

April
Program



FRAMING AND MATTING YOUR ARTWORK

WITH SHERRY BARBER

THE DALLAS CALLIGRAPHY SOCIETY

Calligraphos

APRIL 2015 NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 35 | ISSUE 9



"We Ink 'em Up!"

President's Letter



www.kaligrafos.com

April 2015
Volume 35 Issue 9

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by Kaligrafos,
The Dallas Calligraphy Society

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Greetings Letter Enthusiasts -

April showers bring May flowers, so we are told. Spring was officially upon us as we "sprung ahead" on March 8th, and the first day of spring was March 20th. Then came the little cold snap to remind us that Mother Nature is in charge no matter what our man-made calendar says! And though we've had some nice rain and avoided the bad weather, we still face a drought; I'm keeping my fingers crossed for more showers this month, as everything comes to life. Each season is magical and seeing the return of finches at my feeders and iris beginning to send up stocks remind me just how beautiful and invigorating spring is. We all need to awaken from the slumber of winter and draw upon the inspiration that has cultivated in winter's dormancy. It's the perfect time to unleash the Letters into the wild and let your creative spark ignite into the inner soul and pour onto the paper, fabric or canvas!

Mail boxes are hopping with artsy envelopes from the exchange; keep the postal workers smiling! Don't forget to bring the ones you've received for show and share.

Amity Parks was here and gave us her spin on Blackletter. All those who attended had a splendid time. There were two folks that made the trek from Houston to attend. She will be in Tulsa the end of the year. That's only 4 hours from Dallas. The topic hasn't been set, but it's looking like either graphite or mixed media. Either way it will be a great workshop.

Another reminder that we have our exhibit this September, entry forms must be completed by July 1st. Take the inspiration of spring and combine it with Gothic Blackletter and see what happens. I'm sure you'll amaze yourself! Don't hesitate to bounce ideas off fellow members. Everyone is here to help, that's what it's all about.

SoapBox.....

Without volunteers there is no Kaligrafos. As a reminder, we will be electing a Treasurer and Vice President in May as the 2014-15 Kaligrafos year winds down. With that said, there are Chair positions that need to be filled, and what better time to volunteer for a Chair position than at the start of the "new year"? If you won't consider being a Chair, please consider being on one of the committees. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions at all. It really is fun to be apart of the teams that plan the next year events and then see them come to fruition.

Graciously your Blackletter newbie,

Thomas Burns



THE DALLAS CALLIGRAPHY SOCIETY

2014-2015 Kaligrafos Kalendar

- **General Meetings** -- (Come early at 9:30am for coffee and social time.)

April 11 10:00 am **Framing & Matting your Artwork** - Sherry Barber
May 9 10:00 am **Basic Flourishing Techniques** - Carol Scott, & Kathy Setina

