

From: Haiku Society of America editor@haikusocietyofamerica.ccsend.com
Subject: HSA Newsletter, February 2025
Date: February 5, 2025 at 1:21 PM
To: brooksbks@gmail.com



Volume 40, Number 2 | February 5, 2025

Haiku Society of America February 2025 Newsletter



From the Executive Committee



President's Message

Crystal Simone Smith
crystalsimone915@gmail.com

Dear HSA Members,

Throughout February a dazzling Venus will be visible and brighter than usual in the persistent night sky. Its peak brilliance occurs just after sunset. By happy coincidence, Venus is the planet of love, and maybe that is what we need most right now—love and colossal slices of red velvet cake, perhaps.

I personally look forward to the middle of the month and the

spectacle of a full snow moon. The energy of this winter moon is especially alluring. It provides a place to pause, a stillness to explore ourselves from the inside. If we heed it, a slow awakening of what lies just beneath the surface. I was inspired by Terry Ann Carter's special reading last month hosted by the American Haiku Archives Advisory Board. This haiku of hers awakens something new in me each time I read it.

black moon
we all have
our secrets

In other matters, HSA is in need of a regional coordinator for the Mid-Atlantic region. You can read a description of the position via the [website](#). Please contact me if you can help out or nudge someone who might be available.

As the mentor program gears back up, I would like to hear from the mentors of groups that are still meeting. Please reach out to me as soon as you can with the list of mentees you have been working with. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please let me know.

In warmth and wellness,
Crystal Simone Smith



First Vice President

Gary Hotham
hsavicepres@aol.com

HSA Newsletter – Gary Hotham – First Vice President

“No matter how wonderful a thought, do not reveal it in a poem. Instead, let readers be prompted into having the wonderful thought on their own through reading your poem.” Lee Seong-bok

I know this message will grate against the parent, teacher, or any thought-filled pundit. But those of that mind do not have to write poetry or haiku. They can stick to prose in all its clarity. If you are like me, I don't read haiku to get instruction or the latest thinking about the issues of life. I read them for the moment – the way the words let me have that moment. Hard to do. But then again we have prose in all its forms for everything else needed to tell the world...

And the quoted thought was number 238 in Lee Seong-bok's book, *Indeterminate Inflorescence: Notes from a Poetry Class*. He is a contemporary South Korean poet. Old but still younger than me. The book is a stimulating read. Perhaps I should find a good collection of his poetry.

Remember! The window for submissions to the HSA Merit Book Awards for books published in 2024 will end 15 Februarv. See the full award rules via the link below.

Perhaps a ground hog will see your shadow in 2025! I wonder what the ground hog will make of it...

HSA Merit Book Awards



Second Vice President

Sarah Paris

hsa.2vp.sarah@gmail.com

HSA Nicholas Virgilio Memorial Award

Teachers, parents, young poets: the submission window is open for the annual Nicholas Virgilio Haiku and Senryu competition for Grades 7-12.

Deadline: In hand by **March 30, 2025**. Entries received after that date will not be accepted

Eligibility: Any student in grades 7 through 12 enrolled in school as of September 2024 may enter

Regulations: Submit up to three haiku per student

HSA Rengay Award in Honor of Garry Gay

Time to start collaborating on the annual HSA Rengay Contest!

Deadline: Submissions will be accepted from **April 1 to May 31, 2025**

Eligibility: The contest is open to the public. HSA officers who are members of the executive committee are not eligible, but regional coordinators may enter

Awards: First Prize, \$200; Second Prize, \$150; Third Prize, \$100

HSA Nicholas Virgilio Memorial Award



Frogpond Editor

Allyson Whipple

allyson@allysonwhipple.com

Announcing the New *Frogpond* Editorial Team

I am pleased to announce that the following poets have accepted roles at *Frogpond*. They will be joining the current team of Lew Watts and Judson Evans (haibun editors) and Nicholas Klacsanzky (haiku/senryu editor). I'm thrilled to have

them on board to assist with the journal.

Book Review Coordinator: Joshua Gage

Essay Coordinator: Isabella Mori

Linked Verse Editor: Richard L. Matta

Haiku/Senryu Editors:

Daniel Shank Cruz

Julie Bloss Kelsey

Mary McCormack

I believe that the role of an editor is not to impose their individual aesthetic onto a publication, but to curate a journal that best represents the spirit of the organization and readership. I felt that the best way to accomplish this goal with *Frogpond* was to expand the editorial team. In addition, for the past few years, the journal has been run by a tiny staff of roughly four people at any given time. While they did an excellent job of rising to the challenge, it's my personal opinion that the workload of the journal was not sustainable in the long term with such a small team. We now have a total staff of ten, which not only means more people to share the load, but brings a wider range of editorial and aesthetic perspectives. I believe that the journal production process will not only become more efficient and manageable, but also that by expanding the team, *Frogpond* will be less about **me** as the managing editor, and more about HSA as a community of poets.



