

# CAPITAL SALEM OREGON CALLIGRAPHERS

July/August/September 2025

## Mark your calendar

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month (except July & August) at **6:30 pm** (Social time), **6:45 pm** (Gen. Meeting) **7 pm** (Program). Zoom info. is provided via email.

**July 11-13 – Pacific Northwest Pen Show,** Portland, Sheraton Airport Hotel

**July 12 – “Summer Salad Serendipity”** at Lori Festa’s home. Details follow.

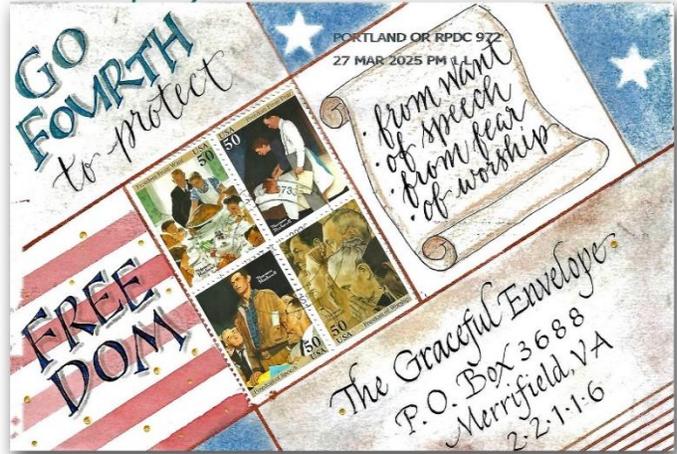
**August 22 – Sept. 1 - Oregon State Fair**

**September 4, 6:30 pm** – Monthly meeting at Capital Manor’s Community Center.

**Oct. 18–Nov. 15** – Joint exhibit with PSC, VCG, and CCG at the Mt. Angel Abbey Library. Details on our website.

**October 25 – Samhain Festival,** Willamette Heritage Center

## The Graceful Envelope 2025 Contest Winner



This envelope by

*Susan Wickes*

was named a **Winner** in the 2025 Graceful Envelope Contest’s Adult division for her artistic rendering of the theme **Go Fourth**, marking one-fourth of this century and the Four Freedoms.

*The Washington Calligraphers Guild*  
calligraphersguild.org  
Sponsor of the Graceful Envelope Contest

A BIG Congratulations to Susan Wickes – a winner in the 2025 Graceful Envelope Contest!



# Leaf & Line

## NATURE CALLIGRAPHY

### Leaf and Line

Nature Calligraphy Exhibit

March 31 – April 24

Western Oregon University Hamersly Library

What a great turn-out! We exhibited 47 pieces of calligraphy.



Brenda, Margo, Caroline & Jessie

Left/Bottom: Bill Smith

Top: Becky Hafer

Middle: Jessie McCandlish

Green middle: Sandi Cormier



Prindi and Sally



## April Calligraphy Retreat



Mickey, Laura, Nancy, and Katy enjoyed the April 4-6, 2025 weekend retreat at the Canby Grove Retreat Center. Sponsored by the Portland Society of Calligraphy, the new location (instead of Menucha) was lovely and turned out to provide an enlightening time for all. Plus, it is much closer to Salem.

The buildings and grounds were comfortable, easy walking to meals, with beautiful surroundings. We greeted old friends and made some new friends.



Mickey created this sweet R at one of the impromptu classes. All supplies were included.



Planning has begun for next year's retreat being held the first weekend in May. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss it. The committee is working to enlist good programs and speakers so it will be worth your time.

## Summer Salad Serendipity



Lori Festa and Laurie Naemura have many fun, messy projects to create in Lori's back yard Saturday, July 12. Pictured are Bioplastic Suncatchers. Lori is providing the supplies.

Laurie also wants to do some ice dye on fabric (possibly a t-shirt), Shibori dyeing, and acrylic letters on fabric aprons. Bring items to dye.

Gather at 10 am, bring a salad, items to dye (t-shirt, apron, white cotton dish towel), and an apron or clothes for getting messy in.



# Oregon State Fair

Dates: August 22 – September 1



Be sure to enter your art in the fair! The website is open for your registration: [oregonstatefair.org](http://oregonstatefair.org). Click on Attractions, then Creative Living, then Visual Arts, scroll down to Calligraphy and click on Calligraphy handbook. After registering, deliver your art to Cascade Hall in the fairgrounds on Friday, August 8 from 2-7 pm, and Saturday, August 9 from 10-2. Pick-up on Tuesday, Sept. 2 from 2-7, and Wednesday, Sept. 3 from 10-2.

