

KWALLIGRAPHOS

CALLIGRAPHY GUILD



Valentine Social

Cover art by
Janell Wimberly

February 2025
VOLUME 45 NO. 5



*"We Ink 'em Up!"
Presidential Seal by Janell Wimberly*

President's Letter

February 2025

Dear Kaligrafos members,

What a year so far and we have not even been together in person yet!

Thank you to everyone for attending our January meeting on Zoom. It was a cold icy day but with the program being remote it actually worked out quite well. Shelby Barrentine presented a phenomenal program on decorated versals. If you missed it or want to rewatch contact Sherry Barber for the private link.

We all know what February brings - the Valentine Social. This yearly event is one not to miss. The event highlight, of course, is the Valentine card exchange. I wonder how many decorated versals we see this year. To participate simply create a handmade Valentine exchange card or object (some people get very creative) and you will get one in exchange. Go to kaligrafos.com and browse past March newsletters to get inspired with ideas. So, it is time to get busy. January is fading fast.

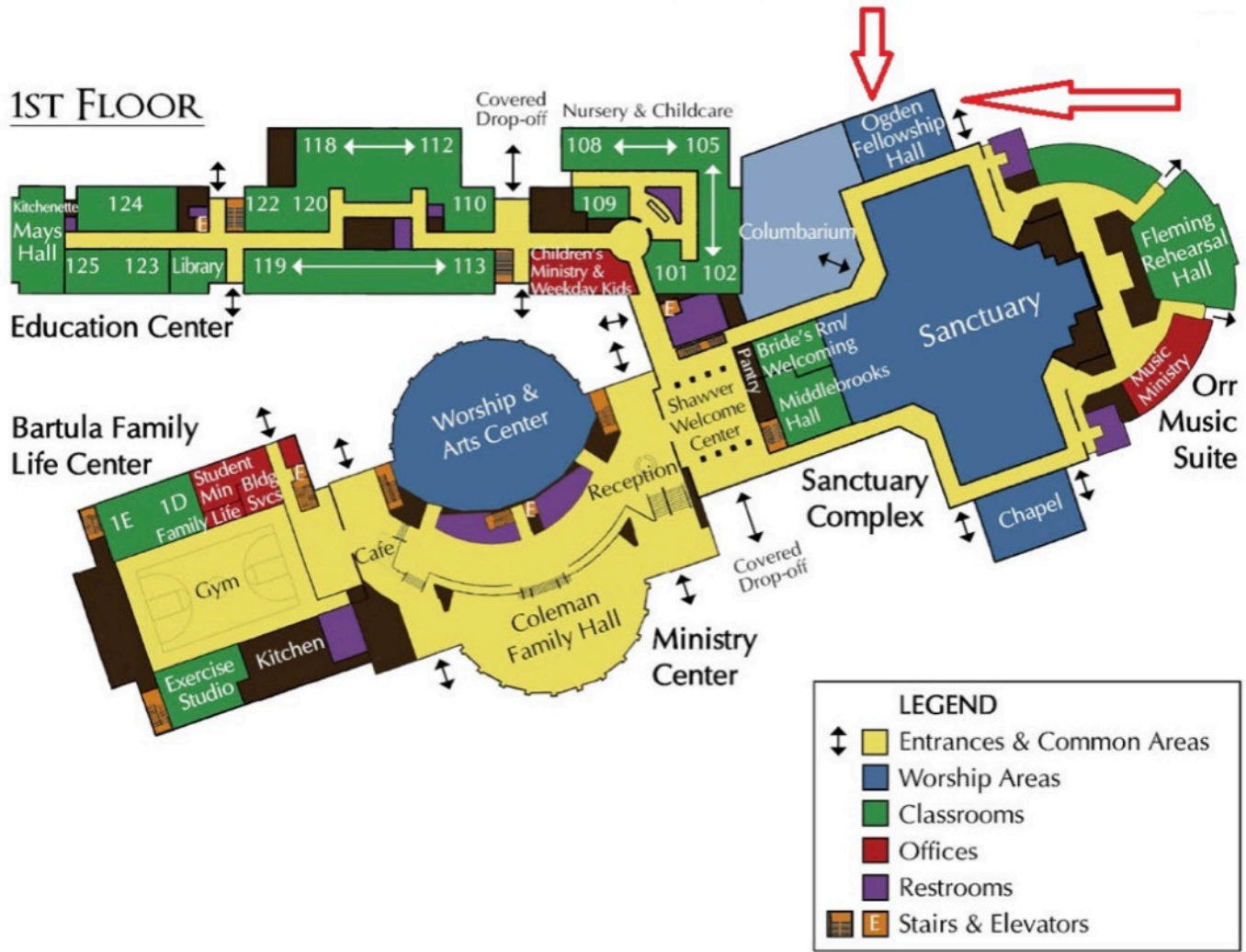
A whole table of goodies, mostly homemade, always appear for our refreshment. Thank you to all the contributors. Don't forget to bring some cash to buy Raffle tickets for the Valentine Social Raffle! Many items are lined up for the raffle and you won't want to miss the chance to take some home. Who will be the person with the most winning tickets this year?

