

Honorable Mention

(continued)

a piece of driftwood
rests on the winter seashore
without being found

Susan Rudnick

the winter seashore
a young man jogs with his dog
among the driftwood

Sybil Taylor

a sailplane rising
in the cloudless summer sky
—I'm called for dinner

Michael D. Welch

the Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

This contest is for writers of English-language haiku using a traditional seventeen-syllable form arranged in three lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables. Each poem must contain one (and only one) kigo or season word from an assigned list. This year, poets could choose from among season words referring to Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, and the New Year. In Japan, contests are often held in which all entrants must use the same specified season word. But because this might be too restrictive for some, we try to supply enough season words so that the poets who enter can choose one most harmonious with their life and practice.

The 1998 contest was coordinated by Roger Abe, and the selection committee included Kiyoko Tokutomi, Alex Benedict, and Patricia Machmiller. The final judge was Kohjin Sakamoto, a writer of haiku in both the English and Japanese languages, who has won many awards for his haiku in English. Mr. Sakamoto lives in Kyoto, Japan.

The contest committee and judges thank the contestants for the many enjoyable poems that were sent. May all who participated continue to write and enjoy haiku!



Kiyoshi Tokutomi Memorial Haiku Contest

1998
**Winning Poems
and
Authors**

First Place
Christopher Herold

New Year's Day sunrise
the back of the pickup truck
filled with donations

In Japan, when a New Year's haiku is composed, quietness or "sabi" is usually incorporated. The vital power in this haiku is unique.

Second Place
Yvonne Hardenbrook

wet from melting snow
meter reader leaves behind
official footprints

"official footprint" is a very interesting expression!

Third Place
Robert Gilliland

the breeze bearing them
only a second or two . . .
camellia petals

The first and second lines caught a very subtle feeling. But when a camellia drops off, the whole flower head falls, and makes a loud sound.

Honorable Mention
(in alphabetical order)

first dream of the year—
waking from it I decide
to start another

Dennis Davidson

gathering in sand
along the winter seashore
uncollected shells

Dennis Davidson

the unsteady gait
of her new hip--a trellis
of morning glories

Claire Gallagher

Honorable Mention
(continued)

old boundary fence
wound with wild morning glory
past the county line

Robert Gilliland

the squealing children
gazing skyward at fireworks
ears tightly covered

Anne Homan

fireworks finale
a ripple of oohs and ahs
across the lawn chairs

Susan Rudnick