

Midwest Sijo Competition 2022 Grand Prize Winners

The East Asian Studies Center at The Ohio State University with support from the Korea Foundation present the winners of the 2022 Midwest Sijo Student Competition for K-12 students to honor the traditional Korean form of poetry.

High School Division (Kentucky, Ohio, and Wisconsin):

Grand Prize: Ella Fosterling, *Arrowhead Union High School*

clouds stand still, they look painted
on the canvas of the blue sky.
soft grass tickles my arms and legs.
birds chirp loud. not loud enough,
to drown out the screams and yelling
of my parents inside the house

Grand Prize Honorable Mention: Raelyn Schweinsberg, *Wayne Trace High School*

An unadorned vase that holds life's worries like precious flowers
A variety of things in our world are intricate
Petals fall as pressure rises; our delicate world's footing cracks

Elementary/Middle School Division (Kentucky, Ohio, and Wisconsin):

Grand Prize: Celia Rademan, *Pittsville Elementary School*

The pale moonlight reflects on the white snow, casting shadows.
The tree branches hitting each other in an endless fight
finally, peace for the rest of the night. I sleep until morning.

Grand Prize Honorable Mention: Mia Moore, *Olentangy Liberty Middle School*

Galloping through unending fields, dreaming that I will never leave your side.
Listen to the steady beat, feeling jovial, tranquil, free.
My tears flow like rivers; you left breaking my heart. I miss you, friend.

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High School Division (Kentucky and Ohio):

First Place:

Raelyn Schweinsberg

10th Grade, Wayne Trace High School

An unadorned vase that holds life's worries like precious flowers
A variety of things in our world are intricate
Petals fall as pressure rises; our delicate world's footing cracks

Honorable Mention (tied, listed alphabetically):

Mckenzie Qurshi

12th Grade, Millersport Jr/Sr High School

Long early morning runs, along a glistening lake.
this healthy lifestyle; anti-aging, beauty enhancing
My sweat drips freely; I stink of fear, I'm being chased.

Ava Stoller

9th Grade, Wayne Trace High School

I had an assignment to do
Making a bowl and tray from clay

Glazing the pieces with pink and blue
Into the kiln, they go

My tray came out lopsided
And my bowl has disappeared

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Elementary/Middle School Division (Kentucky and Ohio):

First Place:

Mia Moore

7th Grade, Olentangy Liberty Middle School

Galloping through unending fields, dreaming that I will never leave your side.
Listen to the steady beat, feeling jovial, tranquil, free.
My tears flow like rivers; you left breaking my heart. I miss you, friend.

Second Place (tied, listed alphabetically):

Jacob Linley

7th Grade, Olentangy Liberty Middle School

Gliding on the glistening water flowing swiftly behind
Swerving side to side, fluently drifting closer,
The tube is close to its demise, as the wave hits and it flips

Cole Taylor

8th Grade, Ironton Middle School

The icy coldness surrounding me, making me shiver,
The emptiness filling up with icy water and warm tears,
In the warm eyes of the red sun beating down at my golden back.

Alaina Wilds

8th Grade, Ironton Middle School

What a colorful, beautiful bush. It is filled with flowers.
Big ones, small ones, blue ones, red ones, yellow ones. How beautiful.
In a flash, the bush moves. Many butterflies fly away.

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Honorable Mention (tied, listed alphabetically):

Ace Collins

8th Grade, Ironton Middle School

Today I have a test, and I think it will be easy.
I go in to the test confident. I think I will do well.
When I get the test, I'm happy, but then I realize I failed.

Mason Davidson

8th Grade, Ironton Middle School

Space, it is so far away; nowhere near here, but pleasant it is,
So dark, so quiet. Peacefully, I sit watching the stars.
Abruptly, all the stars vanish in the morning sun.

Simone Lewis

8th Grade, Ironton Middle School

The subtle beak peeks, flowing through a reef's pretentiousness;
Coming from the dark, impressive depths, and the need to surface;
Skilled adaptation in between the blues and greens of the sea.

Madillyn Newman

8th Grade, Ironton Middle School

Soldiers fight for our freedoms. They're our heroes, risking it all:
Their whole lives are put on the line for all of us "good" people.
How do we "good" people repay them? By letting them be homeless.

Ella Spires

8th Grade, Olentangy Liberty Middle School

Birds chirping, sun is shining. Windows open, to summer breeze.
Kids splashing, Flip-Flops clacking. Coats of sunscreen, as the sun shines.
How can you enjoy all of this, if its cold in Ohio?
