



the ninth annual
ukiahaiku
festival

a celebration and competition
devoted to the haiku form of poetry

www.ukiahaiku.org

winning entries

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2011

The Ukiah Poet Laureate Committee wishes to thank the generous sponsors of the 2011 ukiaHaiku Festival without whom it would not be possible:

Mendocino Book Company, Ukiah

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Haiku Vineyards, Ukiah & Larkspur

Johanna "Wildoak" Cummings

Ukiah Folding Organization (UFO)

David Smith, Nine Trees Design

CGC Website Designs, Mendocino

The Ukiah Poet Laureate Committee also wishes to acknowledge the response of this year's authors: 1,316 entries. Per our competition guidelines, the majority of entries were from poets in Mendocino, Lake, Humboldt and Sonoma Counties, but in the Jane Reichold International Prize category, entries were received from fourteen states and six countries and four continents.

Published by the
Ukiah Poet Laureate Committee
Ukiah, California

Children, K–3 Grade, General Topics

FIRST PLACE

*deer in the tall grass
giant banana slug crawls
up and over rocks*

Andrew Ford
Ukiah, CA

SECOND PLACE

*it must be winter
every time I open my mouth
smoke comes out*

Sierra Sipila
Redwood Valley, CA

THIRD PLACE

*green ferns in the rock
by the blue rushing water
I see shooting stars*

Aidan Caputo
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*a tiny creature
staring up at us people
he'd better swim now*

Amanda Bednar
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*sweaty summer day
bees buzzing around to play
strawberries ready*

Allyson Cooley
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*upon the water
white duck silently gliding
on a wintry night*

Jesse Toy
Potter Valley, CA

Children, 4-6 Grade, General Topics

FIRST PLACE

frost on the window
sighs of a cold snowy day
mother yells breakfast

J.C. Gonzalez
Ukiah, CA

SECOND PLACE

taking a walk
silent morning breeze
peacock flutters

Lynh Ngoc Trang
Tracy, CA

THIRD PLACE

waves roll to and fro
demolishing sandcastles
kids construct once more

Kyle Johnson
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

red rose
water dripping
from petals

Devon Lopez
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

sweet spring pond
moonlight's reflection
owl flies away

Shem Biggie
Mendocino, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

big farm
growing vegetables
rabbits eating carrots

Ricques Nguyen
Ukiah, CA

Youth 7–9 Grade, General Topics

FIRST PLACE

*on the bare ground
in the morning snow
cold, dirt-splashed pumpkins*

Harlie Liljeberg
Fort Bragg, CA

SECOND PLACE

*everyone saw it—
how the grass stole diamonds
from the gray mist*

Vivien Fontanilla
Fort Bragg, CA

THIRD PLACE

*swampy mud waters
long dead cat tails
little green lily pads*

Gracie Roach
Fort Bragg, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*water droplets slide
down slender blades of grass
glinting in the sun*

Sophie Montez
Willits, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*soft, downy feathers
slowly drifting down to earth
drop in muddy water*

Rhianna Hackley
Fort Bragg, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*on my way to school
falling sakura petals
a cool breeze sweeps past*

Hong Xiang Bai
Talmage, CA

Youth, 10–12 Grade, All Topics

FIRST PLACE

pouring rain
pounds the screen door
do you have cocoa?

Quinn Moore
Gualala, CA

SECOND PLACE

at the sunny park
sitting on the bench
birds flying over water

Giovanni Coria
Gualala, CA

THIRD PLACE

sun beating down
forget to wear sunscreen
bad tan lines

Katelyn Pipkin
Redwood Valley, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

frozen ponds
white specks falling down
mountains covered in ice

Marisol Santamaria
Yorkville, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

people in and out
dressed all fancy
going to court

Nancy Tepale
Ukiah, CA

Children, K–6 Grade, About Ukiah

FIRST PLACE

in the night
roars and hissings
raccoons versus cats

Deon Van
Ukiah, CA

SECOND PLACE

big drizzle
watching from a warm room
soaked peacock

Miguel Gracia
Ukiah, CA

THIRD PLACE

sandals on Monday
warm ski jacket on Wednesday
Ukiah winter

Emma Barash
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

walking to Low Gap
yellow banana slugs
crawl safely to rest

Stephanie Alvarez
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

cool day in the park
big oak trees stand in Low Gap
green moss hanging down

Jordan Skellet
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

muddy pathways turn
by glistening spider webs
Low Gap Park hiking

Aidan Caputo
Ukiah, CA

Youth, 7–12 Grade, About Ukiah

FIRST PLACE

*leaves falling downtown
Schat's, bookstore and the courthouse
draped in red-yellow*

Monique Marmon
Ukiah, CA

SECOND PLACE

*Ukiah's hot air
floats around and fills my lungs
the sun overhead*

Matthew Matson
Fort Bragg, CA

THIRD PLACE

*drive up in Escalades
it's that time of the year once again
smell of pot in the air*