- **Board Meetings**

May 16 1:00 pm Rick's Place

- **Mini Workshops**

- **Kaligrafos Workshops**

- **Kaligrafos Play Days**

June 13, 2015 9:00 am **Paste Paper** - Jaycee Park Center for the Art

Word Challenge page 14

No Early Bird Session for May

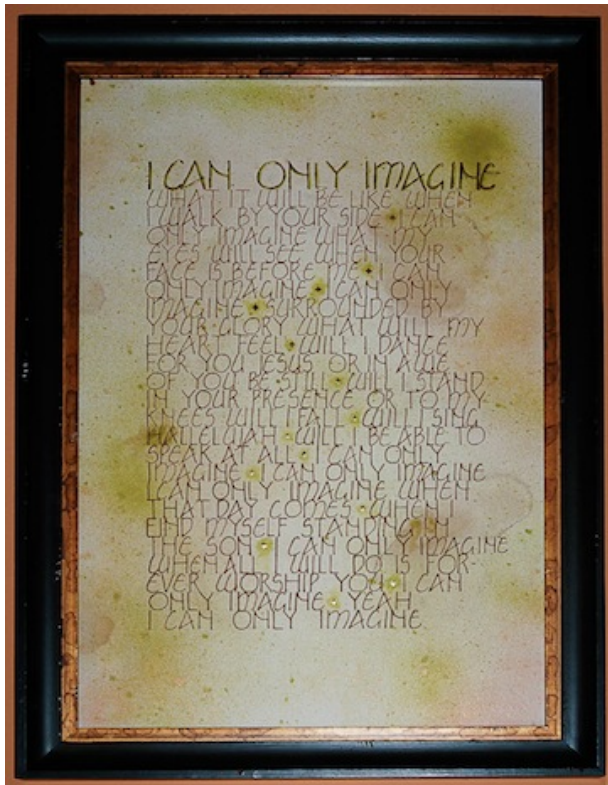
Monthly General Meeting Location

The Kaligrafos monthly meetings for 2014 - 2015 will be held at the First United Methodist Church Richardson
 503 North Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080
 Look for us in **Room 217A** this month.

Refer to the map of the church: Enter the main parking area from the southbound service road just south of Arapaho. Parking is on the right side, north of the building. The entrance has short stairs on one side and a concrete ramp on the other. Once inside, take the elevator or stairs to the second floor, room 217A.



April Program
**FRAMING AND MATTING
YOUR ARTWORK**
WITH SHERRY BARBER



In the April program, Sherry will be demonstrating the proper method for framing your artwork using conservation techniques.

Feel free to bring any questions about your own work.

Sherry has prepared a detailed [PDF](#). Please print it before the meeting.

Note:

After the meeting you might want to browse through the store mentioned below for framing, mounting and other art supplies.

The Photographic Archives Lab
will be closing their doors November 2015.

They will have a sale Saturday, April 11,
10:00-5:00 p.m.
5117 West Lovers Lane, Dallas
(1.5 blocks west of Inwood Road, on north
side of street--in building with green awnings)

Among the items available:

Archival storage boxes
Archival photo storage supplies (albums,
pages, top loaders, etc.)
Acid-free papers and boards
Art supplies
Mounting supplies
CD storage

Greeting cards

Decorative Art papers

Rubber stamps (including vintage stamps)

Picture frames of all sizes (some antique
frames, new frames)

Books on photography and photo exhibitions

May have some "furniture" and equipment for
sale; and for sure before closing in November.

Andy and Beckie Reisberg, owners

Call (214)352-3167 for appointment if you
can't make the sale on April 11, for another
time to stop by.

Announcements

Welcome New Members!!!

Linda Rogers and Maggie Sprague

Library Books

Remember that library books are due at the next meeting.

Browse The Library Thing to pick out a few titles at: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/Kaligrafos> then send Brenda Burns an email with your selection(s) at library@kaligrafos.com so she can bring your selections to the meeting.

Please note:

When requesting a library book from Brenda, be sure to put in the subject line "Library Book" or "Kaligrafos".

2014-2015 Membership

Join Kaligrafos
The Dallas Calligraphy Society

\$25 for individual membership

\$35 for family membership

http://kaligrafos.com/join_us/join_us.html

Please send membership changes of your information via email to

Wendy Carnegie
wcarnegie@gmail.com

PLEASE! PLEASE! PLEASE!

Donate your handmade cards to Membership Chair, Wendy Carnegie! We need them for birthdays and other occasions! Please make them flat without 3D embellishing for 1st class postage.

Thank you!!!

Like Kaligrafos on...

facebook

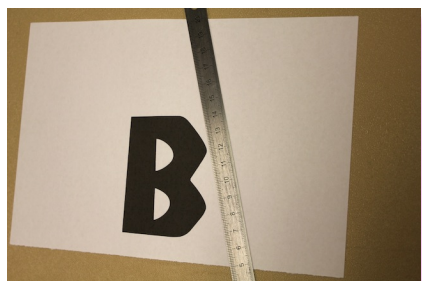


March Program Review

Cut Out Letters with Colored Backgrounds with Betty Barna

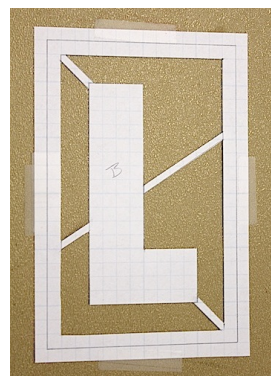
By Nanci Inman

The program for March stemmed from a class that Betty Barna took from Carl Rohrs on cutting out letters. (This technique is also depicted in Carl's workshop notebook.)



