

# MINNIBARAKI

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## Our Forty-second Year

*Minneapolis Ibaraki Sister City Association*



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## 2022 Haiku Awards Ceremony



The Haiku Contest winners who attended this year's Haiku Awards Ceremony on Sunday, April 23, 2023.  
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 Witkus & 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 Wetternach

## 2022 Haiku Awards Ceremony



*Karen Kersting does kamishibai; Debra M., Theo C. and Sabine K. receive their Haiku Certificates from Ibaraki.*

The Annual Haiku Awards Ceremony was held on Sunday, April 23, 2023 at the downtown Hennepin County Library.

Prior to the presentation of the winners, Karen Kersting delighted the attendees with a *kamishibai* (Japanese storytelling) performance.

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! 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!

NOTE: Due to the celebration of Eid - the high school winners were unable to attend on Sunday, April 23. Instead, they will be reading their haikus and receiving their awards at the MISCA Cherry Tree Festival on Sunday, May 14 at the Nicollet Island Pavilion.

## The 2023 Award Winning Haiku's: Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Sabine K.  
Lake Harriet- Lower Campus -  
Debra Mattson

Snow is beautiful  
Glides by the sunset window  
like a tap dancer

### Judge's Comments

Metaphors of the beautiful movement of snowflakes as the movement of the sunset and the elegant movement of the dancer are nimble and comfortably relaxed. The main subject is thrown with "Snow is beautiful" in the first line, which is further deepened in the contents through the second and the third lines. Really skillful. "Snow" adds the seasonal feeling to the haiku. This is one excellent English haiku.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Elliot K.  
Lake Harriet- Lower Campus -  
Debra Mattson

I watch frozen flakes  
My windows are transparent  
The trees are sleeping

This is a haiku based on good observation. Through a transparent window, the author is closely looking at the winteriness. Circulation of the sounds from "frozen flakes - watch - windows - transparent - trees" laying over lines provides the work with depth and makes it an impactful haiku.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Lily M.  
Burroughs K - 5th Grade - Amy  
Walvatne

Window a portal  
Portal to another world  
Worlds outside your home

The first line presents the main message; "Window a portal". With a chain of the words of "window - portal - portal - world - worlds - home", this haiku guides you to the world through the window. The window is an entrance for you to fly out from your house to the world. Not only is the message of "window is a portal", but the author also added a fun kind of game aspect by the use of repetitive words.

### Honorable Mention

Mabel B.  
Burroughs K - 5th Grade - Amy  
Walvatne

I see you outside,  
out my beautiful window,  
please come back to me.

### Honorable Mention

Anna D.  
Burroughs K - 5th Grade - Amy  
Walvatne

The birds are chirping  
As I look out my window  
The sun is shining

### Honorable Mention

Ali Harn H.  
Dowling K - 5th Grade - Thelen

Windows clear as day  
Windows at night shining bright  
Windows lead a path

### Honorable Mention

Mae L.  
Burroughs Community School -  
Moyer, Jesse

Glass, sunlight, leaves, laughs  
A portal to the outdoors  
Known as my window

### Honorable Mention

Elsa J.  
Barton Elementary K - 5 - Linda  
Wilterdink

Rain on the window  
Water droplets all around  
Rain drops, fresh, and wet

## The 2023 Award Winning Haiku's: 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Judge's Comments

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Sullivan C.  
Anthony Middle School - Wolf

It is cold outside  
My breath creates stars on glass  
Winter is magic

My breath creates stars on the cold window glass in winter. A romantic and unique way of thinking. "Winter is magic" in the third line extends the imagination and it is attractive and effective. This haiku would make a wonderful gift if written down on a card.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Zoe S.  
Anthony Middle School - Ms.  
Goldammer

Raindrops race down glass  
I sit on the window ledge  
Storm passes, race ends

Author's observations became the source of this very attractive haiku using the metaphor of the running raindrops over the window glass during the storm as a race. The use of the word "race" in the first and third lines is skillful; the "race" in the first line is a verb while the "race" in the third line is a noun.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Theo C.  
Anthony Middle School -  
Goldammer

out of the window  
I see a barren wasteland  
today, I'll paint it.

