

**Write Now Hawkeye Haiku Contest 2025**  
***Honorable Mentions***

**Grades 3 & 4:**

Softball Champs

Softball champs—so fun  
Cheering in the dugout: “Yay!”  
Our hard work paid off!  
- Scarlett G., Kansas

Time Jumps

First house keys in hand  
You remember your first steps  
Goodbye my old life  
-Sky O., Iowa

**Grades 5 & 6:**

It is a big day  
The beginning of an age  
Food, fun and games,10!  
-Seb D., Iowa

Turning ten is big  
So much happened in your life  
But so much to go  
-Jasper H., Iowa

**Grades 7 & 8:**

I finally won  
After trying and failing  
The work has paid off  
-Braelyn V., Iowa

Close to the summit,  
Giving up is not a choice  
Can not give up now!  
-Piper L., Iowa

**Grades 9-12:**

A new day begins  
The past slips slowly away  
I breathe and feel peace  
-Catherine M., Iowa

The final bell rings

Through tears and laughter, you grew  
High school is complete  
-Meredith W., Iowa

The grass is wet, slick  
The ball flies across the field  
Goal, the game winner  
-Ashton W., Iowa

### **Adult, University of Iowa Alumni:**

University  
Dorm room, an untouched canvas.  
Make it your own, kid.  
-Chad Steffens (10BA, 10CER), Iowa

#### After Removing the Training Wheels

Keep her going and  
Keep her from falling on this  
wobbly wondrous ride.  
-Tom Fate (83BA, 87MA), Illinois

before you, was me  
a new face that looks like mine  
motherhood beckons  
-Lauren Petersen (16BA), Iowa

### **Adult, Non-Alumni (Friends):**

#### The Wave of Hope

Tiny hearts, brave smiles,  
we mark each step they conquer—  
healing starts with hope.  
-Fulden Aycan, Iowa

Deep inside, love grows.  
Through waves of pain, new life comes.  
A mother is born.  
-Julie Taylor, Iowa