Each member received a black letter printed on white paper in a font called Indy Condensed at

the 250 point size. This font is similar to Nueland.

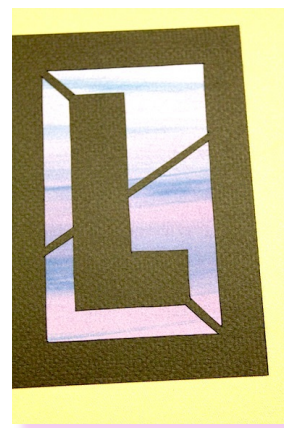


The first thing that needed to be done was to draw a frame around the letter. Then anchor the letter to this frame or box with small lines that attach to the letter. This became our letter template and was placed over heavy black paper to be cut out. Betty

recommended using a cover weight or card stock; Arches black or Classic Crest by Nina were the ones she mentioned.



The interiors of the letters should be cut out first, as in the counters of the A, B, P, etc. Don't throw them away, as they can be used later. Blue label Scotch tape (repositionable tape) was used to hold the letter within its frame onto the black paper for cutting.

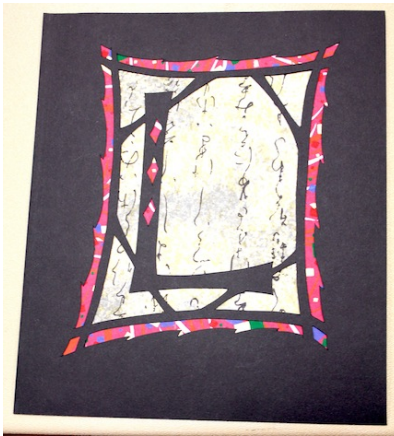


Betty emphasized holding the paper close to the line that you are cutting to keep the paper from buckling, and be sure to keep your fingers out of the way of the X-acto knife. Always pull the knife toward you,

turning the paper, so that you are pulling toward your body.



March Program Review continued...

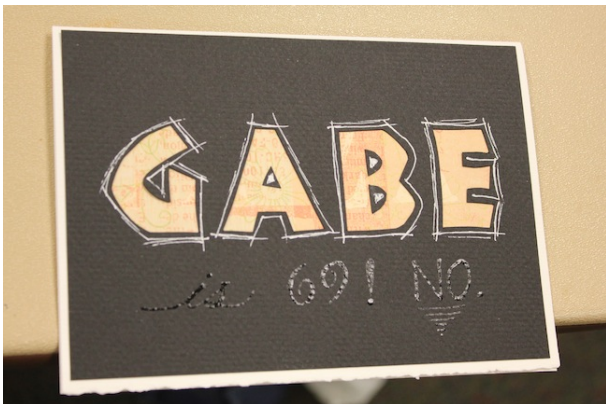


When cutting an inside corner, she recommended putting the tip of the knife just inside, then pushing it into the corner. At the end of the stroke, whether it is curved or straight, overshoot the ending just a teeny bit to make sure it is a definite cut.

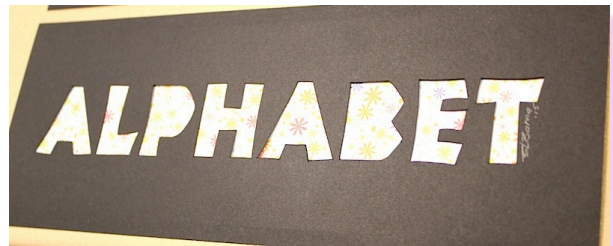


This black letter and frame will then be glued to decorative paper, which is where the fun, creative part is included. Use the black cover or card stock as backing to give it weight.