Newsletter Editor

Evan Vandermeer

evan.vandermeer12@gmail.com

Hullo!

Thanks to those of you who continue to use the [Google Form](#) for submitting your updates for this newsletter. As a general reminder, note that the submission deadlines are always the last day of the month for the upcoming month's newsletter (e.g. January 31 was the deadline for this February newsletter).

Also, I received a few emails in response to the January newsletter with requests to arrange pictures and text differently, due to odd renderings on the receiver's end. Unfortunately, there are certain limitations to the email software we use (and limitations to my skill at using it), and as a result it's challenging to optimize layout both for mobile and desktop. I prioritize the former. So, if you have trouble seeing pictures, or if you find the placement of certain pictures/text funky, try switching devices (typically from desktop to mobile).

Thanks in advance for your patience, and as ever, don't
hesitate to communicate with questions, comments, or feedback.

hesitate to email me with questions, comments, or feedback about the newsletter.

Cheers,
Evan

General News

HAIKU IN THE WIDE WORLD

Tim Hodgkinson & Atsuko Kamura

We have completed recording our *Haiku in the Wide World* project: thirty-seven musical settings of haiku poems, translated from the Japanese by poet Harry Gilonis. It will be released in late February by ReR in the UK, and by EMrecords, Osaka, on both CD and double vinyl.

The project began with a locked-down poet's idea of marking each day by translating a haiku from the Japanese original.

TH: In Spring 2023 I began to receive Harry Gilonis's emailed haiku translations from the Japanese, one for each day for a hundred days, ending with the summer solstice. Now I was confronted not just with individual haiku and their haloed instantaneous subjectivity but with a multiplicity of them that suggested wider and more lasting complicities and subversions. The point, from the very beginning, was not to set individual haiku as stand-alone moments but to set a whole series of them as an extended network of sonic inter-relationships.

Ranging from the hollow spaces of Seifu's existentialist face-off with the moon, to the joyful village band of Shiki's celebration of doing nothing, to the prophetic call of Issa's luminous skies, and the whirring syncopations of Izen's birds taking off, the succession of songs is uniquely unconstrained in its choice of genre and sound-world.

No single listening attitude can match this: the Wide World of the title becomes the dance of an ear constantly changing gear in a shifting terrain which is nevertheless home to the animals and birds and plants, the seasons, and the comings and goings of the sun and moon: only the humans that have fallen in here are surprised by all this.

We are now looking for writers to engage with and review this musico-poetic experience. If this sonic renga seems relevant to your magazine or society, please let us know, and we can provide an immediate link to four songs, before following up with the whole work.

Have a beautiful Spring!

With love from the Frog Department.....contact: timpragma@gmail.com

Tim Hodgkinson is a composer and also plays lap steel guitar, clarinets, and saxophones. Whilst studying social anthropology at Cambridge he co-founded the politically and musically radical group HENRY COW with Fred Frith in 1968. In addition to composing, he has a long involvement in improvisation, and came back to anthropology in the 1990s with research into music and shamanism in Siberia. Recent performances include his Piano Concerto, for Daan Vandewalle with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Liège, at Ars Musica, Liège in Jan 2023, and Under the Void (2018), for the Phoenix Ensemble, at the Gare du Nord, Basel, in April 2023. <http://www.timhodgkinson.co.uk>

Ensemble, at the Gare du Nord, Basel, in April 2023. <http://www.timnougkinson.co.uk>

Atsuko Kamura is one of Tokyo's most emotive and inventive artists, and a member of Japan's 80s women's liberation movement. Kamura is a founding member of the first Japanese all-female punk band, Mizutama Shobodan, also known as Polkadot Fire Brigade, formed in 1979 in Tokyo. Kamura also teamed up with singer Tenko as the female improvisation vocal duo *Honeymoons* in 1981. They developed a unique style of avant-noise improvisation and performed internationally with seminal New York improvisers Tom Cora and John Zorn, and at the International Women's Music Festival in Montreal in 1988. Their album *Laughing Myth*, produced by Kenichi Takeda, was released in 1982.

