

1st Prize

**origami fans
National Geographic's
recycled pages**

Alison Woolpert

A spark of imagery is created by two dissimilar things in a haiku. In this haiku the two dissident elements, namely the fan and National Geographic, both are concrete objects. They collide sparking imagery, and what is more, they also fuse into one existence. Thus, we are exposed to the superb fusion of the two. When using the fan, the printed text and pictures sway in an elegant way. Along with the coolness, it also evokes memories from places. A unique and dramatic emotion rises from this simple haiku of just two things combined. (Yuzo)

2nd Prize

**crazy quilt blanket
where the yellow stitches end
mom's old yarns begin**

Marilyn Ashbaugh

A crazy quilt is an irregular quilt with a random pattern of stitches. Where the yellow stitches end, they turn into stitches of mom's old yarn. Perhaps they are unraveled from family sweaters. I can picture the mother stitching with a group of her close friends as they gathered and chatted in her kitchen. The quilted blanket has many nostalgic fabrics and memories sewn into it, and it wraps the author warmly throughout the winter. This haiku shows the warmth of the author's eyes. (Emiko)

3rd Prize

**tea kettle's faint hiss
just before the whistle blows—
winter seclusion**

Lynda Zwinger

I am impressed by the sharp ear of the author who captured this moment of a faint hiss from a whistle-blowing kettle just before it begins to beep. A crisp tension shows the heavy gray sky, the silence filling the house, and a chill in the cups. Brewing tea for a partner and reading books on both ends of a cozy sofa can be one of the privileges of winter seclusion when we seem to have abundant time. Dr. Arima's haiku master, Yamaguchi Seison, wrote "Reading at random/writing at random/winter seclusion" Seison, too, must have sipped green tea while he read and wrote. (Emiko)

3rd Prize

**grandmother's fingers
soothing a tear from my cheek
the smell of fresh mint**

Marcia Burton

The credit for this haiku goes to the focus on fingers. These fingers soothing tears picked mint leaves a while ago. The basis of haiku is to fold a variety of emotions and imagination into one concrete moment as a contact point between the human world and the natural world. This haiku effectively embodies this by focusing on fingers. Also, emotionally and physically, the mint underpins this decisive moment, as mint has been cherished for its fresh scent soothing our spirits through its

use for years in mint tea. Mint functions precisely as a lively kigo here. (Yuzo)

Honorable Mentions

under the blanket
we disappear just until
our laughter explodes
Roger Abe

first ride to a dance
in my boyfriend's old blue Ford
smell of gardenia
Kathy Goldbach

squirrels hiding nuts—
thinking up yet another
internet password
Lisa Anne Johnson

Small boy on a swing
finding the perfect balance
between earth and sky
Shelli Jankowski-Smith

faint creak of a swing
fading away in the dark
all mother's stories
Marietta McGregor

winter seclusion—
as the weeks drag on, I learn
where the cat finds sun
Linda Papanicolaou

those three steps backward
to set the swing in motion . . .
story of my life
Susan Polizzotto

pushing my daughter
her shadow on the swing set
like a second child
Clark Strand

she survived The War
grandma still hides her gold coins
wrapped in a blanket
Neal Whitman

the smell of moth balls—
I find in Momma's attic
my baby blanket
Neal Whitman

Kiyoshi and Kiyoko Tokutomi Haiku Contest

The Annual Tokutomi Haiku Contest of the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society (YTHS) is named for Mr. Kiyoshi and Mrs. Kiyoko Tokutomi, bilingual speakers of English and Japanese. They founded the Society in 1975 to foster writing haiku in English along traditional Japanese guidelines. YTHS studies (but is not limited to) this form. The Tokutomi Haiku Contest is the longest-lived contest in the West that requires contest entries to follow this traditional form.

Contest Guidelines

This contest is for English-language haiku written in the traditional form of three lines using a 5-7-5 syllabic pattern. Each poem is required to contain one (and only one) season word (kigo) from the following list chosen for this year's contest:

New Year: first visitor

Spring: mint, swing, hummingbird

Summer: gardenia, fan, lotus

Autumn: squirrel hides nuts, morning glory, red leaves

Winter: blanket, winter seclusion, old diary

Contest Judges 2022

Emiko Miyashita (1954-), a Japanese haiku poet, resides in Tokyo. She has been a regular commentator for *Geppo's "Dojin's Corner,"* the quarterly journal of YTHS, since 2014. She

is a member of Haiku Canada, a council to the Haiku International Association, an executive director of the English-Speaking Union of Japan, and a director of the JAL Foundation. She became a *dojin* of YTHS in 2022.

Yuzo Ono (1968-), a Japanese haiku poet and critic, lives in Kawasaki. He was educated at the University of Tokyo and the Royal College of Art (UK). He won the Modern Haiku Association Award for Criticism, and the New Talent Award (honorable mention), respectively. The anthology "Haiku Poets Born in the Post-war Era" (Mainichi Newspaper Press) chose him as one of 109 leading contemporary haiku poets of Japan.

Artist

kris moon kondo is a long-time friend and member of the Yuki Teikei Haiku Society. In 1992, she met Kiyoko Tokutomi, who in 2000 stayed with her in her mountain home in Japan.

kris's artwork inspired by our 2022 kigo is presented here.



Yuki Teikei Haiku Society Announces



Winners of the Kiyoshi and Kiyoko Tokutomi 2022 Haiku Contest