In addition, use the cut out portions of black that you saved from the leftovers to make a reversal of the design. The examples of this were the name "Gabe" that she showed where she had done this for her husband's recent birthday.



You can use this method to create many projects from large pieces to greeting cards.



Kaligrafos has the honor of being one of the most sharing, inclusive groups I have ever had the honor of being a part of. Betty Barna is just one of those helpful members. Over the past couple of years she has met at 9:00 a.m. before the Kaligrafos monthly meeting, to introduce newcomers or novices to calligraphy hands they may not be familiar

with. This has also turned into an opportunity for those of us who need a kick in the pants to practice. So, thank you, Betty!



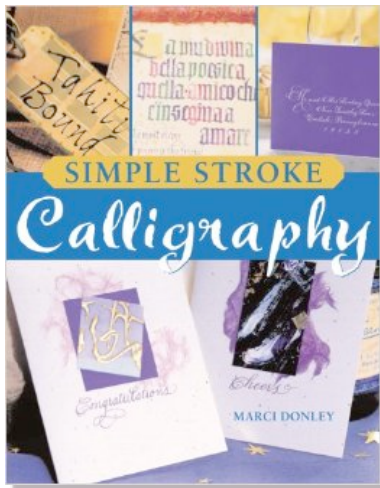
(All art pictured in this article created by Betty Barna.)

Book Reviews

If you are looking for an opportunity that will help others, fill a need and be more rewarding than you could imagine, then the Library Committee wants YOU!

We have an extensive library and it can be overwhelming (especially to those new to calligraphy) to decide what books to borrow, which is why the Library Committee is asking its members to write reviews of our books. The reviews will be published in both a future newsletter as well as posted on the Library Thing.

For more information, please contact [Brenda](#).



Simple Stroke Calligraphy

by Marci Donley

In her preface, Marci Donley writes, "One important thing a teacher told me was to do the very best I can at the moment - not to worry about

what I did last time or what I will do next time, but to attempt to do my very best each time I pick up the pen, just at that moment. It just makes sense to enjoy where you are and do your best."

This is an excellent book for beginners. She gives a lot of useful advice that anyone just starting out would be thankful for. Marci doesn't claim to have come up with every idea in her book, but it's a competent compilation of the knowledge she gained along the way as she took classes, learned, watched and listened and tried.

Marci starts out with a calligraphic glossary and over 30 pages introducing tools, papers, supplies and valuable tips on the use and care of them.

She presents several classic alphabets lettered by calligraphy masters. These include exemplars, worksheets and detailed ways to practice them effectively. In addition there are variations of different types of lettering and lovely examples of calligraphy throughout the book.

In the last section, "Getting Creative," Marci describes the use of the ruling and poster pens and the brush for lettering. She also touches on several things including altering and creating alphabets and backgrounds.

One thing I took away from this book was from her chapter in setting up a workspace. When Marci is working on a specific piece she creates an atmosphere that is favorable to influencing creativity. For example, when lettering something with an historical hand she tries to imagine being an ancient scribe and lights a candle and plays music that inspires her.

In another place Marci writes, "I don't always know what I want to say, but I love the fact that when I do have something to say I can say it artistically."

So, if you're just starting out, this book will help you be well on your way toward putting down what you want to say, in a beautiful way, with your newly acquired lettering skills!

Book Review by Anita Hofmeister

Definition of a Volunteer...

A person who expresses a willingness to undertake a service and use their time and talents for charitable, educational, or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community for the benefit of other people as a social responsibility rather than for any financial reward.

Do you meet these criteria and would you consider being a Kaligrafos Volunteer?

If you agree, then we have a place for you!!

Here are some of the ways to serve

Consider being on the ballot for Vice-president or Treasurer

-Become a Chairman:

Fund Raising

Workshop

Exhibits

Or any of the other Chair positions

-Be on a committee - All Chairmen need help

We need YOU and hopefully you need us to keep Kaligrafos the vibrant, informative, fun and exciting organization we enjoy.

