haiku
Roxanne R
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

winters lacking snow
cotton clouds release raindrops
warm glazed sun awaits

Honorable Mention Haiku
Christine M
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

water is spread thin
summer days bring waves of heat
my desert my home

Honorable Mention Haiku
Alexis L
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise
they are said to jump
they are said to make you bleed
this one just stands tall

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Seyna A
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

---
dark clouds form above
flashing lighting strikes the ground
a monsoon is here

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Alexis L
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

---
heavy rain pours down
thunder cracks the sky
the silent moon still shines

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Jennifer M
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

---
as the moon rises
the coyotes start to howl
darkness fills the night

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Alexis L
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

---
a sweet silent breeze
lures birds out of their homes
as the sun rises

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Roxanne R
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

---
everything is still
then as the day turns to night
stillness is no more

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Caitlyn R, Surprise

---
howling through the night
surviving the harsh desert
trying to find food

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Jordan B
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

---
desert storm; lightning
a crash on the open land
colors are dancing

*Honorable Mention Haiku*
Kyle M
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise
a coyote howls
lonesome and full of sorrow
at the bright full moon

Honorable Mention Haiku
Desiree M
Paradise Honors High School, Surprise

evening sun setting
rays of gold touch all in sight
eternal beauty

Honorable Mention Haiku
Ana P
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

rolling clouds of gray
crushing sounds of thunder heard
drops of dew consume

Honorable Mention Haiku
Ana P
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

stunning cactus wren
who stands at its saguaro
peaceful by itself

Honorable Mention Haiku
Ismael E
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

valley of the sun
home of the stunning Phoenix
beauty everywhere

Honorable Mention Haiku
Michelle D
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

the phoenix rising
from ashes into the sky
with its gorgeous wings

Honorable Mention Haiku
Raquel Q
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

through dusty mountains
tangy butterflies arise
green comes back to life

Honorable Mention Haiku
Destiny M
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

oh majestic bird
a city born in your name
the eye of the state

Honorable Mention Haiku
Lesly B
South Mountain High School, Phoenix
by the afternoon
tumble weeds roll down the streets
with the fresh cool breeze

Honorable Mention Haiku
Silveria G
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

lots of dry mountains
the beautiful burning heat
awakening sun

Honorable Mention Haiku
Irene G
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

the wind is blowing
the leaves rustle in the rhythm
to nature's heart beat

Honorable Mention Haiku
Giovani G
South Mountain High School, Phoenix

a southwestern state
sonoran desert landscape
means silver-bearing

Honorable Mention Haiku
Angela P
South Mountain High School, Phoenix
2017 OUTSTANDING & HONORABLE MENTION

University & Adult Haiku

violet fading light
sunsets of orange hue, skies
spectrum, desert night

Outstanding Haiku
Phrancel V
Phoenix
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.

winter without snow
starving coyotes stalk streets
cats sleep on roof tops

*Outstanding Haiku*
Nadine L
Phoenix

swept in by the rain
we meet and laugh and just know
we old souls just know

*Outstanding Haiku*
Sarah S
Phoenix
the night is silent
no air conditioner hum
Arizona winter

Outstanding Haiku
Mike M
Tempe

the saguaro stands
bouquet of flowers in hand
welcoming the day

Outstanding Haiku
Michael M
Mesa

watchful egret poised
above croaking cormorants
silence w
ithin sound

Outstanding Haiku
Steven D
Phoenix
blue heron stands firm
peaceful beside the still lake
his reflection clear

Outstanding Haiku
Steven D
Phoenix

in the morning sun
leaves still piled in heaps below
the first plum blossom

Outstanding Haiku
Brad M
Phoenix

coyote's eerie howl
cactus wren trill and quail call
songs of the desert

Outstanding Haiku
Rhonda B
Mesa
gray-green saguaro
sentinel of the desert
keeping steadfast watch