Join us on February 8th at the Lovers Lane United Methodist Church's Copeland House for the Valentine Social. If you plan to attend and haven't RSVP'd to your invitation yet, please do so now by email including the names of the person(s) attending to valentinersvp@kaligrafos.com to ensure a pre-lettered name tag will await your arrival.

Thank you for sharing your love of calligraphy, unique art and personality with the rest of us!

Randy Stewart
Kaligrafos President

General Meetings 2nd Saturdays at 10:00am – noon
Come early to socialize 9:30am to 10:00am
Meeting Location
First United Methodist Church
503 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080
First Floor, Ogden Fellowship Hall (see red arrows on map)



Board Members

<p>Executive Board</p> <p>Randy Stewart, President June Baty, Vice President Sherry Barber, Treasurer Jeri Wright, Secretary</p>	<p>Chairpersons</p> <p>Sherry Barber, Website/Communications Sarah Schulz, Workshops Virginia Littlepage, Membership Jean Taylor, Newsletter Betty Barna, Fundraising and Exhibits June Baty, Programs</p>
--	--

2024-2025 Membership

Join Kaligrafos

The Dallas Calligraphy Society

\$25 for individual membership

\$35 for family membership

<https://kaligrafos.com/join-us/>

Please send membership changes of your information via email to:

membership@kaligrafos.com

2024 – 2025 Monthly Programs

September 14, 2024	Make it Sparkle: Using Mica in Calligraphy	Sarah Schulz
October 12, 2024	Pencil to Pen: Monoline Letters	Betty Barna
November 9, 2024	Mini Envelope Folders & Bazaar	Sherry Barber
January 11, 2025	Drawing & Decorating Lombardic Versals	Shelby Barrentine (Zoom)
February 8, 2025	Valentine Social @ The Copeland House	
March 8, 2025	Flow & Flourish: A Meditative Journaling Practice	Roxanne Glaser
April 12, 2025	Round Robin Floral Fun	Jeri Wright Committee (Jeri, Monica, June, and Suzanne)
May 10, 2025	Calligraphic Designing	Linda Schneider (Zoom)