Kamura joined Kazuko Hohki's UK-based Japanese pop group Frank Chickens in 1988, and toured Europe, the US, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the USSR, and Japan. She also worked as a traditional Benshi narrator performing *A Page of Madness* with her original soundtrack at FILM FEST, an international silent film festival in Portugal. She recently released her first solo album *4am Diary*, on which "she douses the anti-musical strategies of the late-seventies Rock In Opposition movement ... with a soupçon of fizzy electrics, her operatic voice navigating an echoing mirror maze of pulses and tones." - Stewart Lee, in *The Idler*, May/June 2022.

Harry Gilonis is a poet, editor, publisher, and critic writing on art, poetry, and music. His books of poetry include *Reliefs* (1988), *pibroch* (1996), *walk the line* (2000) and a selected poems, *Rough Breathing* (Carcanet Press, 2018). A collaborative renga, co-written with the poet and musician Tony Baker, appeared in 1998. A book of translations from the Chinese, *eye-blink*, was published in 2010. Amongst Harry Gilonis's earliest publications, back in the 1980s, were translations of tanka by Yosano Akiko, published in *Haiku Quarterly*; in 2021 he published seasonal words with Coracle, a book of a hundred haiku in translation covering six centuries of Japanese writing, including such poets as Buson, Chigetsu-ni, Chiyo-ni, Issa, Katayama Yumiko, Onitsura, Ryōkan, Seishi Yamaguchi, Shiki, Sōgi, Teiko Inahata, Tsuji Momoko and Ukō-ni. A small press in Scotland has published two small books of haiku versions since then: *nine* (essence press, 2022) and *WHAT IS*, containing a single haiku by Tomizawa Kakio (essence press, 2023).

<https://www.cornerhousepublications.org/publications/seasonal-words-harry-gilonis/>

<https://www.juliejohnstone.com/essence-press/harry-gilonis/>

News From the Regions

Southwest

Agnes Eva Savich

Austin, Texas

The Austin Haiku Group's next meeting will be Saturday, February 22 from 10 am - 12 pm at the NE Austin home of Agnes Eva Savich. Interested attendees should email agneseva@gmail.com. Some of the group also met February 1 for a movie afternoon to watch Tazuo Yamaguchi's documentary about Haiku North America: *Haiku, the Art of the Short Poem*.

The Austin group has been very prolific and would like to share a



Albuquerque haiku group



The Austin group has been very prolific and would like to share a selection of recently published work:



Melanie Alberts' haiga "ragged hem" was chosen for inclusion in Volume 20 of contemporary haibun, "an annual anthology of English-language haibun and haiga gleaned from the best practitioners from around the world" and published by Red Moon Press. "ragged hem" first appeared in [issue 43 of Prune Juice](#).

leafless trees
the snowfall
of a raven's call

-Thomas F. Smith, hedgerow #147

night garden
white lanterns
powered by sun

-Christine Wenk-Harrison, [tinywords](#) December 10, 2024

alone
with the forest again
pock-marked rocks

-Agnes Eva Savich, Autumn Moon Haiku Journal, Autumn/Winter 2024

the blues
in Mom's coat
evening snow

—Kimberly Kuchar, Wales Haiku Journal, Winter '24/25, January 2025

gray moth wing
the web sags with its catch
of morning dew

--Robert Gilliland, Modern Haiku 55.3, Autumn 2023

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Eight of our members attended the January meeting. We discussed possible ways to expand future meetings beyond reading and workshopping our haiku, to include discussing assigned essays from journals and other online resources. Our February meeting will include a Google Docs presentation by Josh Rappaport, with the aim of letting members submit and comment on each others' haiku between the monthly meetings. We used our break for a group photo op.

Washington

Richard Tice

Bellingham Haiku

Bellingham Haiku met in person on January 4, with sixteen enthusiastic attendees, including some from Vancouver, BC. After a read-around, Catherine Crawford shared her appreciation of haiku published in the 2023 HSA anthology, *Fractured by Cattails*, followed by Janae Byrd who related her takeaways from the recent volume 47:3 of *Frogpond*. We then spent a great deal of the remaining time on the topic of metaphor in haiku. We came away with a firm understanding that the use of metaphor is not foreign to haiku, though perhaps we are now more aware of how and when we might use it. "Life is a metaphor. Not sure I'd survive if it wasn't!" is how one participant felt after our conversation. We finished our time together by enjoying a *nengajo* postcard and New Year's Day haiku, with special attention to the use of metaphor, of course.

