



# HOMEWORDS: A Project of the Poet Laureate of Kansas

By Wyatt Townley

This week's theme is HOME AS HOUSE. Our poets explore "house" through the window of the **American**

**Cinquain**—22 syllables divided among five lines in this order: 2, 4, 6, 8, and back to 2.

**Christopher Coleman** of Lenexa was raised in Africa, grew up speaking French, and feels he's been "a fish out of water" his whole life. He works as a data architect for a medical software company and loves writing poetry. I like the contrast he points up between form and content:

*Suburbs  
of matching shapes  
and colors and sizes  
housing such extraordinary  
people*

**Mark Begnoche** of Concordia says he has "started writing now at age 54, more to come..." Home as bookshelves is surely a readers' (and writers') heaven.

*book shelves...  
too little time  
the homebodies lament  
paper paper everywhere, but...  
heaven*

Poets and poets-to-be of all ages from across the state are invited to submit to HomeWords. For guidelines, visit [www.kansashumanities.org](http://www.kansashumanities.org).

The Kansas Humanities Council is a nonprofit organization that supports community-based cultural programs and encourages Kansans to engage in the civic and cultural life of their communities.



Poet Christopher Coleman, Lenexa