

Published by the

Ukiah
Poet
Laureate
Committee

Ukiah, California

The 22nd
Annual
Ukiah Haiku
Festival

2024
winning
entries



This chapbook is dedicated to the memory of

Stanley Janiak

1948—2023

for his behind-the-scenes work
on the ukiaHaiku Festival



2024
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Pomo Perspectives

In recognition that the Pomo People are the original inhabitants of Mendocino County and that the name Ukiah itself is from a Pomo language, this year, we extended an open call to our Pomo neighbors to share haiku that are in Pomo languages or express a Pomo perspective. The Ukiah Poet Laureate Committee has selected the following four haiku to honor the land on which we stand.

?ul dacha:la bamtashiba,
ts'axat' nan yowshashiba ?a: jadi.
xa, ma: nan kali.

TRANSLATION

The sun is setting now
I see purple, green and pink
water, land and sky.

Buffie Schmidt, Ukiah

and

Pomo Languages

song and dance
to some it means nothing
to us it's sacred

*Michael Williams, Pinoleville,
12th grade*

Redwoods stand alone
The wind gusts and the trees move slowly.
The birds fly away.

*Jeremiah Patrick, Kashia
Rancheria, 4th grade*

ya ya:x yama
xale na:m masho: naman, xale shama
xale bich'u? p'how baytan

A strong wind is blowing
the trees are roaring, a tree fell
Small trees, they are growing

Sonny Elliott, 11th grade

TRANSLATION

All Topics Youth, K-3rd Grade

FIRST PLACE

Gold scaly body
huge orange eyes looking on
in a coral tank.

Ava Chong, Ukiah

SECOND PLACE

The crow flies into the fog
and disappears
forever, Boo!

Sylvester Joaquin, Covelo

THIRD PLACE

Bucks turning their heads
Antlers like wooden sticks
They can gore you

Vincent Ferrarese, Elk

HONORABLE MENTIONS

sky is bright
trees have moss
a leaf falls

Alexander Hansard, Ukiah

Walking through redwoods
birds chirping, mushrooms
pushing through soil

Arthur Bennett, Covelo

There was a bird who
flew into the mountain
and never came back

Dennis Mitchell, Covelo

All Topics Youth, 4th-6th Grade

FIRST PLACE

hopscotch
a sparrow jumps into
the summer's end

Antonia Chersan

SECOND PLACE

moving day
carving my initials
on the old oak

Seby Ciobica

THIRD PLACE

Hoofprints in the snow
looking for one patch of green
still searching

Sherry Wu, Ukiah

HONORABLE

the sun is scorching
the grass is no longer green
fallen ice cream melts

Bayelle Blanc, Ukiah

little yellow butterfly
over a lake
sun shining

Makaylah Hough, Ukiah

MENTIONS

Ants nesting in logs
Foraging for honey
Strength in numbers

Dominic Ferrarese, Elk

Sand glistens
The cacti green and prickly
Tumbleweeds blow

Giada Giacomini, Ukiah

All Topics Youth, 6th–9th Grade

FIRST PLACE

The sakura falls
in to
never ending wind

Clarabelle Koubek

SECOND PLACE

heat pours down
on golden hills
a crow calls

Salvio Senerchia, Ukiah

THIRD PLACE

Tangerine season
Watching Netflix everyday
My hands turned yellow

Sarah Park, Ukiah

with full moon shining
i wish to paint with glitter
all over the roof.

Cynthia Cruz Gonzales

Colors black, white, orange
Right beneath the dull, green trees
A flying monarch

Selene Luong, Ukiah

winter night darkens,
looking through a telescope,
the planets align

Anna Dunnicliff, Ukiah

snow melts
bright blue sky
carrots fall to the ground

Richard Nguyen, Ukiah

HONORABLE MENTIONS

All Topics Youth, 10th–12th Grade

A pink chair
amidst the tall grass
nature finds its seat

Quan (Cherry) Ngo, Ukiah

FIRST PLACE

Muted laughter
Drifts from behind a closed door
Childhood

Elizabeth Lu, Ukiah

SECOND PLACE

tender shoots
strain ever for the sky
i keep studying

Alan Liang, Ukiah

THIRD PLACE

dash through the rain
just to retrieve the daily mail
in shoes too big to fill

Evelyn Liao, Ukiah

Staying up late to
Stare at the clear moon
Summer friends

Celina Li, Ukiah

HONORABLE MENTIONS

trees balding
no beautiful green leaves
dull as the pencil end

Jolie Torres

HONORABLE MENTIONS

FIRST PLACE

Transparent jellyfish
Drifting along the Russian River
Plastic bag

Leo Wang, Ukiah

far away in the vineyards
a cock crows
the boy on his bike
William Shi, Ukiah

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Going through the fog
the golden gate appears in my eyes
the holy city