2024–2025 Workshops and Mini-Workshops

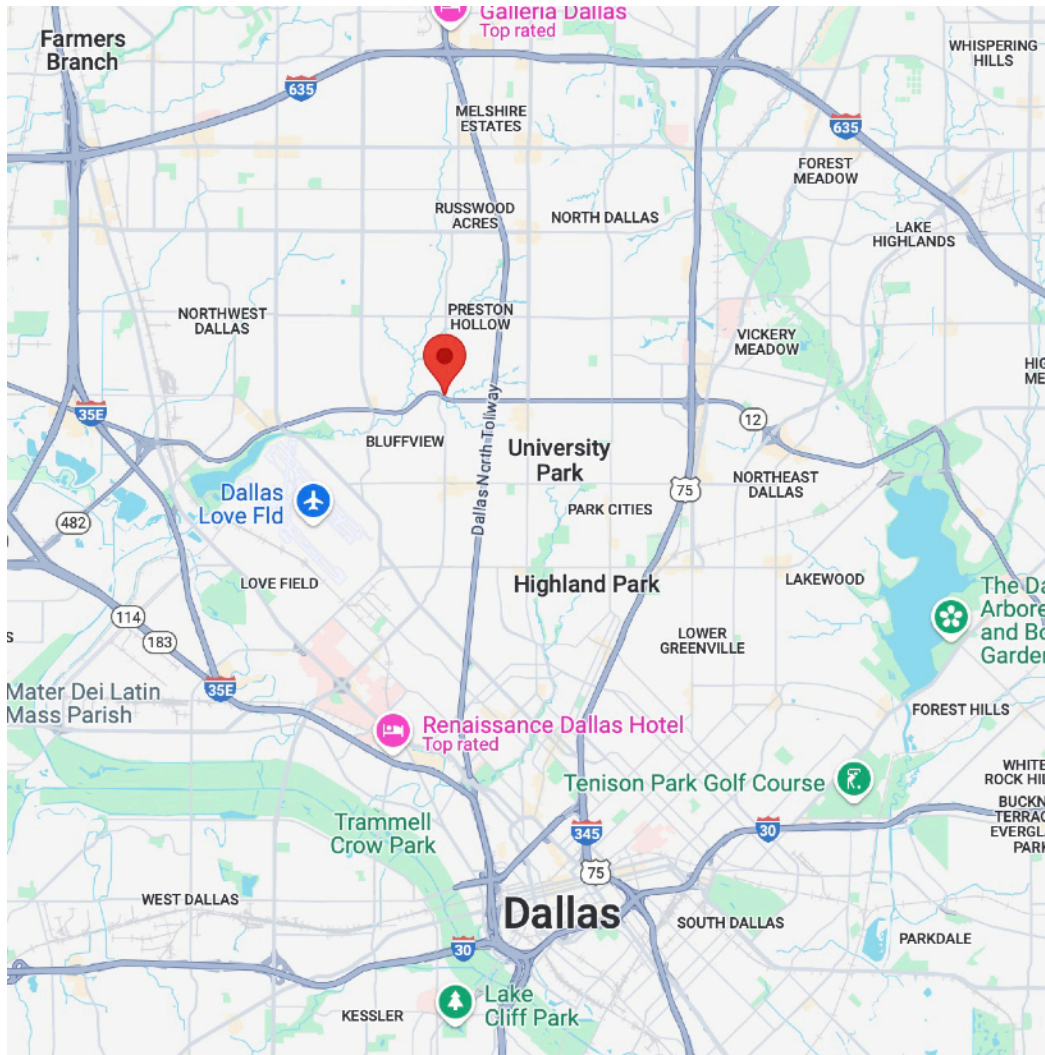
MINI WORKSHOPS - In Person 1-4 p.m.

March 8, 2025 - Leaf Script Letters with Jeri Wright

April 12, 2025 - Wedge Brush Florals with June Baty

Map for Valentine Social, February 8th

The Copeland House
Lovers Lane United Methodist Church
9200 Inwood Road
Dallas, TX 75220



- When you arrive at the church, drive to the northeast corner of the church parking lot. The Copeland House is in that area and there is plenty of parking out in front.
- Proceed up the stairs/ramp and into the house.
 - Food and Raffles will be to your left.
 - Bring your food back to the kitchen area and place it on the tables.
 - Raffle tickets may be purchased.
 - Card display room is to your right.
 - Take your card to the front of the room and sign up taking a number.
 - Place your card with the number next to it onto the table.
 - If you would like your piece displayed on a stand, please bring one with you.
 - You are welcome to photograph all participants' projects.

FEBRUARY MEETING

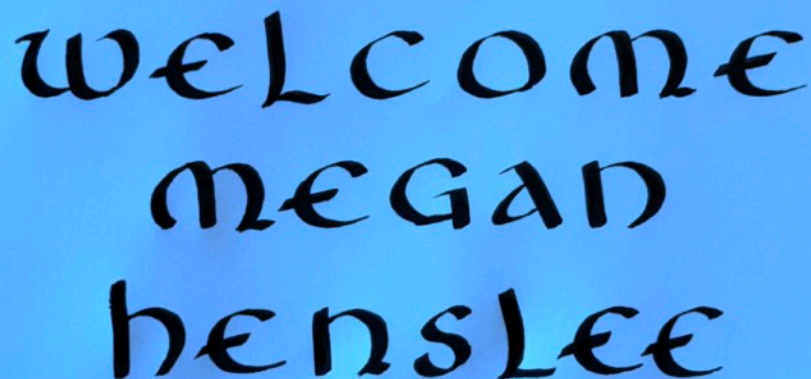
VALENTINE SOCIAL

Don't forget that this month's meeting will be at The Copeland House at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church (see info and map on previous page). This event is one of our favorites for the year and we all look forward to seeing the beautiful Valentine's cards made by our members (bring a card, get a card), the raffle items to bid on, and scrumptious food to share.

