

Poetry Contest Guidelines

1. The Contest is open to all Central Georgia Technical College students, faculty and staff.
2. The contest will run from March 1 to March 21, 2017. **Deadline for entries is March 21 at 11:59 PM.**
3. Please submit poems or haiku as attached documents to : library@centralgatech.edu
4. Type your poem in Times New Roman 12 pt. or similar typeface. Do not include illustrations or pictures.
5. **Include your Name, Address, Phone Number, Email Address and Student ID Number (if you have one) on your entries.** *Judges will not see any entrant's contact information during the selection process.*
6. Each entrant may submit two poems (one free verse and one haiku, or two free verse, or two haiku).
7. Submit each poem on a separate page. (Judges will consider each poem separately).
8. Only one copy, or version, of each poem may be submitted. The first poem received is the version the judges will see. You may not make revisions of any poem or haiku and resubmit a second time.
9. Poems may be submitted without titles, but for contest coordination and selection purposes, untitled poems will use the first line of the poem as the title.
10. Each **Free Verse** poem must not exceed twenty-eight lines. Please single space (you may double space between verses). Please keep the poem to one page.
11. Each **Haiku** must be three lines. Line one is five syllables, line two is seven syllables, and line three is five syllables. (See "**Haiku Requirements**" on page 2).
12. Each poem must be your original work and must not have been published elsewhere previously.
13. Winners will be invited to read their poems at the Poetry Celebration Day Ceremony on April 13, 2017, 3:00–4:30pm and receive their award and certificate. (Location: Warner Robins campus, Building A, Library Atrium).
14. Prizes will be awarded to winners in two categories: (1) Students, (2) Faculty/Staff . For each category first prize will be \$50.00, second prize is \$30.00, and third prize is \$20.00.
15. Winners will be individually notified shortly after judging concludes on April 5. All winners will be publicly announced one week before the awards ceremony.
16. Library staff, as sponsors of the contest, and judges, as selectors of winners, may not enter the contest.

Haiku Requirements:

Haiku is a traditional form of Japanese poetry using only three lines. Line one must be five syllables, line two is seven syllables, and line three is five syllables. Haiku does not rhyme. Haiku should “paint” a mental image in the reader’s mind. The challenge of writing haiku is to put meaning and imagery in the reader’s mind in only seventeen **syllables** (not words, although some words may have only one syllable).

Recap:

*Remember to use the 5 – 7 – 5 syllable/line format when writing haiku.

Haiku 5 – 7 – 5 rule explained:

HAIKU LINE ONE

Five - syl - la - bles - here

1 2 3 4 5

HAIKU LINE TWO

Sev - en - syl - la - bles - this - line

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

HAIKU LINE THREE

Then - five - a - gain - here

1 2 3 4 5

HAIKU LINE ONE

I am first with five

1 2 3 4 5

HAIKU LINE TWO

Then seven in the middle

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

HAIKU LINE THREE

Five again to end

1 2 3 4 5

Example haiku:

Windy winter rain
My silly big umbrella
Tries walking backward.

Shisei-Jo

Note:

The CGTC Libraries have several books on writing poetry, including Haiku; some give examples of each type of poetry. These books are also good sources for ideas. Most may be checked out of the Library. Some are in electronic format and may be accessed online.