*Outstanding Haiku*
Rhonda B, Mesa

geese in formation
hear their honking hymn of praise
not a cloud overhead

*Outstanding Haiku*
Gloria S, Surprise

the hug of warm air
sunshine rains down over me
welcoming me home

*Outstanding Haiku*
Katherine S
Arizona State University, Tempe
saguaro families wave
under endless blue skies
basking in the sun
Outstanding Haiku

Sharon D
Eastern Arizona College, Thatcher

a bright winter moon
rises above the mountains
then hides in the clouds

Outstanding Haiku
Louis H, Oro Valley

on a golden bell
iridescent hummingbird
whirrs its sunlit wings

Outstanding Haiku
Emma S, Chandler
a lonesome shadow
moves across the desert floor
stray cloud floating by

Outstanding Haiku
Robert E, Glendale

dancing on the breeze
autumn leaves begin to fall
twirling slowly down

Outstanding Haiku
Robert E, Glendale

golden coyote
prancing down the gravel path
boldly self-assured

Outstanding Haiku
Donna M, Prescott
pink flames peek through clouds
an Arizona sunset
love note from above

*Outstanding Haiku*
Holly S, Rio Verde

---
desert dweller's coils
unwind down the blacktop
curves following curves

*Outstanding Haiku*
Paul S, Rio Verde

---
quail family struts
atop narrow garden wall
smallest ones behind

*Outstanding Haiku*
Paul S, Rio Verde
snowy peaks glisten
above a saguaro sea
winter sharing spring

Outstanding Haiku
Paul S, Rio Verde

yellow leaves on white
reach above the mountain snow
toward the pale sun

Outstanding Haiku
PatB, Chandler

sagueros whisper
their song to the shifting sands
cowboy poetry

Outstanding Haiku
Kasey C, Sierra Vista
turquoise sky trembles
above Catalina peaks
peach sun floats west

Outstanding Haiku
Maggie W, Tucson

night begins to fall
the sky has a calm presence
the day has arrived

Honorable Mention Haiku
Matthew G, Wickenburg

from fire and heat
desert sand heated all day
this great city rose from the ash
the great firebird

Honorable Mention Haiku
Matthew G, Wickenburg

earth's floor blanketed
sultry night moon cools
desert sand heated all day

Honorable Mention Haiku
Lisa M, Phoenix

stirring night spirits
while we close our eyes
the desert slowly rises

Honorable Mention Haiku
Rosemary B, Tucson

tumbleweed races
once-rooted wand'rer
before the hot desert wind

Honorable Mention Haiku
Rhonda B, Mesa

thunderstorm passes
scent of creosote rises
on misty dampness

Honorable Mention Haiku
Martha K, Cave Creek
faith hope and trust
rising sun on the horizon
beacons journey on
Honorable Mention Haiku
Gloria S, Surprise

snow in the pines
goodness of light shimmering
peace on earth
Honorable Mention Haiku
Gloria S, Surprise

a hot storm breathes in
warm sand tickles tips of tongues
Arizona dust
Honorable Mention Haiku
Desirae S, Mesa

small young tree gleeful
sways and dances with the wind
laughs when he tickles her knee
Honorable Mention Haiku
Joyce S, Phoenix

sherbet-colored sky
streams of gold radiant light
sunset of my dreams
Honorable Mention Haiku
Eva W, Phoenix

stars dance in the sky
chimes sing in tune with night winds
the moon laughs at both
Honorable Mention Haiku
Roger F, Spring Valley

moonlight cast shadows
over somber midnight sky
bathing drear earth
Honorable Mention Haiku
Roger F, Spring Valley

cactus flower blooms
sends scent to night flying bat
sets seed in moonlight
Honorable Mention Haiku
Maggie W, Tucson
Ni hyaku-nen ikita akashi no hone sabo ten
the cactus bones, evidence of its existence
two hundred years ago

Outstanding Haiku

Miki, Tucson
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.