MONTHLY WORD CHALLENGE

Write any or all of these words in your favorite hand or try them in a new one. They can be as ornate or simple as you'd like. Be creative. Please bring them to the next meeting for the Show and Share table. Each future newsletter will have that month's word challenge. Size is 11 x 14 or smaller.

FOR MARCH MEETING: ***Resilience - Mardi Gras - Symphony***



welcome
megan
henslee

KALIGRAFOS CALLIGRAPHY GUILD MINI WORKSHOP

MARCH 8, 2025 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

LEAF SCRIPT LETTERS (In Person Only) with Jeri Wright

Jeri will be sharing different strokes and leaf shapes that will give your script letters additional movement and charm. We will start with pencil and then move on to Micron pens and then add some watercolor and/or watercolor pencil to enhance your creations.

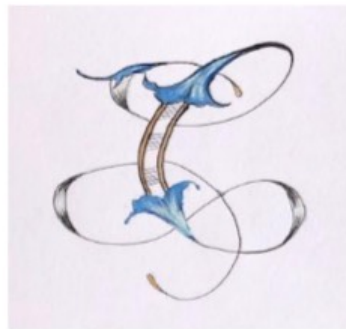
Supply List:

- Graph paper, several sheets
- A few pages of watercolor paper approx.. 8 ½ " x 10" (from a tablet is fine)
- Mechanical pencil and soft wooden pencil
- White eraser & a Mono Zero eraser (if you have one—it is very useful)
- Paper blending stump (tortillon) (I will have some extras so no need to buy one.)
- #05 and #01 Pigma Micron pen in Black (or comparable fine marker)
- 3-5 coordinated colored pencils or w/c pencils (for example: pink/purple, blue, crimson, green)
- Bleedproof white watercolor
- A couple small round brushes or water brushes (#1,2 or 3)
- A few sheets of paper towels and a small water jar.

Optional items:

- Gold watercolor and a small ball stylus
- 3-4 gouache colors or watercolors (you only need a very small amount of color)
- Small plastic 6 well plastic palette or small paper plate as a palette.

There will be a \$3 (cash) supply fee for handout packet.



-----Complete, Detach and submit with Payment-----

Mini Workshop Name: LEAF SCRIPT LETTERS w/Jeri Wright

Name _____

Email _____

Cell _____

_____ Attached is my check for \$25, payable to Kaligrafos _____ I sent my payment via the PayPal (on website)

_____ I sent my payment via Zelle to Treasurer@Kaligrafos.com

Please complete this form and give to Treasurer, Sherry Barber, or email to her at above email.

Drawing & Decorating Lombardic Versals with Shelby Barrentine

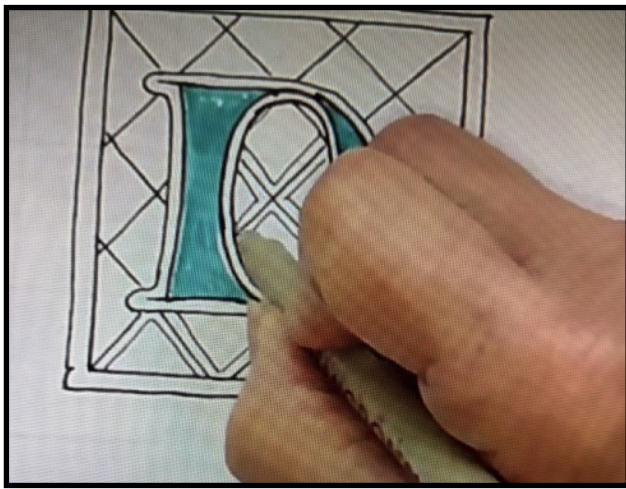
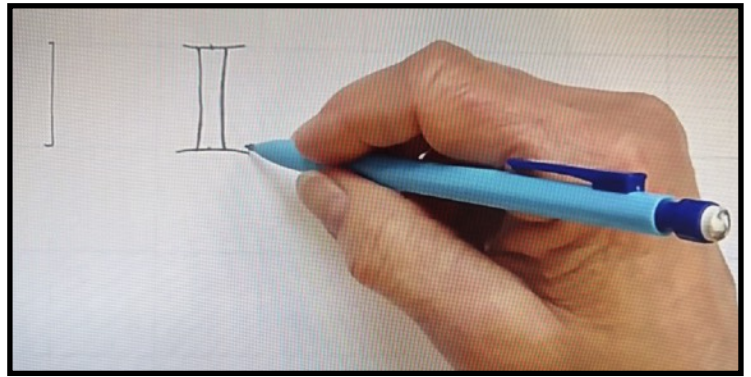
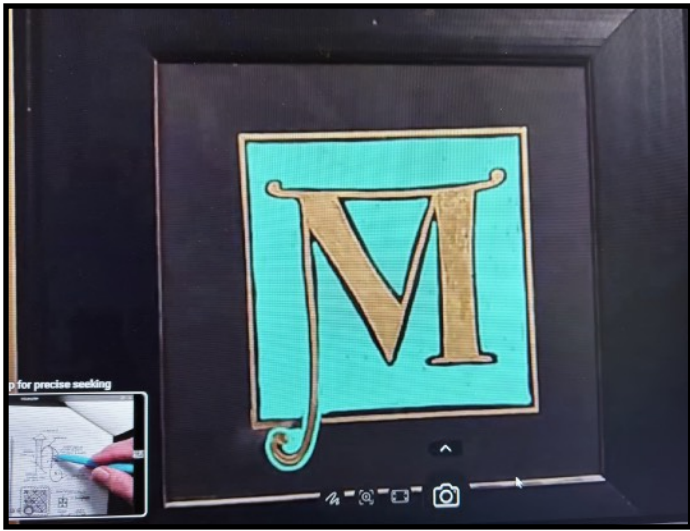
Review by Monica Winters

