

Coming Together During a Global Pandemic

Tuscaloosa Sister Cities International –Haiku in English

We will meet on Zoom
We do work in pajamas
I miss human touch
Andy Paxton, Tuscaloosa

In March, the world changed
Can't see my friends, all alone,
Need to drink a beer.
Greg Madrid, Tuscaloosa

dawn whispers hello
I linger with my coffee
fear is still sleeping
Sandie Vaisnoras, Burr Ridge, Illinois

Although we are far
Our time together treasured
Bonds our hearts forever
Kelley Green, Tuscaloosa

At the zoo
Laughing through masks
As we feed the giraffes
Rose Marie Stutts, Tuscaloosa

Cicadas
Passing songs from tree to tree
A twilight choir
Rose Marie Stutts, Tuscaloosa

masked strangers glide by
superheroes who keep us
safe from Corona
Bridget Magee, Hünenberg See, Switzerland



following guidelines
no human embrace since March
alone together
Bridget Magee, Hünenberg See, Switzerland

home-officing with
a five-year-old and the fridge
the struggle is real
Bridget Magee, Hünenberg See, Switzerland

Smiles behind cloths
Caring for community
Voting to save lives
Sarah Baratta, University of Alabama

Struggling to survive
Do your lives have more value?
Please social distance
Sarah Baratta, University of Alabama

Foggy mind, hazed gaze
My body aches with covid
I shall stay in bed
Katherine Cheng, University of Alabama

It's weird, to not taste
All that's left is sensation
Because of covid
Katherine Cheng, University of Alabama

The walls of my room
Confine me for all these months
Feels like a prison
Katherine Cheng, University of Alabama

Only our eyes speak.
Words tangle behind our masks.
But still our hearts sing.
Teresa Owens Smith, Chicago, Illinois



masks on
it's hard to hear you without
seeing your lips

Mary Sella, Tuscaloosa

the checkout line
a little boy smiles at me
with his eyes

Mary Sella, Tuscaloosa

outdoor worship
masks on, keeping our distance
a chorus of birds

Mary Sella, Tuscaloosa

COVID-19 floor
the nurses celebrate her
ninety-third birthday

Mary Sella, Tuscaloosa

pandemic
statistics show a spike
in online dating

Mary Sella, Tuscaloosa

I'm cleaning the house
To make sure there are no germs
The house is clean again

Aakilyah Black, Tuscaloosa

I miss seeing Dad
I can't see him because
Coronavirus

Ja'Kiyah Cobbs, Tuscaloosa

Can't go anywhere
I miss my friends very much
I wish this was gone

Kinley Presley, Tuscaloosa



I don't see my friend
I miss seeing all my friends
I miss my best friend
Taliah Wilder, Tuscaloosa

Masks covering smiles
How do we see happiness?
Look for crinkly eyes
Helen Kampion, Wayland, Massachusetts

Our selfish world changed
Neighbors now helping neighbors
Some good comes from bad?
Helen Kampion, Wayland, Massachusetts

Dressing to go out
Make-up, hair, outfit, jewelry
One last thing...a mask!
Helen Kampion, Wayland, Massachusetts

Masks in rainbow hues
Show individual style:
Fashion on faces
Joannie Duris, Hubbardston, Massachusetts

Social distance? Nope.
Seeking comfort, snuggled close
Cats purring on laps
Joannie Duris, Hubbardston, Massachusetts

Pandemic wildlife
Strut fur and feathers down streets
Live entertainment
Joannie Duris, Hubbardston, Massachusetts

black crow on white snow
a turning in November –
nature's negative
Linda Baie, Denver, Colorado



Separated Now
Pandemic summer of woe
Friends offer solace
Scotty Colson, Birmingham, Alabama

death stares out at us
from our television news—
yet spring still blossoms
Lamon Brown, Birmingham, Alabama

My gym is shut down.
For exercise I'm walking
fast to Krispy Kreme.
Linda T. Roberson, Birmingham, Alabama

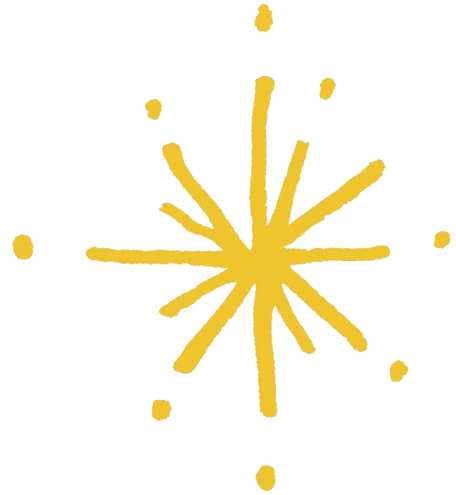
Day in and day out
Sitting at home by myself
Keeping the world safe
Michael Perry, Birmingham, Alabama

The virus destroys
But we will overcome all
Only together
Spike Burt, Birmingham, Alabama

Covid pandemic
A lot of time to crochet
Five finished blankets
Joan Kammer, Birmingham, Alabama

Friendship means the world
In good times and in bad times
We lift each other up
Blake Pritchett, Birmingham, Alabama

Haikus are easy
But sometimes they don't make sense
Refrigerator
Shannon Henderson, Birmingham, Alabama



Apart together
We chart an uncertain course
The map is within
Hunter C. Hughes, Birmingham, Alabama

Masks are the new normal
Maybe even after virus
I'm ok with that
Wendy Steele, Birmingham, Alabama

A haiku in memory of Congressman John Lewis and Reverend CT Vivian:

They sacrificed all,
Building a more just country,
Passing the baton.
Dr. Pam Foster, Tuscaloosa

ジョン・ルイス下院議員とC.T.ビビアン牧師に捧ぐ
マーティン・ルーサー・キング牧師の知己であり、アメリカ人公民権運動のリーダーであった二人は、コロナ禍の夏、奇しくも同じ日(2020年7月17日)に亡くなりました。