

MINNIBARAKI

Our Forty-first Year

Minneapolis Ibaraki Sister City Association



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The Haiku Contest winners who attended this year's Haiku Awards Ceremony.
More info on the following pages.

Friends of the Bell of Two Friends

Diamond Friends

Bill Deef
Michael Rainville
Karl Reinhard

Platinum Friends

Jack Sattel and Karen Sontag Sattel
Mary Wittkus & Werner Kohler

Gold Friends

Jessica Manivasager

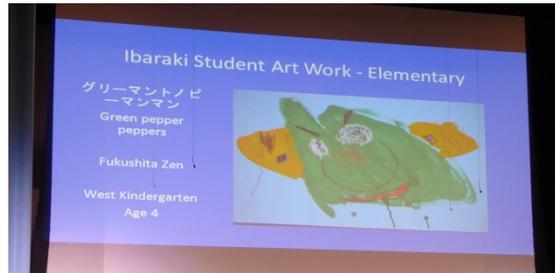
Silver Friends

Richard & Marie-Rose Lundgren
Dan Rolf

Bronze Friends

Carol Austermann
Sharon Balke
Carter Clapsadle & Julia Baugnet
Richard Kathrine Fournier
Mirja Hanson
Cynthia & Brian Haskell
Jim & Reiko Hoffman
Brenda Langton & Tim Kane
Helene Monsour
Doug & Addona Rivord
James & Norma Solstad
Claire & Paul Spilseth
Richard & Carol Stahl
Vernon Wettternach

2022 Haiku Awards Ceremony



Ibaraki Student artwork displayed while guests arrived; Karen Kersting does Kamishibai; Clayton S. reads his winning Haiku.

The Annual Haiku Awards Ceremony was held again as a live, in-person event on Sunday, May 1, 2022 at Thomas Edison High School.

Prior to the presentation of the winners, Karen Kersting delighted the attendees with a Kamishibai performance of an Ogre that sank to the bottom of the sea (Umi ni banda oni).

Each of the winners was then called up to read their Haiku to the audience and presented with their certificate and gift from Ibaraki City. The first, second and third place winners also heard the judge's comments and why their Haiku was selected.

The Haiku Contest is one of MISCA's longest running exchange with Ibaraki City – with students submitting Haikus since the early 1990's! For the second-year students and adults were able to submit their entries on-line. MISCA received approximately 600 entries this year!

MISCA Board members enjoy reading all of the entries and trying to select the best thirty in each age category to send to Ibaraki for final judging.

THANK YOU to all the teachers and students who participate in the contest each year!

Also, a big thank you to Hiroshi Yoshino for translating the judge's comments!

The 2022 Award Winning Haiku's: Kindergarten – 5th Grade

1st Place

Jesus Robles V.
Barton, Wilterdink

peeling yellow skin
soft sweet feeling of a fruit
banana is cool

Judge's Comments

It is effective to let the sense received from the action to peel a banana matches with your preference. It is nice to have the first and the second lines explaining the characteristics of the fruit and let the third line to conclude your opinion. The author repeats long vowels from sweet-feeling and "ing" sounds from peeling-feeling, then concluded as "banana is cool" in the third line. Yes, this haiku is cool.

2nd Place

Jonah P.
Field, Wucherfennig

I like her because
as sour as a yuzu
and sweet as momos

It is interesting to use the characteristics of the fruits, yuzu and momo (peach) as attributes of a person. Sour and difficult as yuzu, but sweet and cute as peach. It is a high technique to show your feeling in the first line and present the reasons in the second and the third lines using metaphor. The sounds of "s" in each line echoes beautifully.

3rd Place

Naomi C.
Field, Rosalie Wilson

i am eating fruits
in the very big big zoo
with an elephant

It may sound like an ordinary scene at zoo. However, the author featured the scene and compared the big elephant against small herself. By using a lower case "i" instead of "I" emphasize the size difference between yourself and the elephant. The "i" works more effectively as the second line goes "the very big big zoo". Implication of both you and the elephant are eating fruits invites a reader of the haiku to be together with them.