Submitted by Victor Ortiz

Haiku Northwest

HNW met from 7 to 9 pm on Thursday night, January 9, via Zoom, moderated by Richard Tice. For a poetic start to the New Year, twenty-three poets gathered to review and celebrate their work in 2024. Each poet shared up to ten of his or her favorite haiku, senryū, and haiga, written or published last year, followed by resounding applause for each reading. A few who could not attend also sent their work to share. The meeting inspired us all, and we greatly appreciated the variety and craft of each other's creative work.

Our next meeting is planned for Saturday, February 8, at the Bellevue Library to learn more about National Haiku Writing Month (NaHaiWriMo) and share and critique each other's work.

Submitted by Richard Tice

SoulFood Poetry Night

On January 16, Haiku Northwest joined the monthly SoulFood Poetry Night hosted by Michael Dylan Welch at SoulFood CoffeeHouse in Redmond. Michael, in his Captain Haiku persona, moderated a reading from *Glimmering Hour*, Haiku Northwest's 35th anniversary anthology of Washington poets, after which the gathering enjoyed an hour of open-mic readings. Luke Brannon, Terran Campbell, Rick Clark, Bill Fay, John S Green, Connie Hutchison, Roy Kindelberger, C.R. Manley, Joan Perkins, Michelle Schaefer, Ann Spiers, Zach Street, Kathleen Tice, Richard Tice, David M. Tookey, and Michael Dylan Welch read their own haiku and senryū, along with the poems in the book's memorial section of deceased members. About thirty-five attended the event, and we sold several copies of the anthology, which is available on Amazon. Photos of the reading are available [here](#). Haiku Northwest will have another anthology reading on February 13 on Zoom.



Submitted by Richard Tice and Michael Dylan Welch

Submitted by Richard Tice and Michael Dylan Welch

Komo Kulshan Haiku

On Saturday, January 18, Komo Kulshan Haiku was happy to feature Dr. Jerry Rimpoché Gardner via a Zoom meeting. Dr. Gardner holds a Ph.D. in Buddhist Studies with an emphasis in ritual and meditation. He began his presentation with a performance of *Ono Matsu* (Old Pine), using Butoh, a unique, stylistic dance form developed in post-war Japan. Then he led a Q&A session. We ended the two-hour meeting by writing and sharing haiku in response to the Butoh performance and conversing about our experience. Twenty-two were in attendance.

Submitted by John Green

Haiga Adventure, Puget Sound Sumi Artists (PSSA)

Bill Fay, engineering manager-turned-haiku poet in retirement, energized the January 21 Zoom meeting by sharing writing processes from his “Haiku Tool Kit.” One technique involves using jargon or a phrase from a field in humanities or science before or after the cut. All fourteen haiga artists present wrote and read haiku using phrases from the field of music. Here is an example from Bill Fay:

three quarter time
the hypnotic sway
of trilliums

Cathy Tashiro then led a discussion of the linked verse haiga booklet planned for publication this year, and Sara Blauman outlined a Haiga Adventure exhibit at the Seattle Columbia City Gallery this August.

Haiga Adventure 2023 and 2024 publications are available by donation to PSSA. Guests are welcome at PSSA Haiga Adventure Zoom meetings. Send enquiries to Dorothy Matthews at Matthews.Poulsbo@gmail.com.

Submitted by Dorothy Avery Matthews

Commencement Bay Haiku

Commencement Bay Haiku poets David Berger, Emily Kane, Reva Levin, Dorothy Matthews, Kathleen Tice, and Marilyn Waite joined Zoom host Richard Tice on January 27, the first meeting of 2025. Poets were invited to share and workshop all haiku-related forms, including tan-renga, tanka, kyōka (witty tanka), haiga, and haibun, and discuss haiku topics in a friendly, informative setting. This month, topics included bees, summer hiking, 2025 year-of-the-snake references, full moon observations, haiku formatting, and the *karumi* aesthetic in light and humorous haiku.

Commencement Bay Haiku meets on Zoom the last Monday of each month at 5:00 pm. Primarily drawing its members from Seattle to Olympia and Aberdeen, it is actually open to anyone interested in attending. For the Zoom link, contact Richard Tice at retice1950@hotmail.com.

Submitted by Dorothy Avery Matthews





California

Richard L. Matta

Yuki Teikei News

President Linda Papanicolaou opened the January 2025 Zoom meeting with New Year's greetings and news of the Southern California poets affected by the fires. Marilyn Gehant announced a focus on Indigenous arts for the Land Acknowledgment for 2025.

The featured presenter, Kathabela Wilson, unveiled the seasonal kigo for the 2025 Tokutomi Contest. She expressed delight in the unusual kigo "hilltopping," and Patricia Machmiller elaborated on the kigo "godless month." (See the full list of kigo and contest details at yths.org).

