

THE HAIKU CALENDAR COMPETITION 2025

WINNERS

January	'Orion'	John Rowlands (Wales)
February	'a dunnock's song'	Richard Tindall (England)
March	'March rain'	Laurie D. Morrissey (USA)
April	'what I always feel'	John Stevenson (USA)
May	'woven into'	Diane Tomczak (USA)
June	'yellow buckthorn'	Ingrid Jendrzewski (England)
July	'drifting off'	Rob Scott (Australia)
August	'purple hills'	Simon Chard (Scotland)
September	'cold morning sun'	Rebecca Lilly (USA)
October	'an old hymn'	Joshua St. Claire (USA)
November	'deep beneath the mud'	Carole MacRury (USA)
December	'Christmas Eve'	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'	Jeff Hoagland (USA) 'Geminids'	Paula Sears (USA) 'cold sunrise'
Curtis Alan (USA) 'deep chill'	Frank Hooven (USA) 'autumn air'	Joshua St. Claire (USA) 'The Nutcracker'
Jo Balistreri (USA) 'morning breeze'	Erica Ison (England) 'night frost'	Mary Stevens (USA) 'moonlight' 'nightfall' 'sap rising'
Chuck Brickley (USA) 'fly agaric'	Rebecca Lilly (USA) 'beaver moon rising'	John Stevenson (USA) 'another perfect'
Chris Bruner (USA) 'racing'	Sharon Martina (USA) 'afternoon snooze'	Ian Storr (England) 'Bonfire Night'
Simon Chard (Scotland) 'smouldering midden' 'spring hike'	Joanne E. Miller (England) 'discovering'	Debbie Strange (Canada) 'cattle roundup'
Margaret Chula (USA) 'hummingbird'	Polona Oblak (Slovenia) 'the time it takes'	Carly Siegel Thorp (USA) 'shallow pond'
Cherie Hunter Day (USA) 'midnight'	Helen Ogden (USA) 'sweet corn'	Richard Tindall (England) 'a buck legs it'
Michael Dudley (Canada) 'snowy solstice'	Roland Packer (Canada) 'short-day sun'	C.X. Turner (England) 'buttercup field'
Helen Gaen (England) 'your grave'	Beth Powell (Canada) 'summer solstice'	Marilyn Appl Walker (USA) 'making do'
Garry Gay (USA) 'All Soul's Day'	Dave Reynolds (USA) 'lovers in the park'	Billie Wilson (USA) 'false spring'
Robert Gilliland (USA) 'the day begins'	Rich Schilling (USA) 'blazing sun'	
	Ron Scully (USA) 'used bookstore'	

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

Note to authors: Please use the following acknowledgements when publishing these haiku in collections or anthologies.
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www.snapshotpress.co.uk

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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 I 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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