



From The Lily Pad

SPRING | SUMMER 2024

Thank you for receiving the Nick Virgilio Haiku Association newsletter!

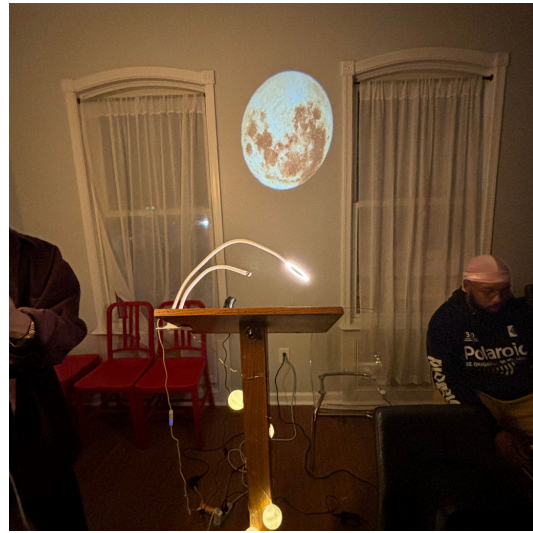
Providing free literary arts programs to local and global communities would be impossible without your support. For more information on the Nick Virgilio Haiku Association, please visit us at nickvirgiliohaiku.org.

Consider supporting NVHA's work by donating [here](#). We deeply appreciate your generous contributions and continuous support.



We Partnered with Local Poets to Lead *The Midnight Notes in Q1 2024*





If you follow us on social media, you know the Midnight Notes group writing workshops have been going strong for the past three months. This year we decided to feature some local poets to read their poetry throughout the workshops to help engage the group and encourage more attendees to share their own work. Thanks to the beautiful readings of these local poets, this season has been our most successful yet.

Relive the moments here on Instagram.

Thank you to our featured poets:

- Jovaan "Cloudy" Torres
- Noely (Natalie Picardo)
- Destiny Karizma (Johnson)
- Pauline Monter
- Rae.Dianz (Summer Adams)
- Rieko Safiyya
- Carlie Free

And a special thank you to our dynamic host Reet Starwind, and to our returning South Jersey-based tea vendor, [Hush Herbals](#).

Meet us at the Writer's House at 1801 Broadway in Camden, NJ on May 4th from 10:30 PM EDT - 12:00 AM EDT for the last workshop of the

spring. Join our host's live stream of this session on Instagram @mrstarwind. Because of the late start time, this event is exclusively for poets and poetry lovers **who are age 18 or older.**

Follow us on social media for news on when The Midnight Notes series starts again!

Ginko Walk at a Pennsauken Pond

**THE NICK VIRGILIO HAIKU ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS:**

GINKO* AT THE POND

Our first ***ginko walk**** of 2024 will be held at Tippin's Pond along the Delaware River in Pennsauken, NJ! Join us as we write poetry while walking along the Heritage Pond Boardwalk, ending at the pond. It's an amazing place to view birds and wildlife, and we'll have a phenomenal view of Philadelphia at sunset.

****ginko walk = an observational walk in nature to inspire haiku.***

Follow us for updates:

IG: @nickvirgiliowritershouse
FB: Nick Virgilio Haiku Association
X: @NVWritersHouse

421 Cove Road, Pennsauken NJ 08110
WITH REET STARWIND

**SUNDAY,
APRIL 28
2024**

**6:30 PM EDT -
7:45 PM EDT**

Join us this Sunday evening at 6:30 PM EDT for our first ginko walk of 2024 at the Heritage Pond Boardwalk on Tippin's Pond in Pennsauken,

NJ. We'll write haiku while looking out at the Philadelphia skyline. This event will also be live streamed on the NVHA Instagram page.

The Nicholas A. Virgilio Memorial Haiku and Senryu Contest Judging is Complete: *Results to Be Announced*

The judging process is complete and we're grateful to have received 2,048 haiku and/or senryu entries from 749 youth from around the world in this year's contest. **Look for the final results of the contest to be released soon via social media!** All selected winners will receive a prize of \$250 and be featured by the Haiku Society of America.

In the meantime, here are some responses from these students on how they feel about haiku as a poetic art form and how it's helpful for them.

What I like writing about haiku is:

"...the space for creativity and revision until perfection."

- *Avery from New York*
12th grade

"...that it helps me focus on a thought and put it into words."

- *Sophia from California*
10th grade

"...I like writing haikus because they display vivid images of nature and reveal hidden messages about society and life. I like the overall length of haikus because they capture a moment in life in just a few short lines."

- *Aaron from Pennsylvania,*
11th grade

"...It allows me to write down what I am truly feeling instead of keeping everything to myself. When writing haiku I feel safer, like I can say what I am feeling without having anyone judge me."

- *Isabella from Texas*
10th grade

Haiku helps me:

"...It helps me calm down and relax."

