

# Japan-Lithuania HAIKU Contest 2012-2013

## Outline for Japan – Lithuania HAIKU Contest 2012-2013

The Embassy of Japan in Lithuania is organizing Haiku Contest 2012-2013, in order to gather all haiku lovers and provide them with an opportunity to express themselves. The aim of this contest is to reveal the beauty and uniqueness of each season (spring, summer, autumn and winter). We will collect haiku poems, composed in traditional form: 3 lines, 5-7-5 syllables.

- **Application Period**

The haiku poems would be collected throughout the year of 2012-2013. The first collection would be at March-May (spring theme). There would also be collections at June-August (summer theme) and September-November (autumn theme). The last collection would be conducted at the end of February (winter theme).

- **Topic**

4 seasons (authors can send their haiku poems related to a certain season)

- **Qualifications**

Haiku lovers from Lithuania, Japan and other countries are very welcome to participate.

Age: no age limit

Language: Lithuanian, English or Japanese languages. If composing in Japanese or Lithuanian, English translation is necessary.

- **Application Form and Submission**

All the applicants must fill in the special form (Annex 1). The form and haiku poem should be sent to the Embassy of Japan by email [culture\\_event@vn.mofa.go.jp](mailto:culture_event@vn.mofa.go.jp)

DEADLINES:

For spring season please send your haiku poems by 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2012

For summer season please send your haiku poems by 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2012

For autumn season please send your haiku poems by 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2012

For winter season please send your haiku poems by 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2013

**NOTE:** The number of haiku poems is limited up to 3 haiku poems per person per each season.

- **Rules**

1) Haiku poem submitted for the contest should be original – newly created and one that has never been published before;

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- 2) One author can submit up to 3 haiku poems per one season;
- 3) Haiku poem should maintain fundamental rules of classical haiku form: 3 lines, 5-7-5 syllables;
- 4) As traditional Japanese haiku, it should be related with one particular season, with nature or daily life;
- 5) Haiku compositions, that would express the racial, national or gender discrimination or would insult other people will not be admitted to the contest;
- 6) The haiku poems should be written in Lithuanian, English or Japanese language. If composing in Japanese or Lithuanian, English translation is necessary.

- **Evaluation**

- 1) In order to keep the objectivity in evaluation, authors will be anonymous to all the judges;
- 2) The anonymity will be assured by the Embassy of Japan in Lithuania;
- 3) Judges will evaluate the haiku poems which will be written in Lithuanian, English and Japanese;
- 4) Each judge will give his evaluation on haiku poems separately, based on basic criteria such as haiku poem form and the disclosure of the main topic.
- 5) The jury members would hold the meeting, grade each haiku poem in the end of each season and select the best haiku poem for that particular season.
- 6) There will also be announced the best haiku poem of the year among the four seasonal winners.

- **Jury's members**

- 1) Mr. Vytautas Dumčius – haiku poet
- 2) Mr. Kornelijus Platelis – haiku poet
- 3) Mr. Giedrius Mickūnas – haiku poet
- 4) Mr. Artūras Šilanskas – haiku poet
- 5) Ms. Yuko Tange – haiku poet, member of World Haiku Association

- **Special Jury for the selection of the best haiku of the year**

Mr. Ban'ya Natsuishi – haiku poet, Director of World Haiku Association

- **Results**

The best haiku poem of each season would be announced in the official website of the Embassy in the end of June, end of September, end of December, as well as the end of March.

The best haiku poems of the year among the four seasonal winners would also be selected and announced at a proper occasion. The winners of the year would receive a certificate and an award.

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## What is Haiku?

Haiku is a minimalist form of poetry that developed in Japan about 400 years ago. The style reached a peak in the first half of the Edo period (1603-1868), when a poet named Matsuo Basho wrote distinctive verses on his journeys around the country describing the seasons and the scenery of the places he visited.

In the following Meiji period (1868-1912) thanks to the efforts of another poet Masaoka Shiki, haiku became uniquely Japanese form of poetry. It was Shiki who promoted a new form of haiku, which emphasized realistic portrayals of nature and human life. Shiki called it "sketch in words".

Haiku is a short verse of 17 syllables, divided into three phrases of 5-7-5 syllables. The content of haiku is usually fragments of everyday life, which writer finds important or outstanding. Haiku uses simple expressions in ways that allow portraying deep emotions and interesting discoveries. As a rule, traditional haiku must have a word that is identified with a particular season.

- **Contacts**

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# Japan-Lithuania HAIKU Contest 2012-2013

Annex 1

## Application form for HAIKU Contest participants

First name, Family name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone no. \_\_\_\_\_

Current occupation, short self introduction

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Haiku poem(s) in Lithuanian/English/Japanese, (English translation if writing in Japanese or Lithuanian)

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