

# The Calligraphers' Guild

October 1, 2020

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What a year it has been, what a month it has been! There isn't much more to say about what is happening in the world today other than: be safe, be healthy, be kind, wear a mask and remember to vote early. Many of us had to evacuate during the fires early in the month and fortunately, I believe no one from the guild lost their home. This is a time of reflection for us all and a time to be grateful for what we have.

Calligraphy and art help to calm us. Any activity that focuses attention helps to maintain sanity and I trust that each has found their way to peace during this time of chaos.

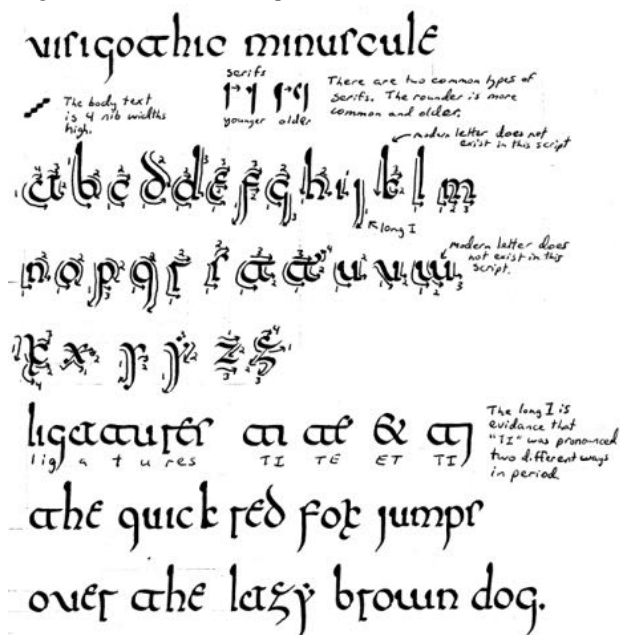
In this issue we continue Goly's history of art, view some art from various members and get a preview of the October mini workshop with Eleanor. We also get a glimpse of an old Portland building through Michael's eyes. I hope you enjoy the issue and remember that without your input and creativity, this newsletter would not exist...I am simply the one who puts it on paper...er online....)

Happy October!

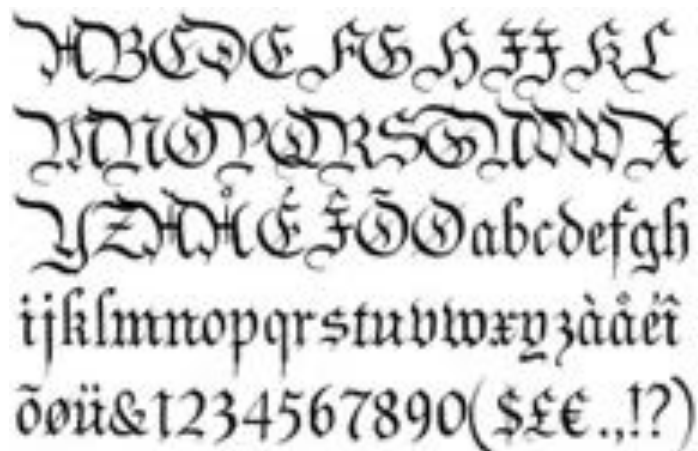
A little humor in a time when we all need something to smile about



**Two additional hands to consider after the wonderful presentations by Steve and Lynda at the September Zoom meeting. Thank you to Steve providing them.**