- *Charlotte (location unavailable)*
9th grade

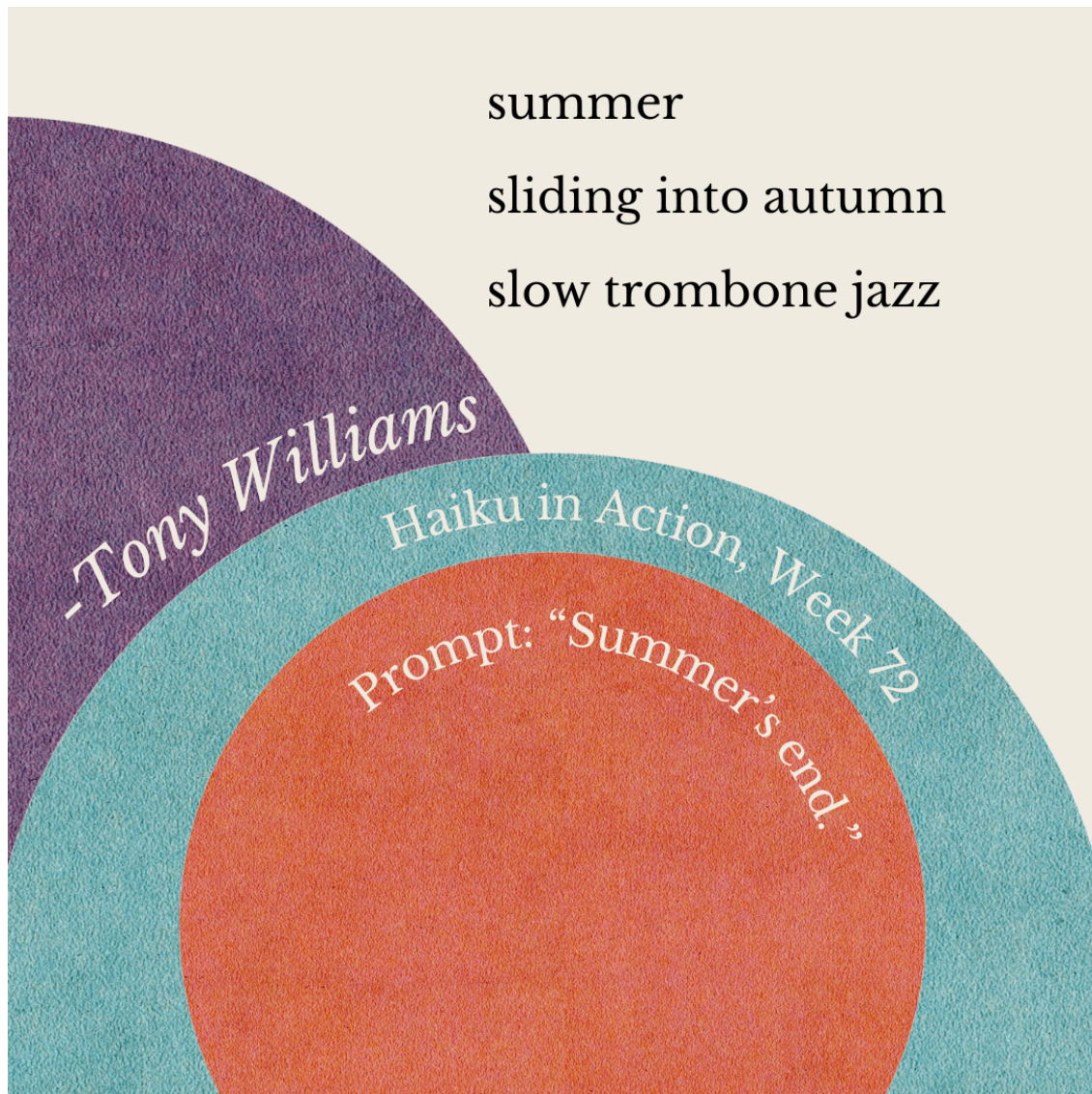
"...Think in the present and keep a clear mind, it's a lot like meditation."

- *Nicolas from Virginia*
7th grade

"...Haikus help me view the world in a way that I didn't before."

- *Julia from Ohio*
11th grade

HIA Submitter Makes Touchstone Short List



summer

sliding into autumn

slow trombone jazz

The NVHA team is sending a big congratulations to Tony Williams from Scotland on the accomplishment of making [the Touchstone Awards for Individual Poems Short List](#) with his Haiku in Action submission from week 72.

[Submit to Haiku in Action](#) for a chance to be featured in our weekly online publication.

"You've Heard of Haiku: Now Try Sijo!" Online Workshop



Elizabeth Jorgensen and Lucy Park pictured above from left to right.

If you're familiar with haiku, you may very well have heard of the traditional three-line Korean poetic form known as sijo. We were very grateful to have hosted an online beginner-level sijo workshop with sijo educators Lucy Park and Elizabeth Jorgensen on April 6th.