Barbara Moore and Carol Steele announced events planned for the 50th Anniversary. The hybrid Spring Reading will be on Friday, May 9, and the celebratory Anniversary Dinner will be on May 10. The meeting closed with a video promoting the HNA conference in San Francisco, September 24-28, 2025.

February 8: Patricia J. Machmiller will present her Zoom workshop, "Form in Haiku - Part 2"

Submitted by: Marilyn Gehant

Southern California Haiku Study Group (SCHSG)

On January 5, 2025, the Southern California Haiku Study Group held its Annual SCHSG Haiku Gift Party at 1 p.m. (PST) at Mama's Brick Oven Pizza in South Pasadena. Haiku gifts were shared over delicious food. Kimberly Esser and Sharon Lynne Yee brought yummy snacks to share. There were eight attendees.

On January 18th, 2024, the Southern California Haiku Study Group's monthly Zoom meeting, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (PST), included a haiku read-around, a quick video of the haiku gifts shared at the Annual Haiku Gift Party, and an anonymous haiku workshop. This workshop included seasonal food kigo and an engaging analysis of haiku written anonymously. There were 15 attendees.

The next SCHSG meeting is on February 15, 2025, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (PST) via Zoom.

It will be the Kelp Forest: 2024 SCHSG Anthology Reading. This reading was postponed out of respect for those affected by the fires.

Submitted by: Yvette Kolodji, SCHSG Moderator



Haiku San Diego (HSD)

HSD met via zoom on December 8, 2024, for a special program titled "Memories of Holidays/Winter Observances." Each member shared the gift of a special memory from their past, recalled through sights, sounds, tastes, smells, and tactile elements that enhanced the memory. Memories were shared in a variety of presentation styles, deepening our connections to the season and each other.

HSD met via zoom on January 12, 2025. We expressed a warm welcome to new HSD member, Eric Oswald. After a traditional read-around, Naia delivered a presentation titled "Kigo, Seasonal Words/References, Seasonal Mood: An Interactive Presentation."

The second hour of each meeting was devoted to our monthly Anonymous Haiku Workshop.

Submitted by Naia, HSD Moderator

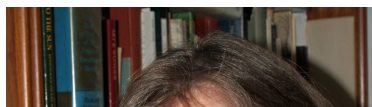
Haiku Poets of Northern California (HPNC)

The HPNC held its winter quarterly meeting via Zoom on January 19. More than 60 poets attended Michele Root-Bernstein's presentation and workshop on "A Beginner's Mind Guide to Crafting Haiku Collections." She discussed how a collection may be conceived and various ways of organizing haiku, looking closely at implied chronologies and felt rhythms in collections. In the workshop that followed, participants selected and arranged haiku and discussed their approaches. A program recording will be posted soon on the HPNC website.

Results for the HPNC-sponsored haiku, senryu, and tanka contests were also announced at this meeting. Winning poems and judges' commentary are available on the [website](#). The HPNC thanks the judges and poem submitters and extends congratulations to the winning poets.

Programs for 2025 are currently in planning, and the Spring Quarterly meeting will be held on April 27.

Submitted by: Beverly Momoi





Mid-Atlantic

Matt Snyder

Towpath members gathered by Zoom to share news and poems on January 11th. A total of ten members joined, with discussion of the upcoming Towpath anthology, and sharing and workshopping of poems. The next regular meeting will be held March 8th. For more information, check out the [website](#) or email Matt at snyder.matt@gmail.com.

Announcements

Kathleen O'Toole's haibun "Dead Reckoning" was selected as the favorite haibun of Issue 55.3 of *Modern Haiku*.

Canal Boats: an occasional feature showcasing work by Towpath members.

Washington in snow
a fun era
ending with a prayer

~ Lee Giesecke

a lapful of puppy curled into my ennui

~ Julie Bloss Kelsey, Prune Juice, December 2024

day after

day after
the shortest day, blackbirds
swirl into sunrise

~ Kathleen O'Toole

Mountains

Michael Drummy

Eight members of the Mountains Region attended the Payday Plums Haiku Workshop remotely on Saturday 18 January. A good time was had by all, who were also able to stay warm and dry in their own homes (and some in their bathrobes) on an otherwise frigid and snowy morning. Our next workshop is scheduled for 22 February. Anyone interested in participating in this monthly workshop – either in person or remotely via Zoom – should contact Billy Guerriero at billguerriero@gmail.com.



Northeast

Kristen Lindquist

No news to report this month, but I wanted to say *something* so that our region is included in the newsletter.