Gothic form used in parts of the Declaration of Independence



# Member Art Page 1

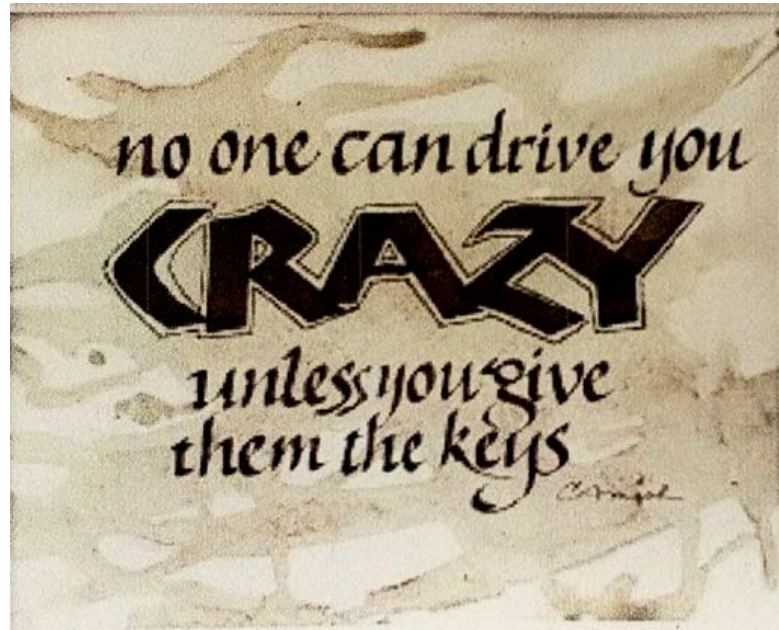
October 1, 2020



Goly Ostovar Life's roller coaster  
Blue parallel pen



Cynthia Mish



Cynthia Mish: Crazy



Michael Holstein is at it again!! Here are some photos from his book:

I'm involved in the safety and security of our 100+ year old condominium building, and I walk our three-story garage frequently. For the daily dose of steps I need and to check on building security.

The building was designed by Daniel Burnham who was the architect for the first skyscraper, the Flatiron Building in NYC and over 200 of the most distinguished of 20th-Century large buildings. He also helped to rebuild San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake. Now, fortunately, as I walk, I see many images in the walls, the floors and the large wooden pillars that form the garage. They speak to me. "Look, look, they say. So, I gotta look. I take pictures of them, all that wonderful figuration. And of course I made a book, who wouldn't!





## Hints and Ideas

**Let's see how many ideas and hints we can find for this newly created section of the newsletter. Please send your hints and ideas so this section can continue.**

- 1. Release you inner critic:** we are always our worst critic..look for the good in your piece, not the flaws
  - 2. Take photos:** you will be surprised at how much better you are than you think. As you do more and more calligraphy, your skill level will improve. It happens so gradually, though, that it's difficult to notice. Keeping a photographic record helps you to clearly see your progress
  - 3. Play at it:** don't work at it. Have fun doing this. It does not have to be perfect, it is supposed to be fun.
  - 4. Don't Compare yourself to others:** Remember that we are all on different levels of skill and experience. Some members have been doing art for years and some are new....be the best you can be.
  - 5. Practice:** How many languages to you speak? Think of calligraphy as a language and practice and repeat what you know and build on it.
  - 6. Sign it:** Be sure to sign and date your work, even if it is going in a box somewhere. You are an artist!
- compiled by Mary J. Danca

### Calligraphy Card Exchange

The Guild card exchange is about to begin. Starting this month those who have signed up with Joann will be sending cards to a person on their grid each month.

Joann has sent out the grid and 'instructions' to all those participating which are:

- have fun, or try to
- you may send whatever floats your boat, a card, a postcard . . .
- it should be sent sometime between the 1st and the last day

If you have not received the email, contact Joann directly.

Although there is no real deadline and there are 31 days in the month, how about trying to get the cards delivered by the next meeting on Oct. 24. That way, we may be able to do a little 'show and tell' at the end of the meeting.

### Why I love calligraphy

by Jennifer Diffley from [selecthealth.org](http://selecthealth.org)

I love calligraphy: It helps my brain. When I practice calligraphy, I feel myself entering a more focused state that instantly banishes my anxiety and makes me feel less depressed. That's because we activate parts of the brain only when hand writing. Those neural pathways do several things: They make us calmer and more meditative, and they make us better readers.

