

俳句 Haiku Festival

www.HaikuFest.com • P. O. Box 450 • Chicago, IL 60690 • 312-253-7453 • Info@HaikuFest.com
Haiku Festival celebrates children through poetry, while promoting literacy.

March 2020

Dear Poets, Parents, and Teachers,

Hope you are happy, healthy, and safe. In the wake of covid-19's global effect, I am sad to say that all Haiku Festival activities have been **anceled**.

We approached 2020 excited to celebrate our 16th anniversary through poetry readings, workshops, and our April Awards Program. We gratefully presented workshops in 2019-20 for schools and libraries. Since Chicago Public Library canceled National Poetry Month events, I am proposing a **virtual celebration** to include:

- ❖ Extended deadline: Haiku Festival will accept haiku until **midnight Friday, 17 April 2020, International Haiku Day**
- ❖ Student e-certificates will be sent to each teacher
- ❖ ONE winner per grade level: 3-4th grade, 5-6th grade, and 7-8th grade poet, i.e., 3 First Prize Awards only: winning poems will be posted on our website with winner-provided, high resolution photos (no 2nd or 3rd or HM Awards)
- ❖ ONE Gwendolyn Brooks Award: post photo and poem
- ❖ ONE Founders Award: post photo and poem
- ❖ ONE Teacher of the Year and School of the Year Award: post teacher-provided photo
- ❖ Announce winners in early May 2020. ALL participants will appear in our e-program on our website under "What's New/ Archives/2020 Program Book"

I wish you all the best and encourage you to keep writing haiku.

Sincerely,

Regina Harris Baiocchi

Founder, Haiku Festival

PS: Thanks for sending us your poems. You make the world a better place!