Kaligrafos Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026
VOLUME 45 NO 10

NEXT MEETING

Our september meeting will be on

Saturday, september 12, 2026

Social Gathering 9:30-10:00

Meeting 10:00 - 12:00

Location: First United Methodist Church

503 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080

First Floor, Ogden Fellowship Hall

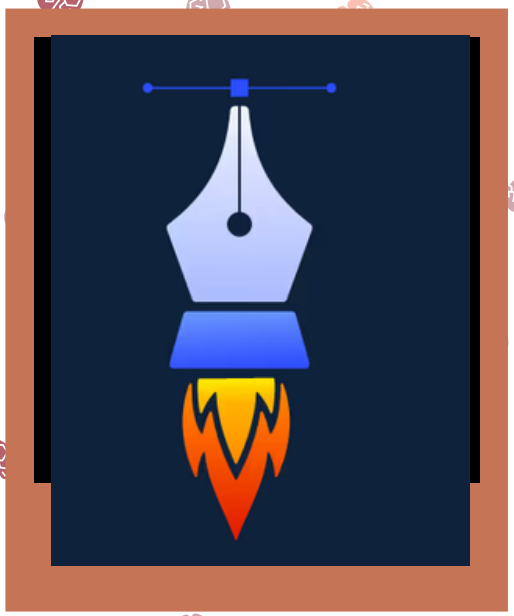
MEETING PROGRAM

Vintage To Modern Nibs: Brief Story & Comparisons

Presented by:

Nikola Pang





LOOK FOR THE SIGN!



From the President

Dear Members,

It's humbling to write my first President's letter as I step into my new role as Kaligrafos President. Having a local calligraphy guild means so much to me and I hope I can serve the membership well. I also ask for grace and gentle assistance as I will no doubt make various errors as I go through the growing pains of leading an organization. But I hope my enthusiasm for this group can make up for my lacking areas, and I look forward to keeping the tradition of Kaligrafos volunteering alive.

That said, Kaligrafos is always in need of volunteers - we can't run this wonderful organization without them! If you have any ability to do so, please give of your time and energy. We are always in need of articles for the newsletter, and the Kaligrafos Workshops Coordinator position is still looking for someone to fill it. For now, I am continuing in my old role and new one, but would love for someone new to take it over! The benefit is you get to contact some amazing instructors to come teach us. I also cannot sufficiently thank our current Board and volunteers who make Kaligrafos possible - it takes a village, and I am so grateful for our villagers old and new who make everything run.

Speaking of volunteering, Kaligrafos will once again make an appearance at the Dallas Pen Show later this month! It is a great way to spread what we do to do the community and we hope once again to gain some new members as a result of our time there. If you are able to come either pen names for attendees or talk about Kaligrafos to curious pen show goers, please contact Eric Doerr. Your lettering does not need to be perfect to volunteer; throughout my years volunteering, practicing for the pen show has been a good goal to gain proficiency in a hand. As always, a big thank you to Eric for coordinating our pen show appearance! If you are not able to come

volunteer, hopefully you can make it out to the pen show - there will be all sorts of pens, inks, and papers for sale. The Dallas Pen Show is how I found Kaligrafos in 2022, so it holds a special place in my heart!

I hope everyone had a pleasant summer and some time to practice their letters. Maybe you practiced a hand you have been doing for years or learned a new one, and I hope you are ready for another year of learning! Javier has put together an exciting year of programs for us, starting with Nik Pang in September. Maybe you've met him at the pen show if you've ever been; he has an absolute wealth of knowledge not only about vintage fountain pens, but the history of the steel pen (aka dip nibs) and historical penmen and penmanship. Every time I talk to him I learn something new, so I hope you'll join us for the September meeting!

Looking forward, our November Bazaar is possibly closer than you'd think - it's time to assess your stash and see if you have any items to bring to sell. Kaligrafos takes a percentage of the sales as a fundraiser for our guild, and it's a great way to offload old supplies in good condition, and try some new ones! Feel free to bring art you've made to sell as well. Also, our first workshop will take place in November - Kalo Chu will teach us Spencerian via Zoom, with recordings available for 3 months. I'm new to this hand so I'll be learning alongside all of you!

Jumping forward to February, the Valentine Committee is always in need of volunteers - we need your help! And it's never too early to start thinking of your design for the Valentine exchange. I'm looking forward to another great year of all Kaligrafos has to offer.

Sarah Schulz, President





LET'S MEET OUR

Board Members



FUNDRAISING

BETTY BARNA

QUESTION -

TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF THAT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE.

I came from Canada in 1972 and started doing calligraphy in about 1978. In addition to being a nurse, I worked as a calligrapher for several years. I am retired now but still enjoy doing calligraphy and teaching, as well as travel and photography.

