## THE HAIKU CALENDAR COMPETITION 2025

#### **WINNERS**

January 'Orion'
February 'a dunnock's song'
March 'March rain'
April 'what I always feel'

May 'woven into'
June 'yellow buckthorn'

July 'drifting off'
August 'purple hills'

September 'cold morning sun'
October 'an old hymn'

**November** 'deep beneath the mud'

**December** 'Christmas Eve'

John Rowlands (Wales)
Richard Tindall (England)
Laurie D. Morrissey (USA)
John Stevenson (USA)
Diane Tomczak (USA)

Ingrid Jendrzejewski (England)

Rob Scott (Australia)
Simon Chard (Scotland)
Rebecca Lilly (USA)
Joshua St. Claire (USA)
Carole MacRury (USA)
Beth Powell (Canada)

Each of these haiku features prominently in *The Haiku Calendar 2026*. The Prize Money of £400/US \$600 is divided equally between the 12 Winners.

#### **RUNNERS-UP**

Mimi Ahern (USA)

'open shutter'
'prayer flags'

Curtis Alan (USA)

'deep chill'

Jo Balistreri (USA)

'morning breeze'

**Chuck Brickley (USA)** 

'fly agaric'

**Chris Bruner (USA)** 

'racing'

Simon Chard (Scotland)

'smouldering midden' 'spring hike'

Margaret Chula (USA)

'hummingbird'

Cherie Hunter Day (USA)

'midnight'

Michael Dudley (Canada)

'snowy solstice'

Helen Gaen (England)

'your grave'

Garry Gay (USA)

'All Soul's Day'

Robert Gilliland (USA)

'the day begins'

Jeff Hoagland (USA)

'Geminids'

Frank Hooven (USA)

'autumn air'

Erica Ison (England)

'night frost'

Rebecca Lilly (USA)

'beaver moon rising'

Sharon Martina (USA)

'afternoon snooze'

Joanne E. Miller (England)

'discovering'

Polona Oblak (Slovenia)

'the time it takes'

Helen Ogden (USA)

'sweet corn'

**Roland Packer (Canada)** 

`short-dav sun'

**Beth Powell (Canada)** 

'summer solstice'

Dave Reynolds (USA)

'lovers in the park'

Rich Schilling (USA)

'blazing sun'

Ron Scully (USA)

'used bookstore'

Paula Sears (USA)

'cold sunrise'

Joshua St. Claire (USA)

'The Nutcracker'

Mary Stevens (USA)

'moonlight'
'nightfall'
'sap rising'

John Stevenson (USA)

'another perfect'

Ian Storr (England)

'Bonfire Night'

**Debbie Strange (Canada)** 

'cattle roundup'

Carly Siegel Thorp (USA)

'shallow pond'

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Richard Tindall (England)

`a buck legs it'

C.X. Turner (England)

'huttorgun field'

'buttercup field'

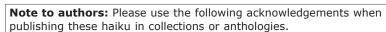
Marilyn Appl Walker (USA)

'making do'

Billie Wilson (USA)

'false spring'

All runners-up are published in The Haiku Calendar 2026.



**Award Credit:** Winner/Runner-up, The Haiku Calendar Competition 2025. **Publication Credit:** *The Haiku Calendar 2026* (Snapshot Press, 2025).





# THE HAIKU CALENDAR COMPETITION 2025

### **ADJUDICATOR'S REPORT**

Many thanks to everyone who entered this 27th annual contest, and to those who help to publicize this international haiku 'event'.

This year, 1,288 haiku were received from 145 poets residing in 15 countries across 4 continents: USA (81 entrants), England (25), Canada (11), Australia (9), Scotland (3), Wales (3), Ireland (2), Japan (2), New Zealand (2), Northern Ireland (2), Greenland (1), The Netherlands (1), Romania (1), Slovenia (1), and Switzerland (1).

As ever, in the initial stage of adjudication each poem entered faced one simple criterion: its quality as a haiku. The shortlisted haiku were then also judged according to their originality and relevance to their assigned months, particularly with regards to seasonal references.

With 52 haiku by 42 authors, the resulting 2026 calendar continues a rich tradition exploring and celebrating the continuing relevance of seasonality in English-language haiku. The existence of the calendar, which is only made possible by participation in this contest, also allows us to appreciate individual haiku such as these:

what J always feel but seldom tell you cherry blossoms

John Stevenson (USA)

an old hymn sung in 3/4 time maplewind

Joshua St. Claire (USA)

yellow buckthorn the lemonade stand kids offer a card reader

Ingrid Jendrzejewski (England)

Christmas Eve the stories we tell our children

Beth Powell (Canada)

Many thanks again to all entrants for making the calendar a highly worthwhile, and ongoing, experience. I would like to congratulate all the winning poets, and I hope that their haiku will be widely appreciated throughout the coming year.

John Barlow

The Haiku Calendar 2026 is published by Snapshot Press, priced £14·00 (UK); 20 Euros (Europe); £19·00/US \$27 (Overseas). Prices include postage and packaging. Orders may be sent on the slip below.

The Haiku Calendar Competition 2026, for haiku to be considered for *The Haiku Calendar 2027*, is now open. The entry deadline is January 31, 2026. Full entry details are available on the Snapshot Press website: www.snapshotpress.co.uk

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