The Kaligrafos January meeting convened because of bad weather issues via ZOOM, its members fortuitously at home for good reason: calligraphy aficionados were in the comfort of their warm and cozy home “studios” with supplies conveniently within arms’ reach rather than maneuvering the reassigned-room location at FUMC carrying an armload of bits-and-bobs.

Presenter Shelby Barrentine presented us with a solid, step-by-step foundation for constructing decorated Lombardic versals. After presenting background research and examples, she demonstrated simple tricks for building the letter forms, placing them within a square format and “diapering” the background using a step-by-step process. Drawing each letter of the alphabet on gridded paper gave a practical way to achieve the proportions of each letter. After drawing a narrow border around the letter, Shelby showed us a simple way to “diaper” the background with lines and blocks as well as variations of the basic pattern. The letter, with its “ditched” outline and diapered background can then be transferred onto a presentation page by tracing with a lightbox, or in the case of black or very opaque surface, using transfer paper. Leaving a “ditch” around the basic letter form brings the letter forward by separating from its background, although she showed us examples of how dynamic it can be by filling that ditch with color. Color can be achieved with gel pens, brush markers, gouache, colored pencils, mica colors – any variety of medium that can fill in a small space on paper.

Shelby’s step-by-step instruction made it easy to take a simple letter form and make it deliciously complex with simple at-hand tools, essentially demystifying the intricacies of Lombardic Versals for contemporary calligraphiles.





SHOW-and-SHARE



Unless
someone
like
you
cares
a whole lot,
nothing
is going
to get
better.
It is not.

Dr. Seuss





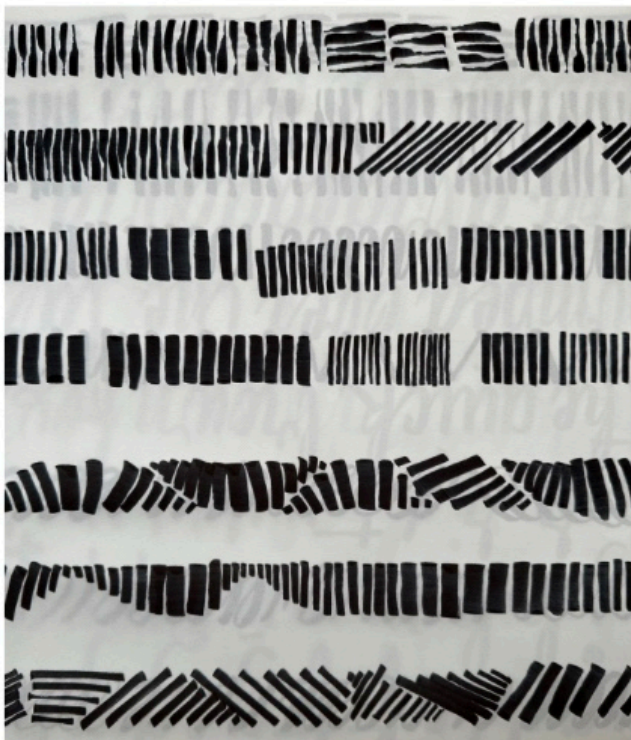
Recap: Retro Brush Lettering Workshop with Aspacia Kusulas