Today, I will add some colors to the barren wasteland outside the window. The author has a unique and mysterious sensitivity. Paint the barren land can also be translated as a metaphor of changing the wasteland to the land filled with rich greenery. This haiku might suggest that nature is not always controlled by itself, but occasionally require human's support. The author may want to claim that humans are also a part of the nature. This haiku makes us think deeper and broader.

#### Honorable Mention

Devin H.  
Anthony Middle School - Emily  
Ringold

Sunshine or Moonlight  
Look into another world  
Glass box full of dreams

#### Honorable Mention

Sadie M.  
Anthony Middle School - Wolf

In the air above  
as I gaze out the window  
I feel like a bird

#### Honorable Mention

Maddie H.  
Anthony Middle School -  
Bartholomew

Windows are pictures  
Of the natural beauty  
Changing with seasons

#### Honorable Mention

Marvin F.  
Anthony Middle School -  
Goldammer

It is wintertime  
My cat sleeps by the window  
I feel my peace swell

#### Honorable Mention

Murphy S.  
Anthony Middle School - Ms.  
Bartholomew

Thunder booms outside  
Through the window there's  
lightning  
The storm, filled with rage

## The 2023 Award Winning Haiku's: 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Ifrah A.  
Heritage STEM Academy - Clayton  
Schanilec

The birds on the pane  
Remind me of free spirits  
Which I dream to be

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

Zuhuur M.  
Heritage STEM Academy - Clayton  
Schanilec

I watch from inside  
my tears stain the reflection  
you run like the wind.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

Bishar A.  
Heritage STEM Academy - Clayton  
Schanilec

The tall building stands  
like a friendly neighbor lives  
among spring flowers

**Judge's Comments**

The birds on the pane remind the author of the free spirits. The author's wish and hope are the free spirits that are found in the birds. The author exposed the self into the behavior of birds and drew the haiku. Such a literary haiku. Dreams and hopes of the youngster are woven into this haiku, and it is filled with youthfulness. The use of "r" sounds in each line adds a smooth echo to the work.

This is a haiku of the heart break. The third line implies that your sweetheart ran away like a wind. You are crying. The second line explains that your tears are reflected in the window and make the window wet. How sad. The cut-off sounds of "n"s and "d"s from "inside, stain, reflection, run, wind" accelerate the author's heavy feeling.

A skyscraper standing in a big city looks cold but the author views that the close neighbors there live together as spring flowers in a flower bed. The expression of "like a friendly neighbor lives" warms up your heart. The sounds of "i"s from "tall - building - like - friendly - lives - flowers" add softness to this haiku. This is a haiku with a warm feeling inside.

**Honorable Mention**

Ibah A.  
Heritage STEM Academy - Molly  
Gill

standing in front of  
a window evokes a sense  
Of nostalgia; love

**Honorable Mention**

Aisha A.  
Heritage STEM Academy - Clayton  
Schanilec

The falling snowflakes  
are breaking down like my heart  
as the window breaks

**Honorable Mention**

Sabir Y.  
Heritage STEM Academy - Molly  
Gill

Looking through the soul  
Dark and dim no light in site  
Till love helps it bloom

**Honorable Mention**

Faisal A.  
  
Rain sharp as a knife  
Rainbow behind a Shelter  
Inside a window

**Honorable Mention**

Ayan A.  
Heritage STEM Academy - Clayton  
Schanilec

Stare out the window  
Watching crumbled leaves fall  
down  
Trying to forget

## The 2023 Award Winning Haiku's: Adults

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Diana L.  
Davis Center Adult

Gaze out the window  
Rain dripping long strands like  
veins  
Trickling streams on glass

### Judge's Comments

"Rain dripping long strands like veins" in the second line provides a unique metaphoric contrast of veins and raindrops. The move from "dripping" in the second line into the "streams" in the third line realistically shows veins. The haiku implies that the relationship between the nature and human are individually equal and communicate with each other well.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Clayton S.  
Heritage STEM Academy Adult