-Thomas Burns

Practice Time

Compiled by
Randy Stewart

Keep your friends close and your wine closer. Anon

IF EVERY DAY IS A GIFT CAN
SOMEONE GIVE ME A RECEIPT
FOR MONDAY? I WANT TO
EXCHANGE IT FOR ANOTHER
FRIDAY. ANON

I speak my mind
because it hurts to
bite my tongue.
Anon

I like
long walks,
especially when
they are taken
by people who
annoy me.
Noel Coward

A lie told often
enough becomes the
truth. Lenin

By all means marry; if you get a good
wife, you'll be happy. If you get a bad one,
you'll become a philosopher. Socrates

*If you can't fix it with a
hammer, you've got an
electrical problem. Anon*

It is dangerous for a national
candidate to say things that
people might remember.
Eugene McCarthy

You can't wait for inspiration. You
have to go after it with a club.
Jack London

*If you can find
something everyone
agrees on, it's wrong.
Mo Udall*

Harvey's Helpful Hints

by Harvey Anton

Framing If you are going to make your artwork fit a standard size frame, here are a few standard sizes that are available: 4x6, 5x7, 8x10, 8-1/2x11, 9x12, 11x14, 12x16, 14x18, 16x20, and 18x24. There are other standard sizes, but these are the most popular. If you are going to mount your work on mat board, make your artwork smaller, leave a sizable border around your artwork on the mat, then cut your mat to fit the frame size. Naturally, your client has the final say as to size... "The client is always right" (sometimes). And of course they will often times request (imitation) "parchment" paper which is terrible to write on, so you might have to have them change their minds to a better writing paper (which will look and write) to your satisfaction.

Marbleizing Easter egg marbleizing kits are great for marbleizing paper as well. Try it - you won't be disappointed and the recipient will truly love the results.

Wrinkled Paper? You can take wrinkles out of paper with this method: Use a piece of mat board the size of the wrinkled paper, a piece of wax paper, then your artwork, then a sheet of white paper all on an ironing board with a warm iron. Results? No wrinkles.

Henry James said it best: "Until you try, you don't know what you can't do." That quote should be a good starting point for your beginning.

Proofread When proofreading yours or someone else's work start at the end and work backup to the beginning. Strange, but it works.

Finish! Finish that project! Don't half-finish the job and put it aside until you get back to it (someday). You may never get back to it (Guilty as charged). Stop when necessary, but don't wait 'til you're old and gray and the idea has cooled off. It just won't happen – trust me on this one. Finish a project, and be neat and clean around your workspace.

Customize For unlimited possibilities take your black and white artwork to your local printer to customize your very own rubber stamps, signature, etc.

Counting Envelopes When counting your completed envelopes try this trick: turn the flap down (as if to glue), then start counting. Sometimes the flap (when in up position) will cover one or more envelopes and give you the wrong count.

Dry Ink Fast Keep a hair dryer handy to your work area. You can dry ink very fast using it, but don't get the blower too close to the wet ink. It can easily spread, ruining your art.

Come visit my table at the meetings to view and/or purchase some of my vintage nibs, handmade wooden penstoffs, "Hints CDs" and vintage penmanship cd's with over 3400 photos from some of the old masters' works. They are truly mind-blowing! If there are certain items you want let me know before meeting time and I'll bring them with me, or we will gladly mail them if preferred.

'Til next month, for beautiful calligraphy, Plano Harvey, 972-307-0172, 972-207-1199, penstaff@verizon.net

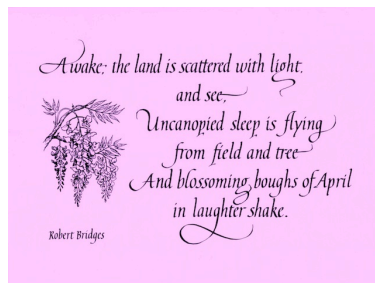
Members' Local Classes

Cristie R. Campo
cristiecampo@mac.com

Zentangle (artist's home)
Call: 214.714.5344
Fridays 6-9pm
Fee: \$40 supplies included

Collin College Plano
Continuing Education
www.collin.edu/ce/register
972.985.3711 to register by phone

Creative Art Center Dallas
www.creativeartscenter.org/schedules



Calligraphy Start Up Workshop! Calligraphy for Beginners

Always wondered about calligraphy? Join us for this newbie class! You'll be treated to a small class with new friends and lettering fun. No knowledge or experience with calligraphy is required. The results? Pleasure, relaxation, and a great time while learning to create lovely letters.