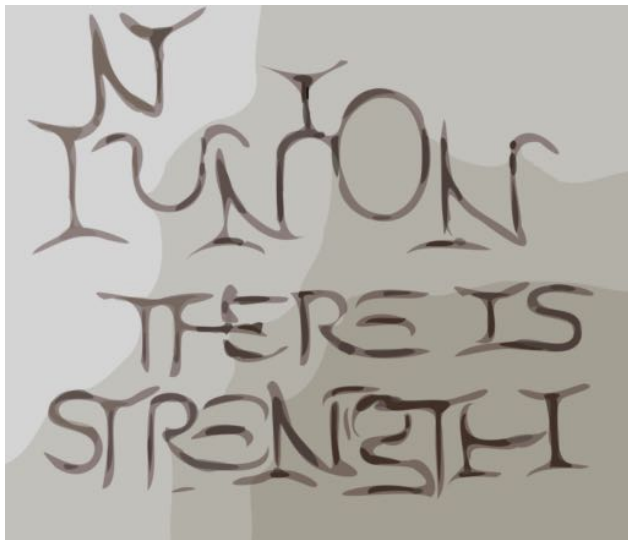
The experience I have practicing handwriting is completely different from typing or texting because it gives meaning to my words. After all, when it takes an hour to write half a paragraph, you need to choose your words wisely.

Besides the mental benefits, it's satisfying to create something beautiful and tangible, and there's also something captivating about watching people create videos of their calligraphy. Plus, calligraphy is difficult. It takes years of practice to become a master calligrapher, and even then, ink can smear, pens can betray you, and paper can tear. And every second is worth it.

### Why do YOU love calligraphy?

If each member would send one or two things that he/she loves about calligraphy, I will include it in the November issue. You could also write what other things you have passion for...watercolor, oils, pastels, sketching, card or bookmaking? What other arts/crafts have you explored? I suspect many things will be similar to the above excerpts and perhaps some new thoughts as well....

## Member Art Page 2



Goly Ostovar

"In union there is strength. "

Pencil, used up marker to get variations in tone,  
90 lbs smooth paper.



Goly Ostovar

Flame: Pencil and Black Itoya marker  
On smooth Arches watercolor paper  
Colors were added digitally.



Cynthia Mish: DaVinci's wisdom

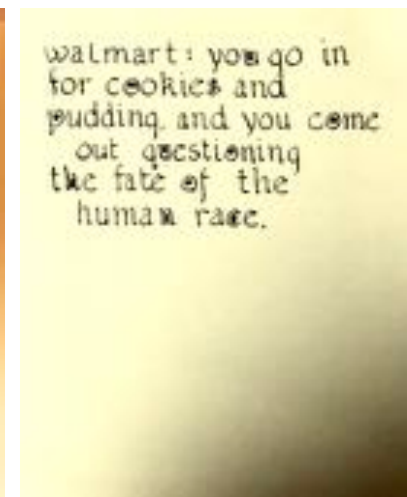
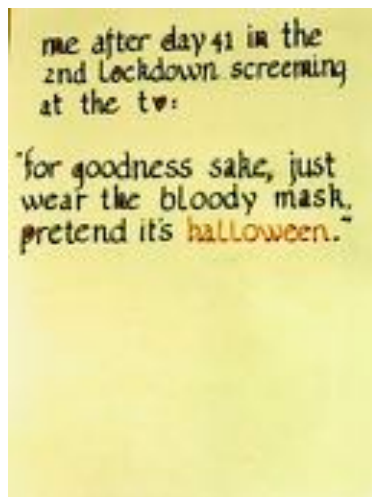


Steve Ostrander

Fascination and Frustration



Cynthia Mish: Knob,  
Fountain, Splash



Joann Cleckner: Handmade cards and messages

# A hummingbird, Art history, and understanding aesthetics!

## Part 2

Goly Ostovar

Last month Goly started us on an educational journey through aesthetics, art appreciation and historical art movements up to and including the Renaissance. She hopes that this information will help us understand and improve our personal art, design and composition, with calligraphy and other mediums that we explore. Here we continue her journey.