Review: Sarah Schulz Photos: Javier Mardones-Hermosilla

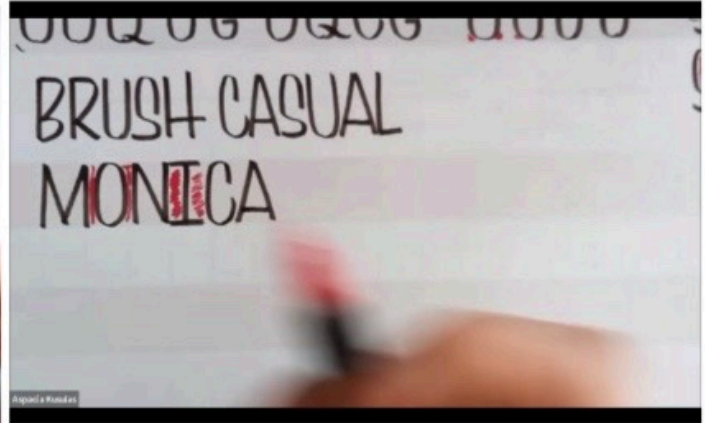
On Nov 1-2, Kaligrafos hosted a Retro Brush Lettering workshop with Aspacia Kusulas of DesignKOUS. It was two days of lettering delight for me, and simultaneously the most fun and most structure I've had with my brush markers thus far.



Aspacia began by introducing us to her inspiration for the styles we learned - Mortimer Leach, a prominent mid-century lettering artist. Aspacia discussed other mid-century lettering elements, such as the frieg egg shape, starbursts, etc. We began with the foundation of learning any new style, warmups and basic strokes, and we also discussed rotating the brush marker to as not to wear down the tip asymetrically. We also learned a tip for reviving a dying Tombow Dual Brush Marker - go check out the January newsletter to read that!



We learned two lettering styles - a retro script style with the Tombow Dual Brush Pen, and a Brush Casual, an all-caps style with the Tombow Fudenosuke marker. We also discussed spacing and how to vary the basic style depending on different thickness of brush marker and how to style tricky letter combinations.



Finally, we also did some layout projects, in addition to learning lots of fun extras to add to our work. Overall, it was a thorough and very well-presented program, and I'm delighted that Aspacia was willing to share her knowledge with us! Thanks to everyone who joined in. I personally have had so much fun with this script and have found lots of applications for it. And many thanks to Javier for these photos, he's done some great work with this style!