Lucy is one of the founding members of a non-profit that works to increase awareness of Korea's cultural heritage among the U.S. population, and Elizabeth is an award-winning writer and high school English teacher.

If you weren't able to attend, here's some relevant information from the session:

Here are some links from the workshop that you might find useful about the Sejong Cultural Society:

- [Sejong Cultural Society](#)
- Sejong Cultural Society's [sijo competition for North America](#) & the [International Competition](#)

- Sejong Cultural Society's [YouTube channel](#) & [Sijo Resource Page](#)
- [Elizabeth's presentation](#)
- [Who Judges My Poem? What Do They Look For?](#)
- [Sijo: Korea's Poetry Form](#) (Parkyoung)

Stay tuned for news of the next online sijo workshop geared towards educators and teachers in June.

Nick Virgilio
Annual Memorial
Celebration

JUNE 23, 2024

2:00 PM - until

HARLEIGH CEMETERY,
CAMDEN NJ

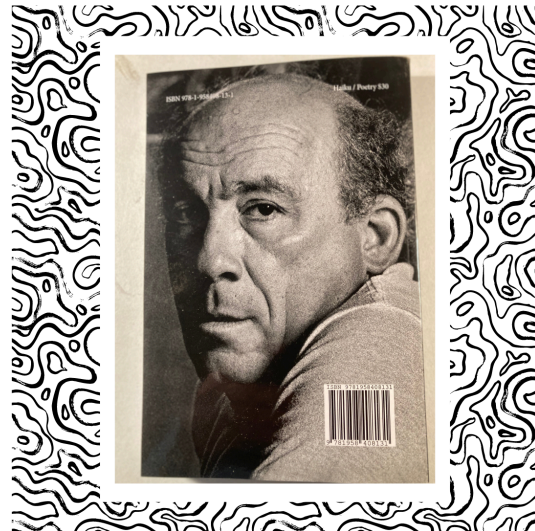
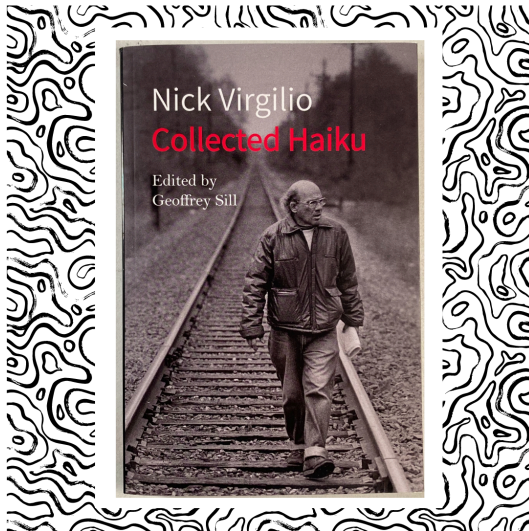
SAVE THE DATE AND FOLLOW NVHA FOR
MORE EVENT UPDATES AND INFORMATION!



Upcoming Annual Memorial Ceremony for Nick Virgilio

Save the date for our annual memorial ceremony at Harleigh Cemetery on June 23, from 2:00 PM EDT - until! We'll read poetry and have cake in celebration of the life and poetic legacy of Nick Virgilio. Bring a lawn chair and some poetry to share.

Grab a Copy of our Latest Book of Haiku



Buy Now

If you haven't gotten your hands on a copy of the our newly-released book of Nick Virgilio's haiku already, you can [purchase a copy right now on our website](#) for **\$30**.

"Nick Virgilio: Collected Haiku 1963-2012 brings together all of the haiku published by Nicolas A. Virgilio in his lifetime and some published

posthumously. One of the co-founders of the Haiku Society of America, Nick was an important voice in the establishment of English-language haiku. Inspired by translations of traditional Japanese poetry, Nick painted word-pictures of the urban landscape in Camden, New Jersey, where he lived most of his life.

He celebrated the city while documenting its decline in the 1960s and '70s. He remembered his brother Larry while lamenting his death in Vietnam in 1967. He marked the passing of the seasons and the passage of life. His exquisitely crafted poems will please many experienced readers of haiku and inspire a new generation of poets, as he was inspired by Buson and Harold G. Henderson. This book makes a substantial contribution to the story of haiku in America."

- *Geoffrey Sill, Editor*

For more insight on the poetry in *Collected Haiku*, [see this full review](#) from Nicholas Klacsanzky for Frogpond 27.1.

If you would like to send a check for payment, please mail it to:

Nick Virgilio Haiku Association
c/o Palley
1924 Mt. Vernon Street
Philadelphia, PA 19130

Thank you the Camden County Cultural and Heritage Commission for their generous contributions to poetry programming:



Made possible by funds from the Camden County Cultural & Heritage Commission at Camden County College, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

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