Honorable Mention

Ezra Lowenthal W.
Burroughs, Amy Walvantne

sweet fruit on my tongue
many unlike attributes
I love persimmons

Honorable Mention

Genevieve D.
Burroughs Elementary, Mr.
Moyer

The goodness of fruit
Like a sweet song recaptured
Laughing just for me.

Honorable Mention

Kyndal B.
Burroughs, Amy Walvatne

down by the cabin
strawberries in the hot sun
bring them home for pie

Honorable Mention

Grace H.
Field, Ms. Wucherpennig

Yuzu are lemons
So sweet, so bitter, so tart
You've got to try it

Honorable Mention

Wynn H.
Field, Wucherfennig

when sadness arrives
happiness then has to bloom
like an ume in spring

The 2022 Award Winning Haiku's: 6th – 8th Grade

1st Place

L.J.J.
Anthony Middle School,
Bartholomew

My backyard garden
Filled with juicy fruit on vines
Growing with our love

Judge's Comments

Reader will imagine grapes, representative of autumn tastes, grow in a backyard garden, and become juice or wine. Family's love towards the fruit is expressed in a vigorous and lively fashion. "Filled with juicy fruit on vines" in the second line presents the richness of the fruit and leads to "Growing with our love" in the third line. This haiku well connects the relationship between the family and the fruit.

2nd Place

Henry L.
Anthony, Goldammer

The snow is falling
The fruit trees are now asleep
Spring will wake them up

When you read out this haiku, the comfortable rhythm and the meaning echo together. "The snow is falling" and "The fruit trees are now asleep" talk about majestic flow of time in nature. Then, when the time has come, "Spring will wake them up" and shake the world of nature. Spring might also wake "me" up while waking "them" up.

3rd Place

Megan C.
Anthony, Middle School
Bartholomew

Twisting green strong vines
Dotted with tart purple fruit
The heart of fresh wine

The season to harvest new grapes is arriving. The author waits eagerly for this time. Feelings toward grapes may differ depending on cultures and lifestyles.

The season to harvest new grapes is arriving. The author waits eagerly for this time. Feelings toward grapes may differ depending on cultures and lifestyles.

Honorable Mention

Garrett B.
Anthony, Bartholomew

skin apples with dad
smell the fruit bake in the oven
awesome memories

Honorable Mention

Ella A.
Anthony, Middle School
Bartholomew

Autumn breeze drifting
Acorns falling from oak trees
Fruit is everywhere

Honorable Mention

Charlotte S.
Anthony, Middle School
Bartholomew

Fruit low overhead
The apples glisten with dew
Ready to harvest

Honorable Mention

Oliver M.
Susan B. Anthony,
Bartholomew

Chilly autumn air.
Picking a ripened apple.
Amongst family.

Honorable Mention

Olive C.
Susan B. Anthony,
Bartholomew

Fall, apple season
Picking apples with grandma
Making applesauce

The 2022 Award Winning Haiku's: 9th - 12th Grade

1st Place

Frederick V.
Southwest High School, Hamel

The winter wind blows
Chestnuts roasting over flame
Last warmth of harvest

2nd Place

Elijah G.
Southwest High School, Hamel

The ancient fruit
Feeling the pain of its age
Given up, the fruit falls

3rd Place

Grace L.
Southwest High School, Hamel

Spring flowers blossom
Lilacs dance in the warm wind
Trees bear fruit again

Judge's Comments

This haiku depicts a fun harvest scene of a cold winter day. Gentle sounds of "w" from "winter, wind, warmth" in the first and the third lines sound comfortable to reader's ears. In contrast, the description of the chestnuts cracking over the flame even delivers the roasted smell to the readers. Certainly, pleasure of harvest; "Last warmth of harvest". Beautiful haiku, it is!