Now I'll skip some art movements until we get to the arrival of Romanticism (1780– 1850), This period is important because more focus was placed on imaginative elements, passion, and emotion. Another defining feature of Romanticism was appreciation for nature. Artists turned to plein air painting coming out of dark studios and paint outside.

Interestingly Realism also began around mid 1800's because of the rise in journalism, and the arrival of photography which inspired artists to accurately record everyday life.

Impressionism arrived in the late 1800's. Impressionists rebelled against classical subject matter and depiction of changing light and capturing moments of ordinary life became more important.

Cubism emphasized the flat picture plane and use of traditional perspective was rejected.

Surrealism was mostly focused on the idea of unconscious desires and dream state.

Abstract Expressionism focused on spontaneity, and improvisation.

Finally we arrive at Contemporary art period which encompasses 1970's to our present time.

This is a vast and diverse era and contains many movements and it continues to grow and change. Contemporary artists basically moved away from figurative imagery and delved into more conceptual works.

Contemporary art movement has renewed major interest in the calligraphic community. Calligraphers worldwide are putting less emphasis on text, letter form, legibility, and putting more energy into creating gestural and abstract work. They are attempting to engage the viewer emotionally and intellectually. Calligraphy is now moving in the direction of expressive painting.

I hope that this art journey has inspired us to distill our own personal philosophy of art and aesthetics. Let us look at calligraphy as an art form that requires us to go beyond learning letter forms and develop our artistic prowess to create works that engage and elicit an emotional response from our viewers.

It is possible and we will be able to create with such ease and freedom so that we can experience a similar feeling to the flight of a hummingbird darting in the garden in the morning sun.

### Local Class, Local Teacher, Great Price:

Maurice Logue's Black Lettering 8-week classes will start on Thursday, Oct 1 and Saturday October 3 from 10:00 AM to noon. Scrappy Craft was spared from the fire, is open for business, and is continuing with classes. For information on Maurice's class call Scrappy Craft at 541.512.0040 or call Maurice directly at 541.897.0410