QUESTION

WHY DID YOU VOLUNTEER OR AGREE TO VOLUNTEER FOR YOUR POSITION?

I am currently doing fundraising for Kaligrafos but have done most of the board jobs over my tenure. I believe in volunteering and have met so many great people doing that.

QUESTION

WHAT IS YOUR GO-TO/FAVORITE STYLE? WHY?

Probably italic because it was the first alphabet that I learned.

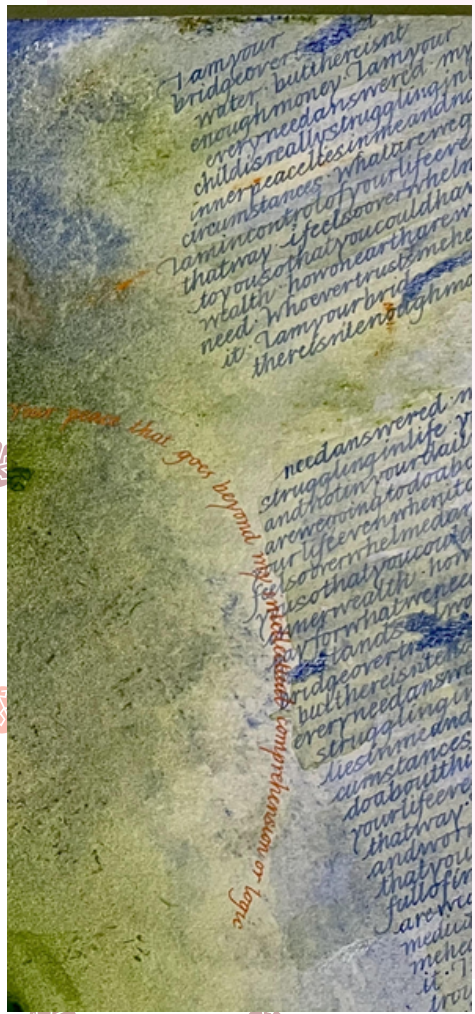
Mark your calendar

EXCITING NEWS FROM OUR MEMBER
CAROL MEASURES SCOTT

THE UNFOLDING OF WORDS: SOLO EXHIBITION OF CAROL MEASURES SCOTT
SEPTEMBER 2 - DECEMBER 30, 2026
6304 BELTLINE RD, DALLAS, TX 75254
IN THE ATRIUM AT BARUCH HASHEM MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

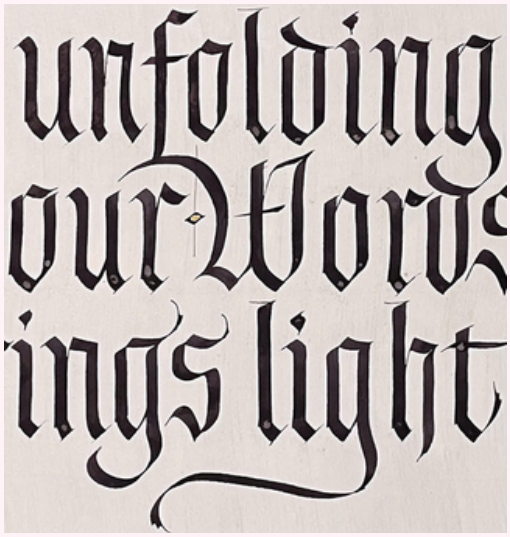
OPENING RECEPTION & ARTIST'S TALK:
SEPT. 2, 6 - 7 P.M.

CAROL WILL DISCUSS THE CREATIVE INTERSECTION OF WORDS, ART, AND MEANING AS THEY REVEAL THEMSELVES.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
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FACEBOOK.COM/CAROLSCALLIGRAPHY
IG: @CAROLSCALLIGRAPHY
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HTTPS://WWW.CAROLSCALLIGRAPHYART.COM/HOME







Workshop Review

WE WERE LUCKY TO GET NOT JUST ONE BUT TWO REVIEWS OF THE APRIL WORKSHOP!! A HUGE THANK YOU TO MONICA FOR HER AMAZING REVIEW.

Kaligrafos April 2026 Workshop Review:

Nicole Black: Wedding Calligraphy Entrepreneur Who Works with BOTH Sides of Her Brain

Noon-4 pm

April 11, 2026

Review by Monica Winters

Nicole Black presented to the Kaligrafos Workshop a no-nonsense, rational, orderly and quintessentially professional approach to starting and managing her Wedding Calligraphy Business. Her 20-year business expands with word-of-mouth referrals from repeat high-end clients. She had on display for us six large binders covering those years of experience, showing samples of envelopes, invitations, labels, and SWAG for high-end clients. All of this was accomplished before the current "age of influencers."