Window washers know  
Secrets dark and delicious  
Between cracked curtains

By referring to the window washers, the author is letting them talk about the secrets they can observe through gaps of the curtains. This haiku is like a mystery story. If an additional metaphor was there, it would be too tedious and would sound like a fable. The sounds of "w"s from "window - washers - know" in the first line, "d"s from "dark - delicious" in the second line, and "c"s from "cracked - curtain" in the third line echo in the haiku smoothly, yet crisply, just like window washing works.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Muwahib N.  
Heritage STEM Academy Adult

The bird is too loud  
The sunlight shines through too  
bright  
Live in a window

Skillful use of "too" is observed in this haiku. By repeating "too", the overwhelming feeling and meaning of "too" is expressed well. Both the numbers of the birds live in the window and the amount of the sunlight shined through the window would be ideal if they are moderate. Neither of too much bird noise nor too much sunlight is pleasant. The author must spend quite an amount of time by the window.

### Honorable Mention

Diana L.  
Davis Center Adult

Window of my soul  
Looks through the pane of my  
heart  
Beating rhythmic drum

### Honorable Mention

Debra M.  
Lake Harriet- Lower Campus Adult

Window mends my heart  
Dream Mom loves me from heaven  
Research stop cancer!

### Honorable Mention

Liz B.  
Anthony Adult

neighborhoods at night  
warm lighted windows let us see  
glimpses into lives

### Honorable Mention

Debra M.  
Lake Harriet - Lower Campus  
Adult

window is open  
grab opportunity quick  
goen coin shows way

### Honorable Mention

Christine F.

Little bird looking  
At reflection in window  
Who is the Other!?

# Cherry Tree Festival

The Cherry Tree Festival is happening again this year!

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

Date: Sunday, May 14, 2023

Time: 2 to 4 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**

**Haiku Award Ceremony for High School Winners**

**Japanese Games**

**Origami**

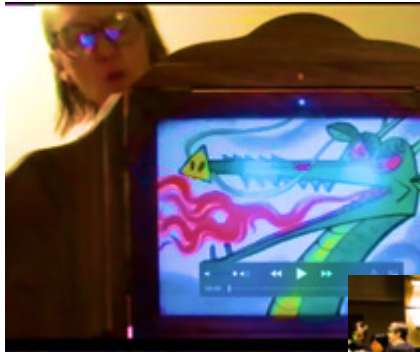
**Chopstick Contest**  
(How good are you at moving small beans from one plate to another just using chopsticks!)

## Entertainment

**2 - 3 pm**

**Kamishibai**

By Karen Kersting



**3 pm**

**Taiko Drumming**

By Harisen Daiko



# NUMBERS - Part 1

By IIN working group on cultures

## Lucky and Unlucky Numbers





Which is an appropriate celebration for your friend's wedding, 20,000 yen or 30,000 yen? In most cases, it is 30,000 yen of three bills. This is because "3" is an odd number that can't be divided in two. Everybody hopes that a newly married couple will not be separated.



Japanese people have good or bad impressions of some numbers because of their meanings, shapes, or sounds.

**【Lucky Numbers】**

- 7 : Lucky seven
- 8 = 八 : widen toward the end / prosperity  
8 ≡ ∞ : infinity
- 1=i 2=fu  
11 - 22 = i-i fu-fu = good couple

### Lucky numbers

7 is the same lucky number as in the U.S.

8 is written in Chinese character like this, good-meaning shape.

In case of replacing numbers with meaningful words, for example, 1 is read as "i" and 2 as "fu". So, *i-i fu-fu* means good couples. In our calendar, there is a special day for married couples on November 22nd.