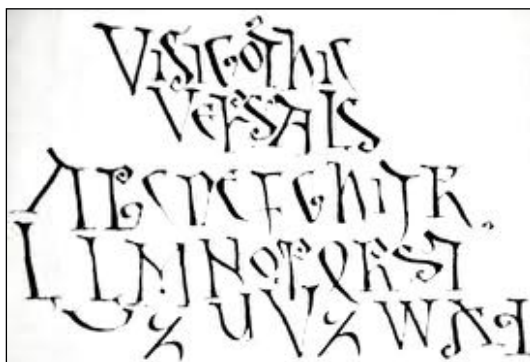


# Member Art Page 3

October 1, 2020



Goly Ostovar: Vote



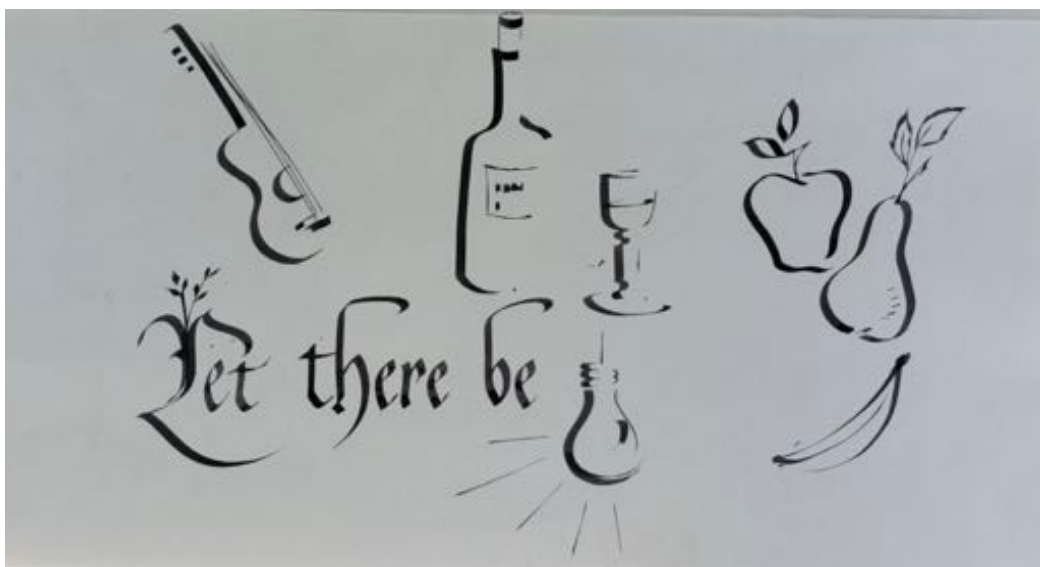
Steve Ostrander: Versals



Mary Danca: Dahlia fills a space



Goly Ostovar:



Cynthia Mish



Eleanor Lippman: Two cards that Eleanor will show in October



Linda Mallecoat

## October meeting: creative cards

How to cut, fold, and paste paper to form some very interesting and beautiful greeting cards. Look out, Hallmark, we are just as good!

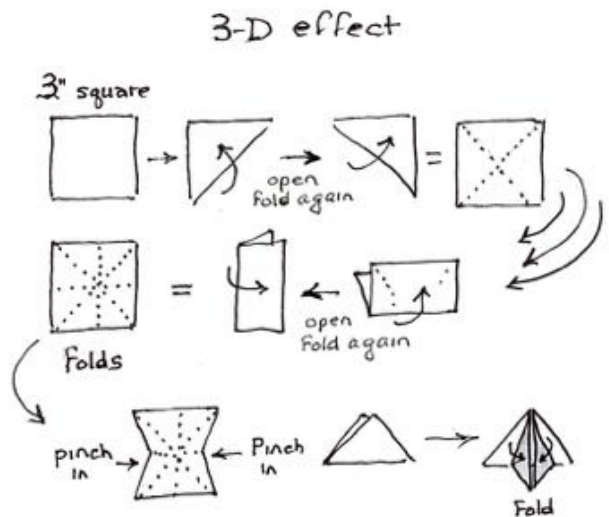
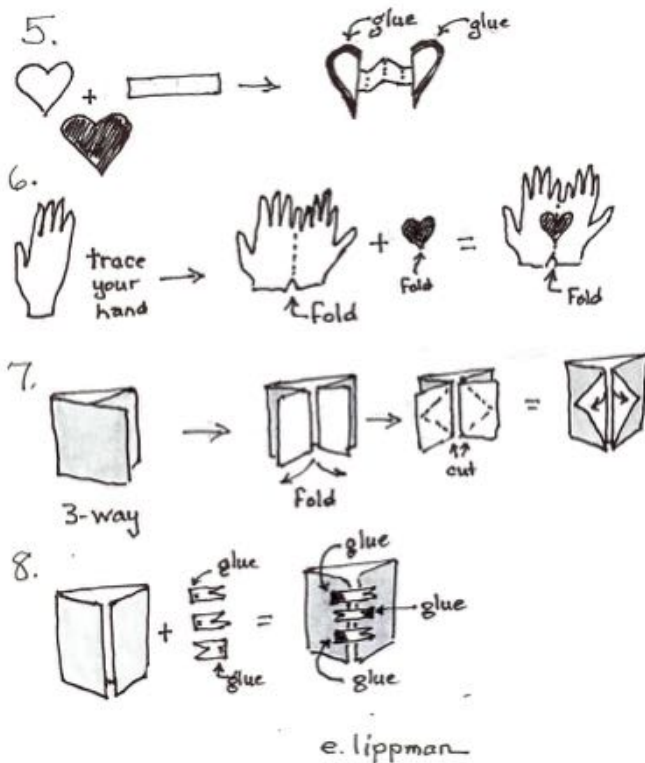
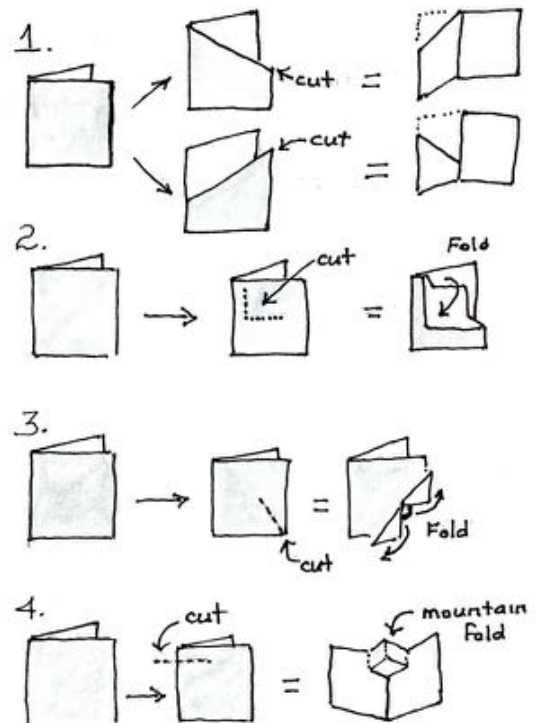
Our esteemed Calligraphy Guild secretary will be forwarding full sized copies of the explanation and the illustrations to each member.

