

**17th International "Kusamakura" Haiku Competition
in Kumamoto**

Contest Description

In 1996, the "Kusamakura" Haiku Competition was held in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of Natsume Soseki's arrival in Kumamoto. This contest strives to celebrate the novelist and haiku poet Soseki, as well as to bring awareness of "Kumamoto and its Haiku" to the national level and further develop Kumamoto's haiku culture. We are especially looking forward to receiving entries from applicants for this year's haiku competition.

Entry Rules for non-Japanese contributors :

(1) Applicants

Open to anyone

(2) Deadline

September 10, 2012

(3) Application guidelines

Entry must be submitted by mail or homepage.

Each applicant can enter up to two haiku poems. Entries via the homepage are only possible in English.

Please include: Name, current address, gender, e-mail address, and phone number

(4) Fee

Free. One person can send two pieces of Haiku (only unpublished works)

(5) Contest results

Winners will be informed by mail at the beginning of November 2012

(6) Awards ceremony

An awards ceremony will be held at the Kumamoto City General Gymnasium and Youth Center on November 17, 2012, but overseas applicants will have their prize money mailed to them.

(7) Publications

Publications will only be sent to winning individuals during the latter half of February 2013

Winning haikus will be displayed on our homepage.

Home Page [http:// kusamakura-haiku.jp/](http://kusamakura-haiku.jp/)

(8) Judges

Morio Nishikawa (Professor emeritus at Kumamoto University)

Richard Gilbert (Associate Professor at Kumamoto University)

(9) Prizes

•Kusamakura Taisho (Grand Prize) to one winner : ¥50,000

•Chikasuitoshi Kumamoto Shou(Kumamoto 'City of Artesian Waters' Haiku Award)to one winner : commemorative gift

•Tokusen (Second Prize) to 8 Winners : ¥5,000

•Nyusen (Third Prize) to 20 winners

Please send your haiku to :

"Kusamakura" Haiku Competition Office

c/o Bunka Shinko Ka

(Cultural and International Affairs Section)

City of Kumamoto

1-1 Tetorihoncho, chuou-ku Kumamoto City 860-8601 Japan

"Kusamakura" Haiku Home Page [http:// kusamakura-haiku.jp/](http://kusamakura-haiku.jp/)