春の雲旅人集うオアシスに
Haru no kumo
tabibito tsudou oashisu ni
springs clouds,
an oasis provided for travellers to gather

Outstanding Haiku
Yukihiro I, Tucson

萩の風妻の文には薫りあり
Haginokaze tsuma no bun ni wa
kaori ari
the bush clover breeze, a reminiscing scent of my wife

Outstanding Haiku
Yukihiro I, Tucson
啓蟄や砂漠の地下は楽屋かな
Keichitsu ya sabaku no chika wa
gakuya ka na
The backstage of the desert floor is my
earth science playground

Outstanding Haiku
Yukihiro I, Tucson

海の声私に歌う旅の歌
Umi no koe watashi ni utau tabi no uta
the ocean's voice sings to me
a song of adventure

Outstanding Haiku
Joshua S, Chandler

赤夜空向こうから見える不死鳥天后
Aka yozora mukō kara mieru
fushichō tengō
beyond the red night sky I see
the phoenix bird, heaven and earth

Outstanding Haiku
Caitlyn K, Peoria
Taiyō no neppū no koe suna no furai
the voice of the sun's breath of warm air, sand flies listen

Honorable Mention Haiku
Alex W, Surprise

Kisetsu kawa yukidoke mizu ni hitodakari
the seasonal snow melt bringing water to the masses

Honorable Mention Haiku
Miki P, Tucson

Yamahada no sabo ten fudō yuki ga mau
abundant snow dancing among cactus on the mountain's surface

Honorable Mention Haiku
Miki P, Tucson

Sawaro hana no hana muko ga koumoridesho?
a gangster on the saguaro's flower, is it a bat?

Honorable Mention Haiku
Jon R, Tucson
Haiku Expo Statistics

HAIKU EXPO 2017 ENTRY STATISTIC

- Total haiku submissions received: 903
- Total haiku submissions accepted: 888
- Total unique Arizona zip code locations from across Arizona: 88
- Total unique Arizona cities of participants: 31
- Total number of participating schools: 23
- Age of participants: Youngest 8, Oldest 91
- Total number of Outstanding Haiku selections: 93
- Total number of Honorable Mention Haiku: 78
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  Peoria
Avondale        Phoenix
Bisbee          Prescott
Cave Creek      Rio Verde
Chandler        Scottsdale
Duarte          Sierra Vista
El Mirage       Spring Valley
Flagstaff        Surprise
Fort Thomas     Tempe
Glendale        Thatcher
Globe           Tolleson
Guadalupe       Tucson
Laveen          Waddell
Mesa            Wickenburg
New River       Yuma
Oro Valley

Arizona participant schools, clubs

Arizona State University
BASIS Phoenix
Coyote Ridge
Desert Ridge High School
Dobson High School
Eastern Arizona College
Franklin Police and Fire High School
Hamilton High School
Kyrene Del Norte
Kyrene Middle School
Madison No. 1 Middle School
Madison No. 1 Middle School
Madison No. 1 REACH
Madison Traditional Academy
New River Elementary
Paradise Honors High School
Rancho Viejo
South Mountain Community College
South Mountain High School
Sunset Ridge
Trevor G. Browne
Wilson K-8
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 33rd anniversary in 2017.

The Haiku Expo celebrated its 3rd year in 2017 following its inaugural event in 2015 where we had over 600 entries and 800 in 2016 and this year it continues to grow. The e-Book collections from 2015, 2016 and 2017 winners is available as a free download from the Arizona Matsuri website. The Haiku Expo festival display will feature a selection of all Outstanding Haiku from the current and previous years for participants to read and experience the winner’s haiku.
Thank you to all participants in this 3rd 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. Please help us by spreading the word about our event among faculty members, colleagues, friends, clubs and poet enthusiasts.

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 website. Updates and notices will be posted on the Arizona Matsuri Facebook page so be sure to check back with us from time to time. The growing collection of Arizona-inspired haiku from across the State can be freely downloaded from the Arizona Matsuri website. Collect all three years (2015, 2016, 2017 editions) of the Haiku Expo Collection e-Book and be inspired to write your own haiku poetry.

Thank you,
John Sachen, Haiku Committee Chairman
Arizona Matsuri Steering Committee
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