### Unlucky Numbers


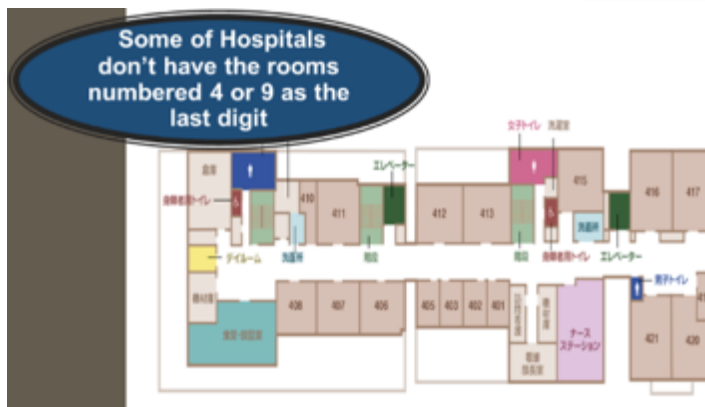
So, all patients dislike 4 and 9. In this hospital, there is no room numbered 404 between 403 and 405.

In ancient Japan, it was believed that words had the power to give results just as they were pronounced. It was called as Language spirit or *Koto-dama*. This is probably one reason why numbers still have good or bad luck in Japan.

**【Unlucky Numbers】**

- 4 = *shi* = 死 (death)
- 9 = *ku* = 苦 (suffering)

People mostly avoid unlucky numbers.



**Unlucky Ages: Yakudoshi**

'Yakudoshi' is a set of believed 'unlucky' ages in Japan, first proposed in Heian Period. While its scientific validity is questionable, it remains a commonly held belief in Japanese Society.

Generally, one's 'Yakudoshi' is measured by adding one to the actual age. The ages of 'Yakudoshi' differ according to gender. It is widely believed in Japan that men aged 25, 42 and 61, and women aged 19, 33, 37, and 61 could experience something unlucky, misfortune.

The most common saying is that 42 years old for men and 33 years old for women are dangerous years. The reason why these ages are considered as bad years must have come from the health conditions of men and women in the past. These two-digit numbers are also unlucky in sound: 42 can be read as *Shini*, the same sound as the word for death. Similarly, the number 33 is pronounced *Sang-Zan*, scattered, and means bad luck.



Charm

During the unlucky year and years before and after, beware of illness and other calamities



Shinto priest purifies talismans, and a maiden accompanies him during a ritual.



This is *Kasugataisha Shrine*, one of the prestigious shrines in *Nara*. Many people who have reached unlucky age, *Yakudoshi*, visit the shrine to ward off bad luck.

**Kasugataisha Shrine**



## The ominous numbers in the world

### Tetraphobia (tetra=4)

There is a custom of avoiding character four in *kanji* cultures, including China, Korea, Japan and so on. Because the pronunciation of 4 is *Shi* meaning death.



### Triskaidekaphobia (tris=3, kai=&, deka=10)

People in Anglo-Saxon countries fear the number 13. There are various theories as to its origin.

1) Unknown number theory: primitive people instinctively feared the number 13 because they considered it to be an "impossible or unknown number" since the number their bodies could calculate was 12, including 10 for fingers and 2 for feet.

2) Inharmonic theory: because 13 violates the 60-decimal system and disturbs the harmony of the base number 12, which is widely rooted in their daily lives.

3) The theory of religious factors: everyone knows this from northern mythology and the Bible.



### Hexacosioihexekontahexaphobia (hexa=6)

The number of the beast 666 was made famous by the movie "The Omen". Devil's Highway in the U.S. and Ontario Highway in Canada was renamed. This was due to a high rate of fatal accidents and thefts of road signs. Now both have decreased.



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](http://Zenbox.com)

## 数字のあれこれ IIN 国際交流分科会

### 縁起の良い数字と不吉な数字

友人の結婚式のご祝儀、2万円と3万円はどちらがふさわしいでしょうか？

多くの場合、3枚のお札の3万円です。理由は、「3」が二つに割り切れない奇数だからです。新婚の夫婦がいつまでも離ればなれにならないようにと誰もが願いますよね。

日本人は、数字の意味や形、音などから、数字に良い印象や悪い印象を抱いています。

<縁起の良い数字>

7は米国と同じラッキーナンバーです。8は漢字で書くと末広がりになり、良い意味の形の縁起の良い数字です。また、数字を意味のある言葉に置き換えることもあります。例えば、1は「イ」、2は「フ」と読みます。つまり、1122は「イ・イ・フ・フ」と読み、「良い夫婦」という幸福な意味となります。実際に、11月22日は「良い夫婦の日」となっています。