We apparently have no public/open haiku groups in New England. I would love to learn that I'm wrong; please share info about your group with me, as I know there are other haiku writers in New England who would love to join you!

Best wishes to all during this deep freeze. Hope you're all staying warm inside, reading and writing many haiku!



Oregon

Tanya McDonald



Portland Haiku Group

On Saturday, January 18, seven Portland-area poets met at the Sellwood Community House for the first PHG meeting of 2025. Shelley Baker-Gard facilitated the meeting, starting with a constructive feedback session on the haiku, tanka, and haibun that poets had submitted ahead of time. A brief presentation on haiga followed. Several people brought in examples of their own haiga, or haiga they admired, and Shelley presented a slideshow of haiga by Dorothy Matthews, a talented sumi artist from Washington.

The next PHG meeting will be held on Saturday, February 15 from 12 pm – 2 pm at the Sellwood Community Center. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact Shelley Baker-Gard at sbakergard@msn.com.

Umpqua Haiku

Umpqua Haiku meets monthly in Roseburg, Oregon. To learn more about the group, please visit the [website](#) or contact Steve Bahr at bahrbiz@gmail.com.

Willamette Haiku Group (Eugene area)

We are a small Oregon group of local haiku poets who meet on Zoom once a month, usually on the third Friday at 2 o'clock. For further information, please contact our coordinator, Marianna Monaco, at marianna.monaco@gmail.com.

Haiku Oregon

Save the date! Our summer gathering will be held on Saturday, June 21 at the Newport Visual Arts Center on the Oregon Coast. The plan is to have dinner at a nearby restaurant on Friday night, a full day of haiku at the VAC on Saturday (plus dinner afterward), and a ginko on Sunday. Stay tuned for further details or contact Tanya McDonald at tanyamc1375@gmail.com.

Southeast

Michael Henry Lee

Greetings SE Region Members:

If you have news of note in the Region, please email to michaelhenrylee39@gmail.com by the 20th of each month. Space and time permitting, your items will be published in the HSA Monthly Newsletter.



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday April 26, 2025 2 pm Eastern Time
(Zoom Event)

“Ekphrastic Haiku - A Workshop”, presented by Peggy Hale Bilbro, will explore this innovative genre of haiku in an informative, interactive exercise. Simply put, Ekphrasis is the Greek word for “description”. In this case, an Ekphrastic haiku is used to describe a specific piece of art i.e. paintings, sculpture, films and more broadly music, poetry, and everything in between.

Mark your calendars and make plans now to attend. Registration and other event details to follow.

Michael Henry Lee
HSA SE Region Coordinator

p.s. My hip replacement went very well. Thanks for all your well wishes.

Submissions & Contests



Haiku in the New Jersey Botanical

For the eighth year, the Haiku Poets of the Garden State will again partner with the New Jersey Botanical Garden in Ringwood, NJ, on an installation of haiku poetry signs throughout the garden grounds to celebrate Poetry Month in April.

For the April 2025 Poetry Month Haiku Installation at the New Jersey Botanical Garden, we invite poets who currently live in, or have previously resided in, New Jersey to submit up to 10 haiku for consideration. We are looking for quality, garden-related haiku that will enhance the visitors' experience of the botanical gardens and the historic manor on the grounds. Here is a link to the [NJ Botanical Garden website](#) for reference.

You may submit previously published haiku as long as you hold the rights to the poetry.

Submissions should be emailed to: GardenHaiku@gmail.com. The haiku should be included in the body of the email. No attachments—attachments will not be opened or considered. Email subject line must be: NJBG SUBMISSION (this text only). Be sure to include your name, email address, and the name of the New Jersey city/town you live in (or previously lived in).

Submissions Open: **February 1 - February 28, 2025**.
(Submissions received outside of the submission period will not be considered.)

Notification: Selected haiku poets will be notified via email by mid-March, 2025. The haiku selected for signs in the New Jersey Botanical Garden installation may also be featured on the [Haiku Poets of the Garden State website](#).



Coming Contests

The 2025 Robert Spiess Memorial Haiku Contest

A quick reminder that the deadline for the 2025 Robert Spiess Memorial Haiku Awards is less than a month away! The purpose of this competition is to honor the life and work of Bob Spiess, longtime editor of *Modern Haiku* from 1978 to his death on March 13, 2002.

The deadline for the 2025 contest is March 13th. Email and snail-mail submissions are happily accepted, so you can enter from your home, outrigger canoe, or mountain peak (provided you have wifi). Full rules and details at our website.

[Learn More](#)



Coming Contests

Welcome to Sense & Sensibility! A new year to explore your creativity during these uncertain times.

