RENSSELAERVILLE LIBRARY · INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF HAIKU POETS

Two-Week Haiku Writers Residency

Rensselaerville, New York · October 2026

Application deadline: August 1, 2026

A two-week retreat offering poets time, privacy, and an environment for deep creative work — emphasizing independent practice, minimal obligation, and sustained engagement with place. Headquartered at the Rensselaerville Library.

RESIDENCY STRUCTURE

Length	Two consecutive weeks in October 2026 — exact dates chosen with the resident
Residents	One poet will be selected for October 2026
Location	Rensselaerville, NY — Helderberg Hills, Albany County, 27 mi SW of Albany
Headquarters	Rensselaerville Library — workspace, resources, and host community
Housing	Private furnished one-bedroom apartment with full kitchen, workspace, and Wi-Fi
Studio Time	Fully self-directed — no required workshops, seminars, or daily programming

ARTISTIC FOCUS

- *Haiku, Senryu, Haibun, Tanka*
- *Other haiku-adjacent short forms*

Traditional and innovative approaches equally welcome.

ELIGIBILITY

- *Open to all career stages*

SUPPORT PROVIDED

- *Housing at no cost*
- *$250 weekly meal stipend*
- *No application fee*

ABOUT RENSSELAERVILLE

A small historic hamlet at 1,800 ft in the Helderberg Hills, listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1984. Federal and Greek Revival architecture line streets that have changed little in two centuries. October brings peak fall color to the hills.

The Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve (2,000 acres) offers 12 miles of trails through forest, wetland, and meadow, along with Lake Myosotis and the 100-foot Rensselaerville Falls.

COMMUNITY

Residents are invited to participate in one public reading or conversation at the Rensselaerville Library.

GETTING THERE

40 min from Albany Intl Airport (ALB); NYC ~2.5 hrs; Boston ~3 hrs. Rural hamlet, no transit — a car is recommended. Station or Albany airport pickup can be arranged.

HOW TO APPLY

Email a single PDF containing the following by August 1, 2026:

- *Writing sample: 10–15 poems, or 3–5 haibun, or a comparable mix*
- *Brief statement of purpose (one page max)*
- *Short bio and contact information*

Subject line: Haiku Residency Application — [Your Name]

Send to:
director@rensselaervillelibrary.org

Decisions announced by August 15, 2026.

SELECTION

Competitive, merit-based review by poets and literary professionals affiliated with ISHP. Applications evaluated on artistic quality, writing samples, clarity of purpose, and alignment with the residency's contemplative, self-directed nature.

Questions and applications · Patrick Wynne, Rensselaerville Library Director
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