

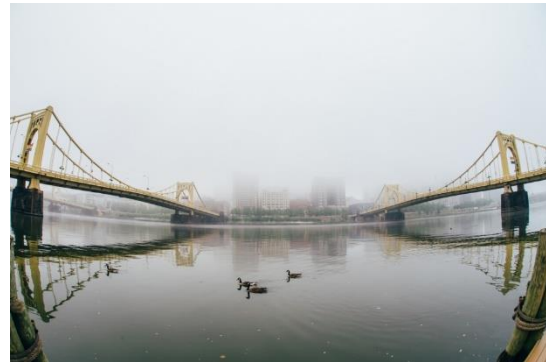
These haiku were composed by students in “Introduction to Japanese Literature.” The students were asked to compose haiku about familiar places, either at home or here at the University of Pittsburgh, and to include photos or headnotes as they saw fit. The following collection is just a sample of the work of our talented poets!

A shining gemstone  
Cradled by our three rivers:  
My heart, my true home.



(Cassandre Dawe)

City of rivers  
Does the sun ever come out?  
Where do I go now?



(Wesley Hackman)

The Deer Path

My small hands release,  
The toad plunges, belly first,  
The sound of water.

(Kayko Okawa)

Four floors full of books  
with students piled inside  
immersed in essays

(Alison Sabolcik)

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To be Rocked to Sleep  
by the Lullaby of Cars  
Speeding Down the Street

(Kristopher Hobel)

Haiku in response to my hometown, Jinan,  
which is a beautiful Chinese city with rich  
historical backgrounds.

Belt of mists and clouds,  
Are the secret and beauty  
of grand Mountain Tai.

(Yuan Gao)

Spanning the buildings  
The crows congregate as one  
To keep warm tonight

(Katelyn Pellegrino)

PNC Park

Intense summer games  
The buildings colored with light  
The sight warms the heart

(Andrew Lynn)

Philadelphia,  
Lovingly referred to as  
“Home of the Cheesesteaks”

Past the Art Museum,  
Biking down through the darkness,  
Alone with my thoughts



(Cindy  
Dinh)

I have lived in the same apartment building for two years now, and for some reason a massive amount of crows have decided to suddenly lay claim to the trees outside. They arrived in early November and have been there ever since. Walking to class at dusk when they appear most active, I am torn between feelings of humor at the ridiculous number of crows, and terror at the ridiculous number of crows. I think these crows, as creatures of death, are emblematic of both the weather and my sentiments going into finals week.

The crows' piercing caws—  
Leaves swirl in the winter wind.  
“Screw you, December.”  
(James Westbay)

This haiku is a memory from last spring when it was a nice day on the lawn underneath the Cathedral of Learning. That day and the view is still a very vivid memory.

The grass on my neck  
Tickles as I gaze upward  
At the very peak  
(Aidan Obritz)

Can't find the bus stop.  
Downtown — I'm so confused now.  
Sixth and Wood, I'm lost.  
(Sydney Leslie)

Finished the exams  
I finally graduated  
Stay in or move out  
(Wenqian Yang)

*Home* (Easton)  
Easton to Cali.  
I now learn that home is not  
Always about place.  
(Ben McClymont)

The Tunnel  
A long stretch of dark  
Reaching the end I see it  
The light of Pittsburgh  
(Oliver Jia)

Bridges  
Prometheus tied  
to three rivers, bleeding  
innards: cars, repeat  
(Nick Zak)

Colorful blossoms  
Fragrance hangs thick in the air  
Beauty under glass



(Cassandre Dawe)

The incline

Suspended ascent  
Winter air frosts the city  
Illuminated

(Laura Patterson)

Stewartsville, NJ

The mighty pine tree  
Stands firmly in the front yard,  
Covered in fresh snow

(Marc Damato)

Glistening snowflakes  
falling slowly from the sky  
winter wonderland

(Pei-Hsuan Lin)

The Duquesne Incline (Pittsburgh)

Life seems different  
When you're on top of the world.  
(Or at least Pittsburgh)

(Ben McClymont)

With music blasting  
And cars surrounding us all  
Traffic is the worst

(Sara Sanders)

Butler, PA

Within my village  
An ancient church is set  
Holding out time

(Cody Karch)

In the window of  
the warm local bakery.  
Christmas cookies sit.

(Sean Poorman)

Delays

The Tunnels are closed  
Potholes everywhere you look  
Construction ahead

(Mike Fitzgerald)

Fallingwater  
Fabulous design  
A house standing on water

I want to live there  
(Yonghui Li)

Flying back and forth  
A second home in Japan  
Don't you love sushi?

(Shih-Hao Chu)

My Grandmother's House in Lawrenceville

Summer's heat simmers  
Smells of fresh pierogis spread.  
I can't wait to eat

(Andrea Radziminski)

### Pittsburgh

Black and yellow hues  
Bleed from our proud, steadfast veins.  
Go Steelers! Go Pens!  
(Cecilia Chi)

The swings in the park  
That Korean restaurant  
Home is nostalgia  
(Alex Chew)

### Hometown

The high bell tower  
Cast a long shadow on cars  
Majestic figure  
(Wenhua Wu)

### Victory Lights

Distant in the sky  
Could I be seeing this right?  
Triumphant again!  
(Marisa DiGiulio)

The lips of the sky  
Pull back into grey clouds and  
Send light streaming down  
(Christine Chidron)

It's cold all day long  
It's daytime half of the year  
City of bridges  
(Gustavo Ayes)

### Hometown (Philly Suburbs)

Forest trails in parks  
My dog pees on a small bush  
Satisfied, he runs  
(Tracy Lam)

### Dusk

Sun prepares to rest  
Gives the world one final show  
Fire in the sky  
(Marisa DiGiulio)