Date: Sunday, 4/26/15

Teacher: Carol Measures Scott

Time: 3 - 6:30PM

Location: 7121 Oaklawn, Sachse, TX 75048

Class size: 5 minimum, 8 max

Price: \$50, includes supplies! You will take home pen, ink, graph paper & handouts.

Supplies: Please bring a pencil and a 12" or 18" ruler.

Some supplies available for purchase day of class, please email callicarol@aol.com for details.

Optional: Protractor, note-taking supplies, folder for handouts, your own drink

Questions? Email Carol - callicarol@aol.com

Please send check for \$50 made out to Carol's Calligraphy along with the completed form below to:

Calligraphy Startup Workshop, 7121 Oaklawn, Sachse, TX 75048.

Registration Form

Deadline - 4/17/15

Date:

Name:

Full address:

Email:

Phone(s):

Payment form: Check (included)

or PayPal (add \$2 - please pay before 4/17/15)

Beverly Stewart: Instructor

Card Making Classes \$5

At 6805 Oak Falls Dr,
McKinney, TX 75070

Saturdays 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

April 18
and May is TBD

At THEO: <http://theosonline.org/Locations.htm> or 214-551-5782 or
beverlystewart@gmail.com

Bring your own scissors and adhesives.
If you make a Stampin' Up! purchase, the class is free. As always there is no pressure to buy.

Come, make cards and have fun!

Workshops taught by Janell Wimberly

www.jkwimberlydesign.com/Home.html

Workshop Review

Check Your Baggage...

Blackletter Today with Amity Parks

by Angie Vangalis

The blackletter style characteristic from the Middle Ages and known for the narrow, upright letters, bold angular strokes, tight spacing and dense texture has found its place as a revitalized and personalized style for this century.

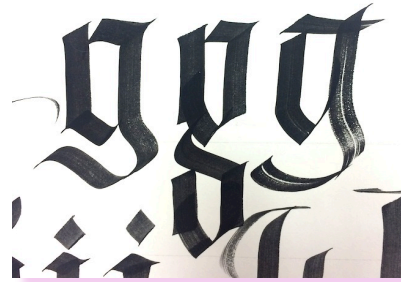


This workshop, taught by Amity Parks, introduced the traditional letterforms of a classic Textura hand. Participants also went beyond the basics with variations, bringing a contemporary energy to their work as well as experimenting with other tools, such as the pencil and flat brush.



Amity demonstrated tools using the Speedball C-0 nib and automatic pen, with warm up exercises and basic strokes before setting the eager lettering artists off to lightly line their paper with a faint pencil line (according

the size of their tool), then embarking on making their own marks. The proportions for



Blackletter are 4.5 to 5 pen-width x-height.

Stroke by stroke, minute by minute, several blissful hours were spent on pure

lettering the lower case alphabet. This alphabet is highly manipulated, in that, making the strokes require a turn of the pen and change of pen angle from the 34° to 45° angle used for the down strokes.

Amity suggested using a slant board due to the vertical nature of the strokes, but some participants chose to work flat, which is a matter of preference.