Here's the plan: in your spare time, grab a sheet of paper (or two) and try cutting and folding each example shown in the handouts. Problems? Suggestions? (Even some of my mistakes turned out to be very clever.) Let's talk in October.

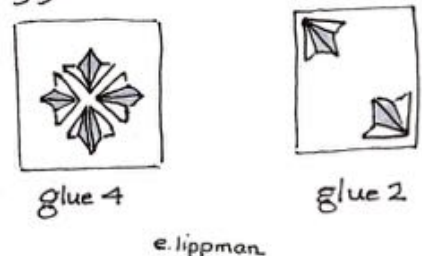
During the October ZOOM meeting, we will show examples, figure out where we went wrong and perhaps come up with even better ideas.

In the November Zoom meeting, we will address decorating these cards by adding calligraphy and other things to make them clever and unusual.

See you on October 24 at 10:00 AM o'clock via ZOOM.



Suggestions:



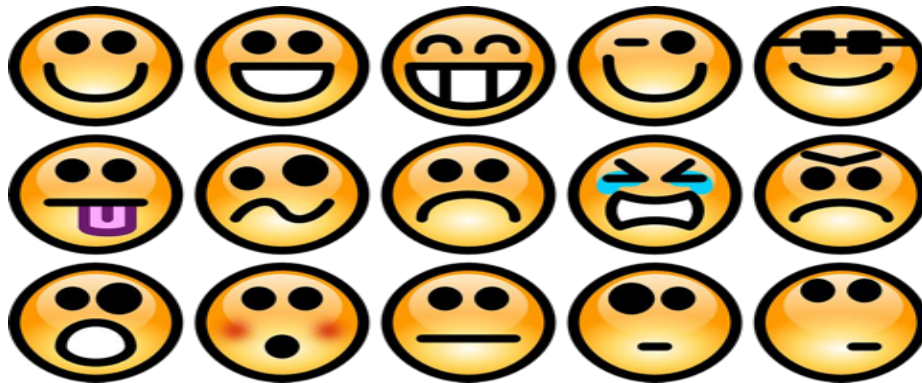
Prior to the October meeting please look for an email with the four attachments shown above in large format for you to print. The photos on page 6 are two which show what you can do....be creative and explore the possibilities.

