

Regarding the changing in the method of holding the 2nd Morioka International Haiku Contest

Considering the situation surrounding the new coronavirus infectious disease the Morioka International Haiku Contest Executive Committee has decided to change the method of holding the contest at the committee held today.

1 Amendments

Award ceremony and talk sessions including Kukai which gather participants in one place will be cancelled. Here is the alternative method for these events.

(1) Award ceremony will be held on a smaller scale. The winning poems and commentary from the judges will be announced in a local newspaper.

(2) Winning poems collection book will be sent to all applicants of prior submission sections.

(3) Radio program will be created to showcase winning poems from the prior submission sections.

2 Reasons of making amendments

(1) The number of COVID-19 infected cases are increasing nationwide and positive cases were confirmed within the prefecture. The situation still has no prospect of faltering. Holding a contest which involves unspecified large number of people can accelerate anxiety and in turn make it difficult to hold a contest that pleases participants with the original method.

(2) Although we did consider the possibility of holding the contest with COVID-19 prevention measures such as controlling the numbers of participants or measuring body temperature and following the policies instructed by the government. However, from the applicants status of prior submission sections, we found out that most of the applicants are elderly which can amplify the risk to get severely ill if they are infected with COVID-19. Holding a gathering-type of contest in a venue will be too high of a risk if infected patient was found.