<不吉な数字>

表にあるように、4=死、9=苦と発音するので、4と9は不吉な数字です。特に患者さんにとって4と9は不吉なので、この病院には、403と405の間に404という下一桁が4の番号の部屋はないのです。

「言葉には発音したとおりに結果を出す力がある」と昔から信じられていて、それは言霊(ことだま)と呼ばれていました。これが一つの要素となり、現代でも数字に縁起の良し悪しがあると考えられています。

### 縁起の悪い年齢:厄年

厄年は、平安時代から始まった「縁起が悪い」とされる年齢のことです。科学的な根拠は乏しいものの、現在でも日本社会では一般的に信じられています。

一般的に厄年は、実年齢に1歳を足した年齢で表され、その年齢は、性別によって異なります。日本では、男性は25歳、42歳、61歳、女性は19歳、33歳、37歳、61歳が不運、不幸に見舞われる可能性があるとして広く信じられています。

よく言われるのは、男性は42歳、女性は33歳が最も縁起の悪い年齢だということです。これらの年齢が厄年とされる理由は、昔の男女の健康がこの時期に変調を迎えると考えられていたからです。また、この2桁の数字は音的にも不吉な数字です。42は「シニ」と読み、「死」と同じ音です。同様に、33という数字も「サンザン」と読み、散り散りになることから、不吉を意味します。

これは、奈良を代表する神社、春日大社です。厄年を迎えた多くの人たちが厄除けのために参拝します。

## 世界の不吉な数字

### テトラフォビア (テトラ=4)

中国、韓国、日本などの漢字文化圏では、4という文字を避ける習慣があります。4の発音が死を意味する「シ」だからです。

### トリスカイデカフォビア (トリス=3、カイ=&、デカ=10)

アングロサクソン系の人々は、13という数字を恐れます。その由来には諸説あります。

- 1) 未知数説: 原始人が13という数字を本能的に恐れたのは、自分の体で計算できる数が指の10と両足の2を含めて12であることから、「ありえない数、未知数」と考えた。
- 2) 非調和な数説: 13は60進法に調和しない素数で、人々の日常生活に広く根付いている基本数12との調和を乱すから。
- 3) 宗教的要因説: 北方神話や聖書で誰もが知っている理由から。

### ヘプタデカフォビア (ヘプタ=7、デカ=10)

17という数字に対する恐怖心があります。イタリアをはじめ、ギリシャ系やラテン系の国々では不吉な数字とされているのです。なぜなら、それらの国で墓石に刻まれたVIXIにはI lived (私は生きた=もう死んでいる)の意味があり、その文字を置き換えるとXVIIとなり、なんと17になってしまうのです。

### ヘキサコシオイヘキサコンタヘキサフォビア (ヘキサ=6)

映画「オーメン」で有名になった獣の数字666。死亡事故や道路標識の盗難が多発したため、ルート666だったアメリカのデビルズ・ハイウェイ、カナダのオンタリオ・ハイウェイは違う数字の表示になり、変更後の現在は、死亡事故も盗難も減少しています。

*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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Karen Kersting  
Dan Rolf  
Werner Kohler  
Mary Witkus

### More Information

Website: [misca.us](http://misca.us)

Facebook: Search for MISCA

Email: [misca.info@gmail.com](mailto:misca.info@gmail.com)

Postal address:

MISCA  
c/o Meet Minneapolis  
801 Marquette Ave S. Suite 100  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

## MINNEAPOLIS- IBARAKI SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

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### Upcoming Board Meetings:

Tuesday, June 6, 2023

Board meetings are held vis Zoom

If you would like to participate,  
please email Karl Reinhard at:

[misca.info@gmail.com](mailto:misca.info@gmail.com)

### Upcoming Events

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Cherry Tree Festival

Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

2 - 4 pm

Nicollet Island

Please check out or  
Facebook page for other  
events and information.