# ♦ Art Presence Art Show

## “MIXED EMOTIONS”

Calligraphers' Guild Mixed-Media Exhibit July 2021

Art Presence Art Center/ 206 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St./ Jacksonville, OR



Dear Members ... Art Presence has invited our Guild as guest artists for the month of July 2021 in their gallery in Jacksonville.

The theme for July exhibit will be “Mixed Emotions”

With the many situations involving virus, protests, political unrest, fires, finances, education & isolation that have affected our world/city, as well as the awakening within us of new personal discoveries... our priorities, strengths & reinventing how we work & communicate socially, I feel this would be a great way to express the many emotional feelings within our souls during this time through art.

Emotions such as good, bad, sad, hopeful, peaceful, goofy, humorous, serious etc.. The idea would be mixed-media art/calligraphy, to express an emotion(s) through letters, words, objects and/or art with dimension. Does not have to be a quote. Perhaps a word, sound or thing.

Breaking out of the traditional boxes that portray calligraphy would be fresh and interesting. Feel free if you wish to collaborate with someone to create a piece(s)

All art must be securely wire hangable but not confined to a frame.

I hope all of you find a way to show on the gallery walls. I will provide a list of emotions if you need some inspiration.

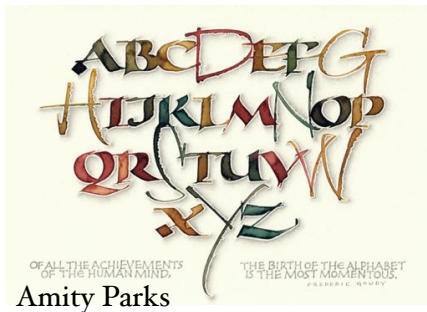
Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Cynthia Griffin [cgriffin.629@gmail.com](mailto:cgriffin.629@gmail.com) 541-261-0236 (phone or text)



## Interesting Workshops offered online

October 1, 2020



Dates: Saturday, October 31, and Sunday, November 1  
9:00 am–4:00 pm Pacific Time  
Level of Workshop: Intermediate to Advanced  
Tuition: \$120 for members, \$150 for non-members, which provides membership through 2021

Location: Zoom meeting ID will be sent to you after registration and shortly before the workshop.  
Create a free Zoom account before the workshop at <https://zoom.us/>

### Workshop Description

A great opportunity awaits you! This workshop will focus on learning a casual and contemporary lettering hand, which Amity calls *Chunky Roman Capitals*, made with a broad-edged tool. This workshop will also focus on decorating the letters, and blending inks into them, and will feature the use of Belgian Bister ink powders to achieve the color blending.

Look for complete information about this workshop on [the PSC website](#).

### *SCH Fall 2020 Workshop – The Many Faces of Italic with Carol DuBosch*

Date: November 14th and 21st, 2020  
Time: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
Location: Online via Zoom