Submissions open **February 1** for the Sense & Sensibility Haiku for the March issue. Submissions close on **February 22, 2025**. This issue is for March 1, 2025.

For poets published in the February issue, please skip a month to submit again.

The prompt for March: “We Love Animals!” Think of your pets. Your daily interactions. How you miss your beloved ones that crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Think of wildlife. Think of their importance, like the bees, butterflies, songbirds, turtles, etc. How humans are displacing them, burning or cutting down their habitats in the name of progress, not Nature. How we are destroying the oceans with garbage and toxins.

Guidelines

1. Please submit 3–5 haiku for “We Love Animals!”
2. Submissions open on February 1, 2025
3. Submissions close on February 22, 2025
4. Publication date: by March 1, 2025
5. I welcome haiku/senryu of 1–3 lines, traditional and not

traditional, as well as experimental forms. Remember, haiku in English is not the same as in Japanese, and at times, might be too cumbersome and wordy to fit the 5-7-5 format. Sometimes, less is best.

6. Please follow the prompt, “We Love Animals!” Think of your pets. Your daily interactions. How you miss your beloved ones that crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Think of wildlife. Think of their importance, like the bees, butterflies, songbirds, turtles, etc. How humans are displacing them, burning or cutting down their habitats in the name of progress, not Nature. How we are destroying the oceans with garbage and toxins.

7. I will not tolerate HATE POEMS against another person’s race, creed, faith, gender, or sexual preference. No sexist words or too much usage of extreme language.

8. Have fun with the prompt(s). Let your imagination write your words!

Important information

1. Publication is by the first of the following month.
2. Once published, please skip a month to submit again.
3. You will be notified if your haiku is accepted. I do not send out rejection letters.
4. Selected poems to appear on my WordPress, Substack, Twitter, and Bluesky accounts.

PayPal donations are welcome, and can be made here:

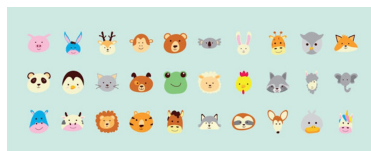
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Happy New Year,
Patricia Carragon
Editor
Sense & Sensibility Haiku Journal
Brooklyn, NY, USA

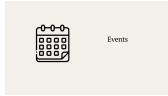
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Patricia Carragon
author of *Angel Fire* (Alien Buddha Press), *Meowku* (Poets Wear Prada), *The Cupcake Chronicles* (Poets Wear Prada), and *Innocence* (Finishing Line Press). Available on Amazon.com. Editor of *Sense & Sensibility Haiku Journal*. Curator/editor-in-chief (Brownstone Poets, Brooklyn, NY)



Submit

Events & Publications



Haiku North America
Now Open for Registration and Proposals

The 2025 Haiku North America conference takes place September 24th-18th in San Francisco, California. We are now open for proposals, registration, hotel booking, anthology submissions, and contest entries.

Calls for Proposals

Proposal submissions are open until March 31st, 2025. Please review the [website](#) for proposal recommendations before finalizing your program idea. Use the submission form to send your proposal to the programming team. Remember that earlier proposals have a higher chance of getting accepted!

Conference Registration

Full registration information is available on the [HNA website](#). Once you decide what registration items you want, pay via the PayPal link on the registration page. To finalize registration, fill out the online form to ensure we have an accurate record.

Hotel Booking

HNA conference attendees are eligible for a group rate of \$219 a night (plus tax) at the Holiday Inn Golden Gateway. You must use [our booking link](#) to get the discount. This rate is available until August 25th, 2025 or until we run out of rooms, whichever comes first. (Pro tip, running out of rooms will come first, so book sooner rather than later to ensure you get the discount.)

Please note that the booking link only gives the conference rate for September 24th-28th, which is the duration of the festival itself. However, you can call the hotel to get extra days at either end at the same rate. To add extra days at the conference rate, contact Michael Lakoff at 415-447-3044.

Publication Opportunities

There are two publication opportunities for HNA 2025:

- The Conference Anthology
- The Fortune Cookie Haiku Contest

To celebrate the invention of the fortune cookie in San Francisco,

we're hosting a contest in which selected haiku will be printed on fortune cookies. This contest is only open to registered attendees. Due to the lead time required to create the fortune cookies, the contest deadline is June 30th, 2025. View the [website](#) for full instructions.

The Anthology will be edited by Michael Dylan Welch and Chuck Brickley. Publication is limited to registered attendees only. The deadline for inclusion in the anthology is August 10th, 2025.