The expression of "The ancient fruit" make me imagine the apple eaten by Adam and Eve. This phrase is very cultural driven and unique to English haiku. The way "f" sounds are laid out in each line, "fruit-feeling-fruit-falls", is marvelous.

The author sings of the happiness of spring. The season of flowers, warm winds, and bearing fruit on trees has arrived again. After the long winter, the long-awaited spring is finally here. When you read out this haiku, it become even clearer that this is a song for joy. "Spring flowers blossom" and "Lilacs" duplicate the meaning, but the sound flows nicely.

Honorable Mention

Nixie C.
Southwest High School, Hamel

Soft sun melts thin frost
Waters the budding plum trees
Spring fruits will soon grow

Honorable Mention

Ananya P.
Southwest High School, Hamel

ribbed pumkins washed clean
life giving seeds well removed
lantern lit beauty

Honorable Mention

Abdiqadar F.
Heritage, Schanilec

Red fruit that's shining
Ready to be harvested
Tastes like perfection

Honorable Mention

Mohamed A.
Heritage STEM Academy,
Schanilec

Sour like a lime.
Sweet like a watermelon.
That's how life can be.

Honorable Mention

Kattleya D.
Southwest High School, Hamel

In the gentle breeze
The colorful leaves glide down
As apples ripen

The 2022 Award Winning Haiku's: Adults

Judge's Comments

1st Place

Chris F.
Itinerant O.T., district wide

Heavy with purple
Old grapevine still offers fruit
Little birds feasting

In many cultures, a grape represents a life and a symbol of fertility and regeneration. Grapes grew from an old grapevine and pass the life to the next generation. The image of little birds gathering and picking the fruit is a peaceful world which can be often seen in a religion. Culturally, the messages carried by fruits may be different from Japan and that is what makes international haiku more interesting. What an imposing and deep haiku!

2nd Place

Diana L.
Davis

The forbidden fruit
bitten in it's fleshiness
bittersweet is life

In the background of this haiku, there is the apple appears in Genesis from the bible which was bitten by Adam and Eve. This haiku was born in the western culture. "The forbidden fruit" in the first line and "Bittersweet is life" in the third line are laid effectively and symbolically. The gentle sound of "f" and the bursting sounds of "b" nicely tie the entire piece, which make the haiku well-written from both meaning and sound perspectives. It is a beautiful haiku indeed.

3rd Place

Linda W.
Barton Community School

Longest day of year
Wagon bumps along the lane
Red ripe berry patch

Berry in English make you imagine various small stone-less fruits including blackberry, blueberry, and strawberry. This haiku depicts a scene of the field during the harvesting time. The wagon filled with berries moves between ridges. It is quite a different image from those strawberries growing at the hydroponic shelves in Japan. The ring of "Red ripe berry patch" is beautiful.

Honorable Mention

Molly G.
Heritage STEM Academy

Like my ancestors
before me, I eat the fruit
from the earth. Thankful.

Honorable Mention

Clayton S.
Heritage

Peach on the wet grass
Yellow jackets gorge and sleep
Succulent circle

Honorable Mention

Chris F.
Itinerant O.T., district wide

"Turn the pot over"
The season for no cooking
When mangoes are ripe

Honorable Mention

Diana L.
Davis

Harvest moon glowing
Down upon fruits of Autumn
Misted fog floats by

Honorable Mention

Liz B.
Anthony Middle School

Yellow shreds of zest
I make grandmother's lemon
pie
Fruit filled memories

Greetings from IFAI - Japanese new year

The new year is one of the most important holidays in Japan. Most people rest from December 29 to January 3 and gather with families to celebrate the new year traditionally. Although I have been to Japan for twenty years, it wasn't until I got married that I tasted the authentic Japanese new year, especially after having kids. I have to prepare traditional foods for New Year's Eve and the new year's holiday, also decorate my house with traditional ornaments.