As a left-handed calligrapher who operates on both sides of her brain, Nicole's science-based right brain has helped her to be methodical and organized, analytical, and regimented, while her left-brained, creative and craft-based side activates her creativity and innovation in design and craft. This balance of brain activity is accompanied by – most importantly - a strong belief in the value of her personal time and artistic talents. She is a wife, mother, owner of three dogs, and college biology major who is able to work bankers' hours, all while managing her personal and professional lives. And, yes, occasionally she has all-nighters. And a ***RUSH*** order means more $$$.

All of this is explained in great detail in her presentation which includes a well-organized Power-Point. Nicole works with hand-in-hand with client, stationer, illustrator, and printer to execute each job, which makes a timeline essential to each aspect of a calligraphy occasion.

Some overarching tips to consider:

- Keep your work area organized and uncluttered.
- Not every client is your client; some projects simply do not fit your style.
- Charge according to what your time is worth (this is a mind-set tip).
- Calligraphy is a sales tax business.
- There's nothing wrong with using Photoshop or Illustrator to clean up an original to be printed.

At one point, Nicole gave each of us a pre-lined envelope and a name and address; we poised with our inked pens until she cued us to address the envelope at our regular pace. Our class average was 10 minutes per envelope; as a gauge, Nicole told us that the calligrapher/teacher Suzanne Cunningham takes 25-30 minutes per envelope. This demonstrated that calligraphy rates are unique to each calligrapher, and thus the need to charge according to what one's time is worth.

Nicole's hints and tricks of the trade are too numerous to mention here. But even this reviewer was able to pick up this "aha!" trick for cleaning the nib while working: clip an upside-down toothbrush inside a cup filled with water to scrub the nib clean (and save mucking up your rag or paper towel) every few envelopes. I had also learned a cleaning trick from Mike Kecseg - who uses a damp paper towel to accomplish the same- but the cut-off toothbrush upside down in a glass of water is a step further. Intermittent nib cleaning helps keep ink flowing from the nib and prevents ink buildup, which can slow ink flow and, in turn, production time.

This reviewer apologizes for the lack of images to accompany this review, as our presenter requested no photographs due to her clients' privacy. However, she is most generous with sharing information on setting up and running a calligraphy business. This entertaining and highly detailed workshop will either spur you on with a wealth of information to set up your own business, or intimate that it is more than you want to attempt. Either way, Nicole is a joy to watch. She also gave attendees great SWAG at her workshop.







Shout-Outs *&High-Fives*

New Section Alert!

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR KALIGRAFOS FRIENDS! HAS A MEMBER AMAZED YOU? SHARED KINDNESS? HAVE THEY DONE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE? WELL, SHARE IN THE NEWSLETTER!

EMAIL ELYCE LONGAZELLE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

Kaligrafos Name Tags

A huge, heartfelt thank you to Monica Winters for volunteering to design and letter all of this year's name tags! The results reflect her incredible talent! The lettering style is Modern Legend using the mica paints that were made during a Guild meeting presented by Sarah Schulz. As you will see when you get your name tag, her work is beautiful! So grateful for her time and creativity! Thank you again, Monica!

Thank you board members for your guidance! And, best wishes for a great year of art, ink, and friendship.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

We would like to cordially welcome our newest members to the guild!! We look forward to getting to know you and seeing your beautiful creations!

Allyson Bills
Haley Connor
Erin Gregg
Anna Olivarez
Cecilia Oliver



Practice Inspiration

Bored with practice quotes?!?
Try some of these! Remember to bring one for the share table!

"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp in the fall."
F. Scott Fitzgerald

“Yesterday’s lazies cure today’s crazies!”
-Cam, Modern Family

“Often has it been that I have regretted speech, seldom silence.” - Sayings from Odin

(Do you have a favorite? Please share!)

Dues and Programs

JOIN KALIGRAFOS

$25 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP
$35 FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIP
HTTPS://KALIGRAFOS.COM/JOIN-US/
PLEASE SEND MEMBERSHIP CHANGES OF YOUR INFORMATION VIA EMAIL TO: MEMBERSHIP@KALIGRAFOS.COM

26-27 Kaligrafos Programs

2026	Presenter	Program Title
September 12	Nikola Pang	Vintage To Modern Nibs: Brief Story & Comparisons
October 10	Cláudio Gil (Brazil)	TBA
November 14	Monica Winters	Parallel Pen Adventures
2027	**Presenter**	**Program Title**
January 13	Suzie Beringer	Tiny Playful Romans
February 13		Valentine Social
March 13	Lukas Tucker	Analyzing a historical hand
April 10	Amity Parks	Chunky Capitals with Bister Inks
May 8	Andrea Wunderlich (Germany)	Colorplay In Spots & Spaces