Guanyi Hu, Ukiah

HONORABLE MENTIONS

On the horizon
Rays of light reflect off the 'U'
Dawn's call to morning hikers
Katherine Wang, Ukiah

Benji
Thomas
Prize,
Youth,
about
Ukiah

SECOND PLACE

A gray stone skips
rippling through the water
the world quiets

Quan (Cherry) Ngo, Ukiah

THIRD PLACE

a lonesome figure
enjoying the symphony
sits along the creek

Evelyn Liao, Ukiah

Dori Anderson Prize,

Adult, about

Ukiah

quail top-knot basket
coil and weft of earth and sky
dance us the way home
Karin Uphoff, Mendocino

HONORABLE MENTIONS

River-carved reach
Pomo ancestors echo
Mountains hold us here
Amanda Tuttle, Ukiah

White egret takes off
From Costco wetland
highway collision.
Rose Easterbrook, Ukiah

HONORABLE MENTIONS

and when you think
there is no color left in the winter
lichen blooms
Amelia Gorman, Eureka

FIRST PLACE

Perseids...
the crickets' song
turns golden

Cezar Florescu, Romania

SECOND PLACE

Two water striders
skate on springtime creek's surface
that reflects my face

Carol Butzbach, Clearlake

THIRD PLACE

Disconnected fence posts
Adorned in lichens
A forgotten pasture

Elise Ferrarese, Elk

FIRST PLACE

Dame tus ojos
Y te doy los míos
Nos cambiamos sonrisas

Give me your eyes
And I'll give you mine
Let's switch smiles

Daisy Tadeo, Ukiah

TRANSLATION

SECOND PLACE

La vida como el mar
Lo más que exploras
Lo más que aprendes

Life is like the sea
The more you explore
The more you learn

Jaime Javier, Ukiah

TRANSLATION

THIRD PLACE

Ser jefe
para vivir los sueños
No seguidor

Be a leader
to live your dreams
Not a follower

Jessie Solis, Ukiah

TRANSLATION

FIRST PLACE

vestidos blancos
quinceañeras bailan
ciruelos en viento

White dresses
Fifteen-year-olds dance
Plum trees in the wind

Sharon Donovan, Petaluma

TRANSLATION

SECOND PLACE

El vagabundo
sobrevive al covid...
milagro de fe

The vagabond
Survives COVID...
miracle of faith

Keith Simmonds, France

TRANSLATION

THIRD PLACE

más más que menos
no nos entendemos
el poder del amor de la madre

more more than less
we don't understand each other
the power of a mother's love

Kirsten Turner, Ukiah

TRANSLATION

Para
Menores
de
18 Años
en
Español

Jane Reichhold
International Prize

Intermittent

FIRST PLACE

lighthouse
every ten seconds
the kissing couple

Annette Akkerman, Netherlands

SECOND PLACE

windy night
the sky fastened
with stars

Srini, India

THIRD PLACE

your whisper
in my ear
falling snow

Jeff Hoagland, New Jersey

moonlight sonata
the pianist's fingers
suspended

Robert Kania, Poland

sun motes . . .
the calligraphy
of chickadees

Brad Bennett, Massachusetts

HONORABLE MENTIONS

landfill
a hand of a doll
sticking out
Zelyko Funda, Croatia

HONORABLE MENTIONS

spring mowing
among the clippings
a butterfly wing

David Josephsohn, North Carolina

winter air
the fleeting shapes
of our breaths

Małgorzata Formanowska, Poland

Ukiah
Poet
Laureate
Committee

Padre Sol el Gran Espiritu
atesora su propio reflejo
en nuestros ojos

TRANSLATION

Father Sun the Great Spirit
treasures his own reflection
in our eyes.

Jabez W. Churchill

One week between rains,
Warm sun shines and plum trees bloom.
Ephemeral spring.

Lawrence Rinder

winter evening—
dog and I share large portion
of silence

Armand Brint

needing attention
weedy patch in the garden
sprawling rattlesnake

Cathy Monroe

the heat increases
the fragrance of juniper
sage advice- breathe deep

Colter Jacobsen

Stan's handshake
how good and firm
my memories

Michael Riedell

leaf blows into
the palm of my hand
crunchy star

Melissa Eleftherion-Carr

The Ukiah Poet Laureate Committee wishes to acknowledge all of this year's poet applicants who submitted 1,088 haiku from the United States and over 30 countries.

SPONSORS

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JUDGES

Spanish

Jabez W. Churchill

Jane Reichhold International

Michael Dylan Welch

All other categories

Michael Riedell
Melissa Eleftherion Carr
Armand Brint

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THE 2024 UKIAHAIKU FESTIVAL IS PRODUCED BY THE UKIAH POET LAUREATE COMMITTEE

Cathy Monroe
Armand Brint
Michael Riedell
Melissa Eleftherion Carr
Colter Jacobsen
Lawrence Rinder
Jabez W. Churchill