Osechi is a cuisine for the new year's holiday. It consists of several different traditional dishes, packed in a lacquer box called jubako. I have one designed by Chiyo Uno, a famous Japanese writer, with some cherry flowers on the lid. All the dishes have special meanings. Shrimp wishes for longevity, datemaki, a kind of rolled sweet omelet, wish to improve knowledge, sweet black beans wish to stay healthy. Sometimes I put some dishes that come from my hometown because I hope my kids can remember their mother's roots when they grow up.

The most important event in the new year's holiday is hatsumode. It is the first shrine of the new year to wish good fortune for yourself or your family. Considering COVID19, we decided to go to a Shinto shrine nearby instead of taking a train to go to a famous one. We prayed and drew lotteries of fortune-telling as well as every year we did. I am the person of tiger year, so I bought an amulet for taking care of me.

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There are also lots of traditional games played in the new year. Kite flying is one of these interesting games that kids love to play. For it was too cold outside, we chose to play karuta (a Japanese card game) in our warm room. This game needs to remember one hundred Japanese ancient poems. The more you remember, the more you win. I just read a few, so I lost all games. Hanetsuki is another traditional game, just like kind of badminton. My daughter made the battledores of cardboard and painted them beautifully with traditional pictures. We eat, talked, and laugh, enjoying the new year with the whole family, although it was just a short time.

I started attending a Japanese flower arrangement class last year. At the end of the year, the flower teacher teaches us how to arrange the new year flowers. As the same as osechi food, the new year flower arrangement also has to use some special plants with special meanings. Pine and sarcandra are the plants often used. Pine wishes for the longevity and prosperity of descendants, and sarcandra wishes for wealth. Our teacher's work was displayed at the station of Ibaraki city. Her arrangement used pine only to complete classical ikebana symbolizing heaven, earth, and man. It was simple but majestic.



2021 was a tough year. A lot of people died from COVID19 or natural disasters. But when you saw the sun rising on the first day of the new year, you would still believe that all misery goes into the past.



The Dining Room is now open! A portion of the dining room is set aside for walk ins; seating here is first come first served. Zenbox is still offering takeout delivery and is open Tuesday through Thursday from 5:00 – 9 p.m. and Friday through Saturday from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.

You can find their online menu at:

[Zenbox.com](https://zenbox.com)

MINNIBARAKI – Past Issues

Looking for some information from a past issue of MINNIBARAKI?

All past and current issues of MINNIBARAKI can be found at the following link (copy and paste into your browser):

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16FIWH9sgFta1MN8wHIQ1eCFand3iAON8?usp=sharing>

Cherry Tree Festival

The Cherry Tree Festival is returning this year!

The Festival will take place on Nicollet Island inside the tent outside of the Pavilion.

Date: Sunday, May 8, 2020

Time: 1 to 3 pm.

The thirty cherry trees that are planted on Nicollet Island are a gift from Ibaraki City on the thirtieth anniversary of the sister city relationship in 2010.



Activities

Ibaraki Student Artwork
Display

Japanese Games

Origami

Chopstick Contest
(How good are you at moving small beans from one plate to another just using chopsticks!)

Entertainment

1 - 2 pm

Kamishibai

By Karen Kersting



2 pm

Taiko Drumming

By Harisen Daiko



The MINNIBARAKI newsletter is published quarterly (February, May, August and November) by the Minneapolis-Ibaraki Sister City Association.

MINNEAPOLIS IBARAKI SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

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MINNEAPOLIS- IBARAKI SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION



Upcoming Board Meetings:

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Board meetings are usually held
at ZenBox Izakaya

602 South Washington Ave

Social time 5:30 – 6:15

Business meeting starts at 6:15

However, at this time meetings are
being held virtually. If you would
like to participate, please email Karl
Reinhard at:

misca.info@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Cherry Tree Festival

Sunday, May 8th, 2022

1 – 3 pm

Nicollet Island

Please check out or
Facebook page for virtual
events