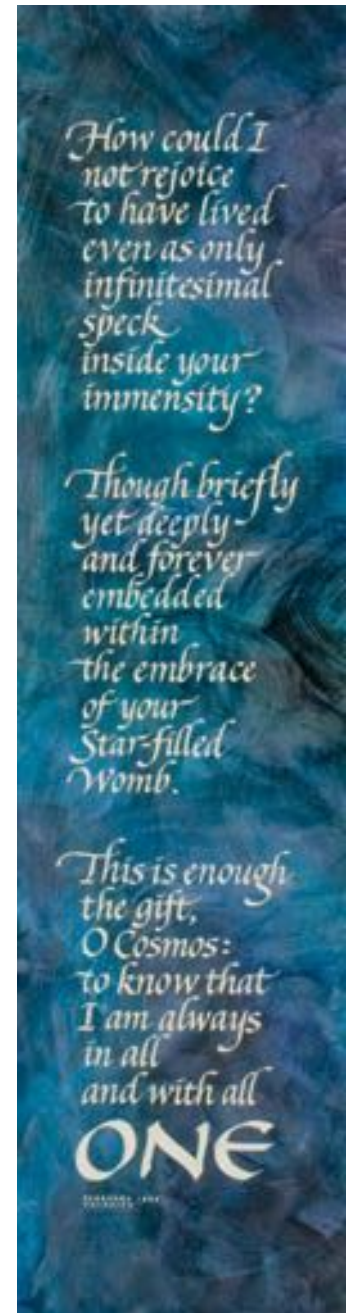
Italic is the most valuable script to any lettering artist because of its beauty and versatility. Italic can be written very simply, or elaborately with flourishes. If it's been a while since you studied Italic, you can bring your Italic letters in for a tune up.

If you are new to calligraphy, this is a great opportunity to add this elegant and classic script to your repertoire. This workshop is for those with some experience with the broad edge pen as well as for those who wish to revisit the basics of Italic in order to revitalize their Italic letters.

Each student will receive individual attention and move through a variety of exercises to refresh and revive the shapes, the slope and the other details of the Italic script. The class will cover simple Monoline Italic done with a pencil, basic edged pen Italic, and formal flourishes. You can be assured of a more confident Italic after the

two-day class. We'll look at a variety of very simple projects that use your calligraphy to easily share your skills with family and friends. Some experience with a broad-edged pen is needed.

View the The Society for Calligraphy & Handwriting (SCH) for registration information.



### Online resources for classes:

<https://www.strathmoreartiststudio.com/>  
[https://www.johnnealbooks.com/prod\\_detail\\_list/online-classes](https://www.johnnealbooks.com/prod_detail_list/online-classes)  
<https://www.skillshare.com/browse/calligraphy> <https://www.facebook.com/centralartsupply/videos/316379383125000>  
<https://www.portlandsocietyforcalligraphy.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/online-classesAUG-2020.pdf>

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Best wishes to Past President Carol Perkins who will be moving to Roseburg in early October. Her email will remain the same.

**Please note:** the meetings from September 2020 through the January 2021 meeting will be held via ZOOM. At the last meeting we will decide the remainder of the calendar year. Watch your email for handouts for the cards for the October meeting and for the October Zoom invitation.

**Happy October  
Birthday to:**

**Lynda Stevenson 10-6**  
**Pamela Lumley 10-17**



**Calligrapher's Guild – Summary – Planning Meeting**

- | <b>Date</b>                         | <b>Subject</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ~ <b>Sept. 26 Hands</b>             | Examples of different hands – not RUBI with discussion/explanations from Steve Ostrander and Lynda Stevenson.   |
| ~ <b>Oct. 24 Cards</b>              | Eleanor Lippman will show some of her cards with an explanation of how they were made. Please have an example of a card (or cards) you have made to share with the group.   |
| ~ <b>Nov. 21 Happy Thanksgiving</b> | If you have made Christmas cards, please bring to share and discuss your process. – You might just inspire someone who had not attempted a Christmas card.  |
| ~ <b>Dec. 19 Holiday Cheer</b>      | In addition to sharing some Holiday cheer, we can have a discussion of the January show.  |
| ~ <b>Jan. 23 What's Next</b>        | At this meeting we will be able to re-evaluate the possibility of meetings in person – or not. Depending on how the virus is affecting Jackson County we will be able to plan for the remainder of our year – February through May. |
- \* Please be prepared to discuss and (also contact Lynda) beforehand the following:
    - ◆ Ideas you would like to see as a subject.
    - ◆ Would you be willing to be a presenter?
    - ◆ If so, what would your subject be
      - ◆ Joann Cleckner, Secretary