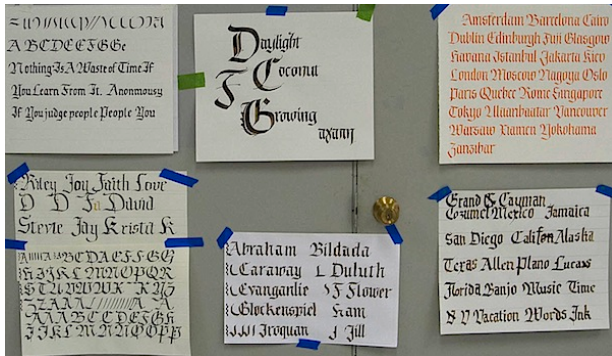


She also stressed the importance of working on good paper even for practice. Warm up strokes and alphabet practice can be done on layout bond, as long as the ink doesn't bleed.

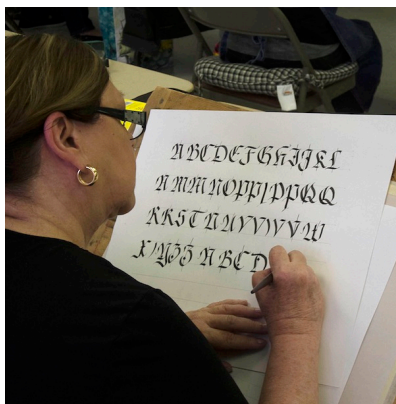


Amity's Workshop Review Continued...

The experience of practicing on better quality paper is more satisfying and prepares you for working on better paper.



Each participant posted their work on the wall throughout the weekend for review, which was really refreshing to see this style and progression by so many different artists.



Participants worked diligently on uppercase letters, which require more space for customization and style preference.



The flat brush was introduced and demonstrated. Since the brush responds differently to the paper than a pen, Amity palletted the brush to get a sharp edge and emphasized that "pallet-ing" is an important part of the process. She introduced the Fine Tec Opaque Watercolor set to add color.



Another really nice technique was done by scraping the shavings of a Water Soluble Graphite Crayon into letters drawn with "dirty water", then allowed to dry.

Amity brought our letters to life by teaching how to create Luminaries

from a page of lettering and then cutting the page out to form a triangular shape pattern.



This was a weekend in March filled with Blackletter writing and savored by 19 lettering artists who all left with a great feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment. Thank you Amity!

Below are several valued and recommended resources that were mentioned at the workshop.

Take Your Pleasure Seriously - Text by Luca Barcellona, Giovanni De Faccio, and Nicola "Dee Mo" Peressoni. Interview by Chaz Bojórquez.

ISBN-13: 978-8898030002

224 pages, Over 250 full-color illustrations
Clothbound with poster jacket.

Fractur mon Amour by Judith Schalansky (A two-inch thick book of Blackletter fonts, styles, and designers).

ISBN-13: 978-1568988016

5.5 x 2 x 8 inches, 648 pages

Written Letters: 22 Alphabets for Calligraphers by Jacqueline Svaren

ISBN-13: 978-0870271618

Soft cover, 55 pages

Word Challenge

Calligraph these words in your favorite style of lettering or try them in a new hand!

Zenith Zany Knowledge Kinship Kaligrafos
Graceful Gregarious

Any word beginning with Z, K or G can be used. Size is 11 x 14 or smaller.

Kaligrafos, The Dallas Calligraphy Society
presents

F A L L 2 0 1 5 E X H I B I T

INSPIRATION!

September 4-28, 2015 / Reception, Sunday, September 6, 12-2 pm
The Goodrich Gallery at First United Methodist Church of Dallas
1928 Ross Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75201

What/who inspires you to create? Summon your muse and create a piece for this exhibit and show Dallas what calligraphy is all about. Your piece must be an original work and not from a class. The Gallery will keep 25% of the sale price if your work is sold, however, you do not have to sell your work. Mark your piece with "NFS" if you don't wish to sell it.

BY JULY 1, 2015 YOU MUST SUBMIT:

- A) Two photographs (jpegs) of your artwork-one before framing
- B) One photograph of the artist
- C) Biographical information of the artist (*pls. limit to 75 words.*)
- D) An "Artist Statement" about the artwork being displayed (*pls. limit to 75 words*)

For more information, contact Betty Barna - blbarna@mac.com

Or click here for [Entry Form in January Newsletter page 13.](#)