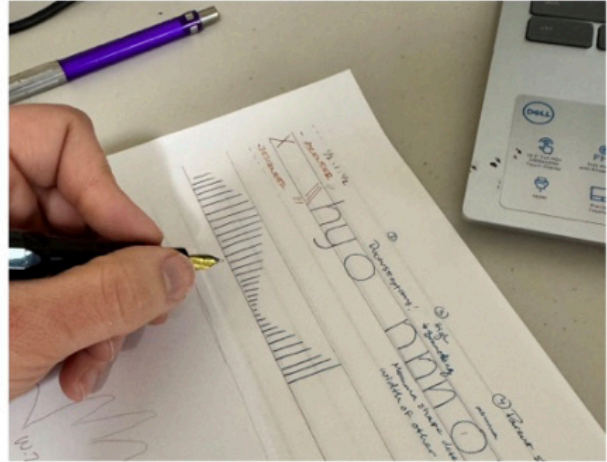


Recap: Stunt Roman Workshop with Nina Tran

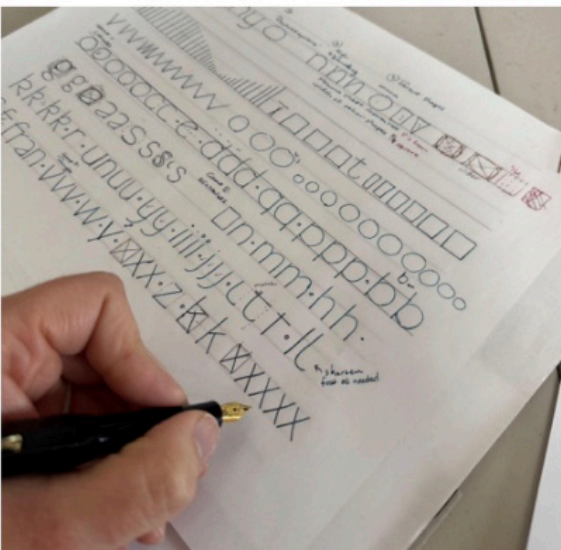
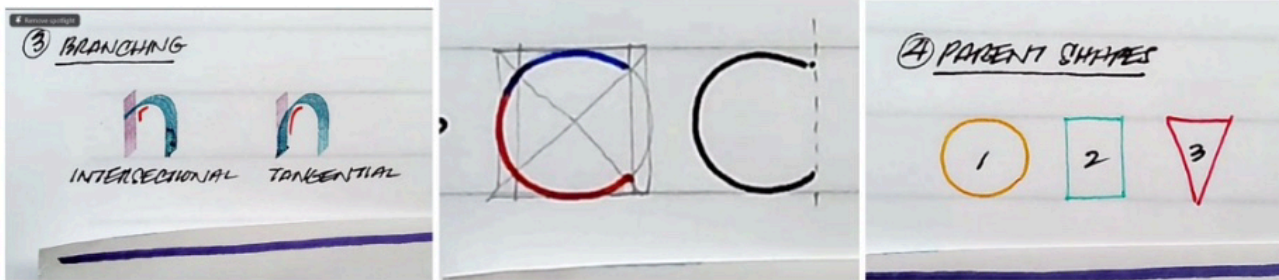
By Sarah Schulz

On January 4-5, 2025, Kaligrafos hosted Nina Tran to teach Stunt Roman via Zoom. Nina helped to advertise our workshop on her Instagram, which brought in a huge number of workshop attendees! This is her most popular workshop and we were delighted to be on her roster of guilds to teach.

Nina is a thorough and methodical teacher. We started by setting up our “writing zone”, and positioning our papers so that when pulling a downstroke, the stroke naturally hit the baseline at 90°.



Given that the Stunt Roman Style (originally from the Speedball Textbook, later with her own personal flair added) originates in Roman letters, the workshop also featured instruction in monoline Roman. Nina discussed intersectional vs. tangential branching, how each Roman letter fit into the “squirele” or square + circle, and divided the letters into the various parent shapes. From here, we were ready to learn how they changed into Stunt Roman forms!

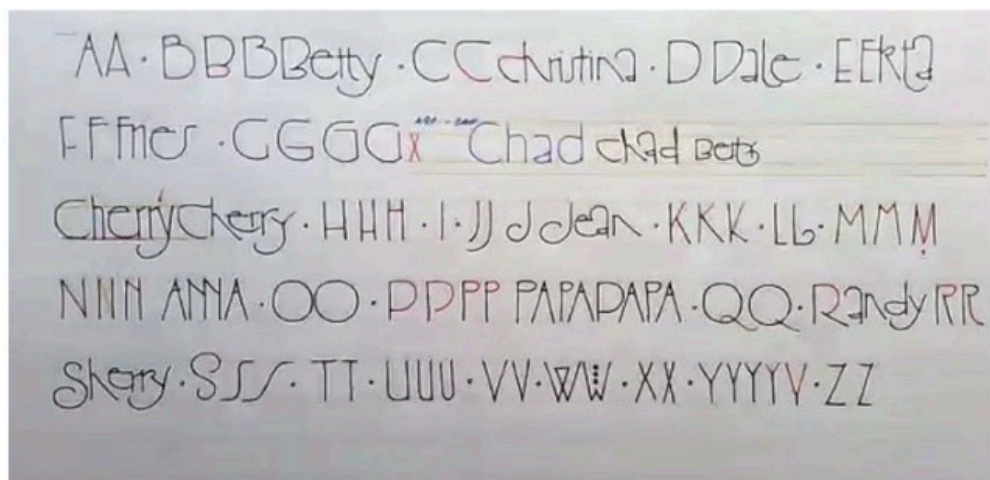
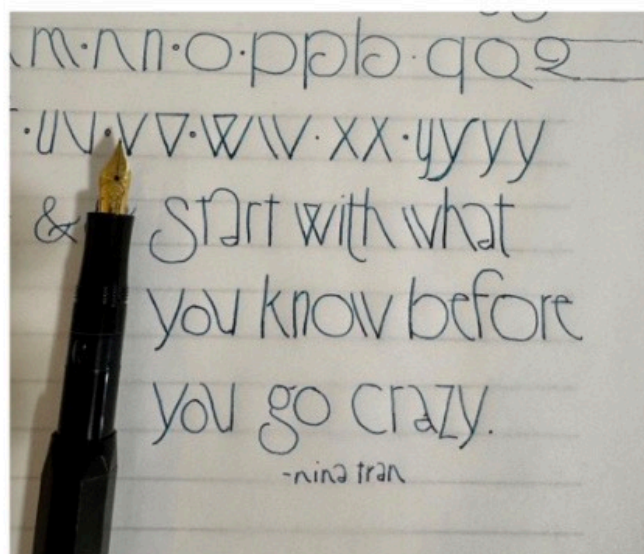