Good morning,

The Illinois State Poetry Society-Haiku Society of America Haiku Chapter invites you to its regularly scheduled Zoom meeting on Sunday, February 16, 2025, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. CST.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Tom Chockley (tomzhaiku@outlook.com) with "Haiku Chapter" in the subject line by Tuesday, February 11.

For those planning to attend, Tom will send out the meeting agenda and further information when he receives your reservation.

We ask that those who wish to workshop their haiku for feedback, please limit the number to one haiku per participant.

Tom Chockley

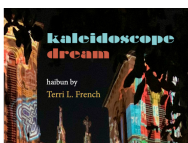
New Publication Reading of Glimmering Hour

Haiku Northwest will hold a Zoom reading for its recent publication *Glimmering Hour: Haiku Northwest 35th Anniversary Anthology* on February 13 (Thursday) from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. The book features 158 haiku and senryū from 79 Washington poets, including a memorial section of eleven poets. Sheila Sondik provides illustrations for the anthology. All are invited to attend. You may use this [Zoom link](#) to join the meeting.

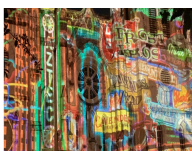
Richard Tice



kaleidoscope dream: haibun of Terri L. French



"The author takes us from childhood memories of place and person – like Mrs. Blaine, her 5th grade teacher 'who smelled of cigarettes and lily-of-the-valley' and inspired her to write, to an amazing kaleidoscope of folks she encounters over the years. Everywhere, French expertly mixes personal memories with her love of the natural word."



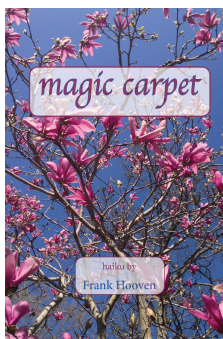
– Penny Harter, author of *Keeping Time: Haibun for the Journey*

To order a signed copy from the author, visit her [website](#), or purchase a copy from the publisher directly using the link below.

\$20.00 plus shipping

kaleidoscope dream: haibun of Terri L. French, published by Red Moon Press, 2025

Buy the Book!



Frank Hooven is pleased to announce the publication of his first collection of haiku, *magic carpet*, published by Red Moon Press, 2025.

“Finally, a collection from this award-winning haiku poet! Hooven’s haiku are spare, yet roomy. Simple, yet essential. He celebrates the seasons with freshly observed and wonderfully executed haiku, written in a time-honored traditional style. Hooven is deftly and joyfully attuned to the subtle ways of both the human and natural worlds.”

- Brad Bennett, author of *a box of feathers*

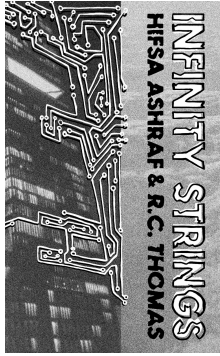
Use the link below to purchase the book from Red Moon Press, or purchase an author-signed copy (\$20 plus shipping) by contacting him at fthlal@gmail.com.

Buy the Book!



Gary Hotham and John Stevenson have co-edited a collection of Hilary Tann's haiku and senryu, *Timbre*. You can order a copy of this well-deserved tribute, either from **Red Moon Press** or directly from John. If you wish to order from John, please send a check or money order for \$20 (he will cover shipping costs), payable to "John Stevenson" to: P.O. Box 122, Nassau, NY 12123 (USA). Thank you.

Buy the Book!



Infinity Strings by Hifsa Ashraf and R.C. Thomas

Award-winning poets Hifsa Ashraf (Pakistan) and R.C. Thomas (UK) present *Infinity Strings*. In this collection of tan-renga, they explore humanity's ever-evolving relationship with modern life, technology, science, artificial intelligence, space, and other phenomena. This dynamic and versatile collection expands upon itself with nine abstract artworks, combining scenic photography with black and white illustrations to home in on the dystopian and science-factual themes.

"This is a book of experiment and invention, traveling deep into the core of lived and imagined experience." - John Hawkhead, author of *Four Horse Parable*

"The human race is explored in a wonderful prosperity of play intermingled by serious thought: Hifsa Ashraf and R.C. Thomas have cracked time tourism!" - Alan Summers, Founder of Call of the Page

"...a speculative gem that even H. G. Wells and Isaac Asimov themselves could have approved." - M. R. Defibaugh, Former Editor of the Tan-Renga Chapbook Series

Available now, with a free postcard, from:

rcthomasthings.com

rcthomasthings.etsy.com

Also available from all Amazon stores

Buy the Book!

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