Katelyn Pipkin
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*under the crescent moon
by a pond of lotuses
frogs croaking*

Alejandro Gracia
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*those red camp t-shirts
signal summer is now here
Summer Safari*

Shelby Killen
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*JDM imports
in the high school parking lot
ready for drag night*

Jesus Ceja
Ukiah, CA

Adult, About Ukiah

FIRST PLACE

*pears in bloom—
a coyote bitch lopes
the meadow's edge*

Iokua
Petaluma, CA

SECOND PLACE

*midnight on State Street
sad-faced man touching his nose
lights flashing blue-red*

Stephen Elsemore
Ukiah, CA

THIRD PLACE

*leaving Ukiah High
ravens perched on graves
prisoners unload trash*

Chris Douthit
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*intent on pruning
bundled fieldworkers knee deep
in mustard flowers*

Cathy Monroe
Redwood Valley, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*at the wrecking yard
my son's crushed Toyota rests
hawk circles overhead*

Karen Lewis
Albion, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*August noon
snakes hide
oak leaves rattle*

Virginia Sharkey
Albion, CA

Adults, General Topics

FIRST PLACE

*silver ribbon shines
across dusty barn sofa
banana slug trail*

Cathy Monroe
Redwood Valley, CA

SECOND PLACE

*inside
an empty room
moonlight*

Armand Brint
Ukiah, CA

THIRD PLACE

*black and orange beauty
three countries with your two wings
rise and fall and rise*

Courtney Senna
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*on the news there's war
my woodstove crackles with fire
outside the creek flows*

Yoli Rose
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*a strange clicking sound
from high in the mossy oak
dark raven eyes watch*

Stephen Elsemore
Ukiah, CA

Para Menores de 18 Años

FIRST PLACE

*rechazada
como uvas en barro
crepúsculo*

Julian Quinn
Ukiah, CA

SECOND PLACE

*la naturaleza, libre, tranquila
como agua azul
que corre por la cascada*

Nallely Aquiano
Philo, CA

THIRD PLACE

*el amor
como las nubes
flotando por todas partes*

Jose Luis Mendoza Medina
Boonville, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*el oceano
oceano con un olor
me hace pensar*

Valentina Evans
Ukiah, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*el dia de hoy
tengo una sonrisa
y es para ti*

Cinthya Madrigal
Lower Lake, CA

HONORABLE MENTION

*niños jugando
disfrutando sus vidas
sin importancia*

Eric Guerrero
Boonville, CA

JUDGES SPECIAL AWARD

*es tan bonita
soy tan idiota
ya no está*

Luis Enrique Sanchez
Navarro, CA

FIRST PLACE

*la luna entre ramas desnudas
rejas a mi alrededor
mi prisión*

Belle Hicks
Ukiah, CA

SECOND PLACE

*cielo nublado
paraguas rosados
cerezos en flor*

Sharon Donovan
Petaluma, CA

THIRD PLACE

*bellotas en la tierra
comida sabrosa escondida
un banquete aplazado*

Richard Gardiner
Potter Valley, CA

Jane Reichhold International Prize

FIRST PLACE

warm sunset
washing the earth
from radishes

André Surridge
Hamilton, New Zealand

SECOND PLACE

equinox
my wedding ring stuck
in the drain

Melissa Allen
Madison, Wisconsin

THIRD PLACE

stone wall
curving around the garden
a three inch worm

Adelaide B. Shaw
Millbrook, New York

HONORABLE MENTION

abandoned barn
a morning dove's cry
fills it

Patricia Daharsh
Pinellas Park, Florida

HONORABLE MENTION

the sheen of ink
sinking into paper
cloudy moon

Barbara Snow
Eugene, Oregon

HONORABLE MENTION

tulips
wet with dew
touch

Laura Leigh
Point Arena, California

101 on-ramp
hitchhiker with a sign—

CASINO

Dan Barth
Talmage, CA

miedos ahogados
ola implacable
sueños por reconstruir

Lorena Calvo Evans
Ukiah, CA

hoy, cese de quemar
humo blanco indiferente
tapa el valle

Bill Churchill
Ukiah, CA

no burn day
indifferent white smoke
covers the valley

floating friend—
a splash of red
in the silence

Kate Marianchild
Ukiah, CA

thickest
along the unused road
forget-me-nots

Jane Reichhold
Gualala, CA

so heavy—
walking a chainsaw
into silent woods

Michael Riedell
Willits, CA

*sitting quietly, rain on my roof
a flash of lightning!
thunder breaks open the sky*

Ricardo Stocker
Ukiah, CA

*zin or cabernet
so much depends upon the
acceptable choice*

Benj Thomas
Ukiah, CA

*The dancer on her toes—
the blood flowing at the
tips of my fingers.*

Roberta Werdinger
Ukiah, CA