

MINNIBARAKI

Our Forty-fourth Year

Minneapolis Ibaraki Sister City Association



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2025 Haiku Contest

The 2025 Haiku Contest for Minneapolis School Students is now open!

This year's theme is "wa" (和) meaning harmony.

Harmony (def) - the quality of forming a pleasing and consistent whole; an agreement, accord; internal calm. An important part of Japanese society.

Entries must be received by Wednesday, December 18, 2024.

First, Second and Third place winners as well as five Honorable Mentions will be chosen in the following categories:

Category A: grades K - 5
Category C: grades 9 - 12

Category B: grades 6 - 8
Category D: Adults

Members of MISCA will do a preliminary round of judging. The best 30 Haiku in each category will be sent on to Ibaraki for final judging. Winners should be notified by late March 2025.

Full contest rules on the next page.

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
Helane Monsour
Doug & Addona Rivord
James & Norma Solstad
Claire & Paul Spilseth
Richard & Carol Stahl
Vernon Wettternach*

2025 Haiku Contest Rules

Sponsored by the Minneapolis-Ibaraki Sister City Association
The International Friendship Association of Ibaraki
and The Minneapolis Public Schools.

Rules

1. Only Minneapolis Public School Students, Staff or Minneapolis City Officials or staff may submit entries to this contest.
2. Haiku must be entered on an official entry form found on the Google Forms Link (only one entry per form please), or submitted via email see below for the email address or link to the Google Entry form.
3. Haiku must be three lines following the 5, 7, 5 syllables rule and reflect images of "harmony" (The Japanese word is wa 和 meaning harmony).
4. Entries written in Kanji, Hiragana or Katakana must be accompanied by a translation into English.
5. Entries must be received by Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Google Entry Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeltMq16HwQPzMk2TBfbYoRnxF_-PfeMVQXUcD4Bu-KTilow/viewform?usp=sharing

E-mailed Entries: misca.info@gmail.com

You can also find information and links on or Facebook Page (search for MISCA).

What are Haiku?

Haikus originated in Japan and are three-line poems containing 5, 7 and 5 syllables respectively. Haiku often refer to the seasons of the year and should evoke images in nature. Use of repetition of sounds, alliterations, and words with multiple meanings and homonyms are often found in Haiku.

Halloween Candy

Mary Witkus

"Trick or Treat," they chant as they clamber up the steps - costumes fluttering.

Last day in October – Halloween.

Everyone gives them "Halloween candy."

I like Halloween candy. I buy Halloween candy early. It is on sale. Then I eat one. "Just one," I say. Then the bags are empty!

I really like Halloween candy. I buy another bag. The same thing seems to happen.

So, I make a new plan. Instead of buying candy, I give them the money directly!

Only the neighborhood children come on Halloween. They come with their families – all dressed in costumes.

Every year I take a photo of each group that visits. We have about 20 children, maybe 8 groups.

My plan: get 20 one-dollar bills. Print some Halloween jokes on pieces of paper. Wrap each \$1 with a joke.

The children love the money. And the parents appreciate less candy for the children.

Some of the jokes:

Why was the broom late? It over swept.

Have you heard how popular the cemetery is? People are just dying to get in.

What room does a ghost not need? A living room.

What is big, scary and has three wheels? A monster riding a tricycle.

Why didn't the skeleton go to the dance? He had no-body to dance with.



Haiku

Karen Kersting

I was thinking about our last conversation with friends living in Japan and Minnesota and the importance of sharing words as well as good actions with the next generation...

Here is my attempt at haiku.

Beautiful wisdom applied.

Life becomes richer.

Days ripen as luscious fruit.

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:

TBD

Board meetings are held via
Zoom

Zoom Meeting with IIN
Tuesday, Dec 3 at 6:30 pm

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

misca.info@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Haiku Contest
Announcement

Now accepting entries!

MISCA Trip to Ibaraki

Nov 13 – Nov 20

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