Saturday’s instruction covered minuscules, with an almost dizzying number of variations for each letter. Nina showed us an evolution from regular Roman to Stunt Roman, and also covered spacing and different approaches to change letters on the fly to make a word fit together better, or different ways to add flair.

Left: My minuscules have never looked this good. I owe it all to Nina.

Nina also taught a mashup of Stunt Roman with Draftsman & Architects styles, which gave us even more options to add interest. She left off with the advice to “start with what you know before you go crazy”. It’s easy to do with Stunt Roman given how fun it is!

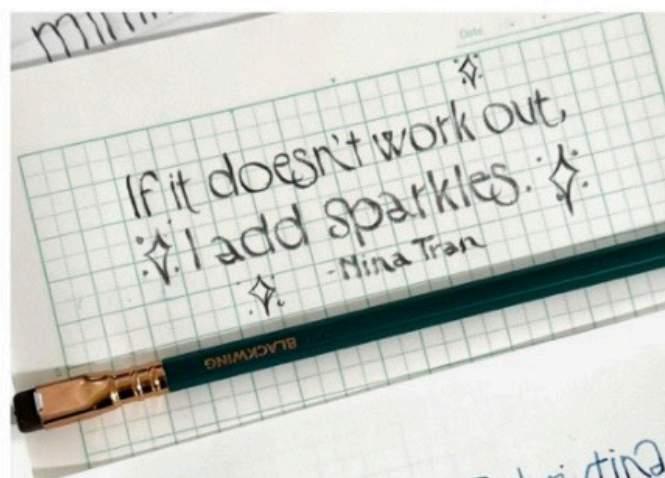
Right: in which I immediately ignore Nina’s advice and go crazy immediately after class.



Day 2 covered majuscules, and we put together words with both minuscules and majuscules. It was fun to see names of guild members and other workshop participants as she went through the alphabet. Can you spot some Kaligrafos member names?

One of the last elements we covered briefly was writing with pressure-release with our tools. It reminded me of Monica Winters’s graphite techniques workshop in a previous year, and it was fun to combine the two.

Nina also has a great sense of humor. I ended up using some of her advice from class as practice since they’re both good advice and pretty funny. Thanks again to Nina for a great workshop!



KALIGRAFOS WORKSHOP & PROGRAM VIDEOS-MEMBERS ONLY

Did you know that Kaligrafos has a YouTube channel of some previous workshops and programs? If you would like to watch these videos, please email Sherry Barber and she will send you a private link to watch them. These are for members only, not for wide distribution.

“Drawing & Decorating Lombardic Versals” by Shelby Barrentine

“Pocket Folder/Envelopes” by Sherry Barber

“Pencil to Pen: Monoline Letters” by Betty Barna

“Make it Sparkle: Using Mica in Calligraphy” by Sarah Schulz

“Playful Letters” by Carrie Imai

“Tunnel Books” by Lissette Landauro

“Cut-Out Letters” by Betty Barna

“Painting on Bottles & Glass” by June Leschek

“Pretty Paisley Letters” by Cecilia Boschi, Day One ~ 1 hr 32 minutes

“Pretty Paisley Letters” by Cecilia Boschi, Day Two ~ 1 hr 35 minutes

“Pigments” by Margaret Mall ~ 35 minutes

“Watercolor Fun for Holiday Envelopes ~ 1 hr 9 minutes

“Sewn Boards Binding” ~ 20 minutes