## BREAKING NEWS!!

A new division has been added effective July 2: **DIVISION 119 - SPECIAL EXHIBITION AMERICA 250 AWARD**

### Now's your chance to letter history!

Create a hand-lettered piece featuring an historic American text — such as the **Declaration of Independence**, the **Preamble**, the **U.S. Constitution**, the **Bill of Rights**, or even a meaningful **amendment or article**. You may also select another passage or quote that reflects American values, milestones, or culture.

Entries should include a short statement (1–3 sentences) explaining how your chosen text reflects American history and why it qualifies for this exhibit.

#### Guidelines:

- Keep content **non-political** to ensure eligibility.
- **No commercial or trademarked images** may be used.

Let your pen bring history to life! Help us celebrate **250 years of American creativity** in a meaningful and timeless way.

No entry fee (limit: 1 entry) **Ribbon awards to First Place and up to two Honorable Mentions.**

## Classes/Programs

### *Fraktur and Flourishing Class with Nina Tran*

held in May, 2025



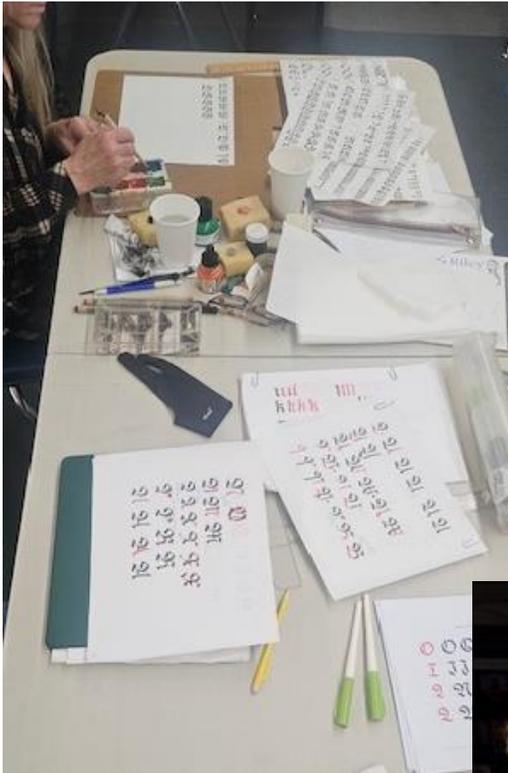
We gathered at Abiqua School in South Salem for two days of excellent instruction from Nina Tran. She started with an overview of lettering history to give us an idea of how, when, and why Fraktur occurred. We had access to a plethora of reference books she brought and borrowed from the guilds, including her amazing journals. On Day 1 she took us letter family by letter family through the alphabet. By mid-Day 2 we learned flourishing, decorating, and did some projects for a thorough study of the letters.

In addition to teaching 16 participants + 2 monitors in-person, she zoomed

the class to 22 on-line students. And, she did an amazing job of doing both!



Nina, in the classroom



Classwork by Sally Keeney and Aries Manoff

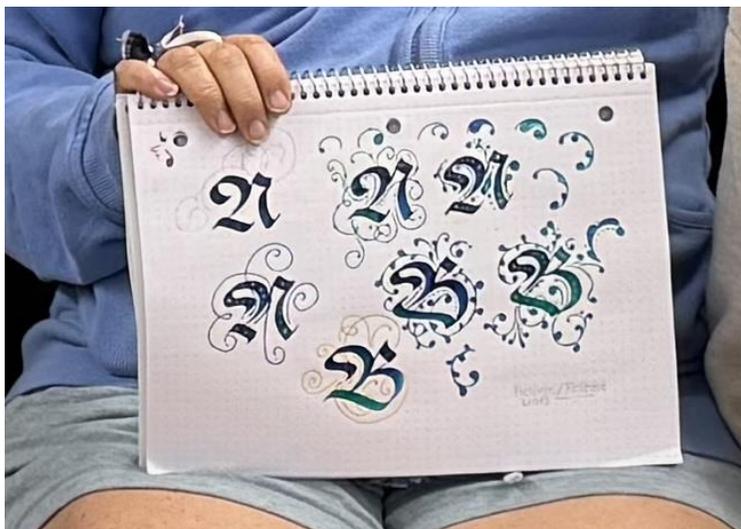


Yuki, Nina, and Aries



Letters H and N by Laura

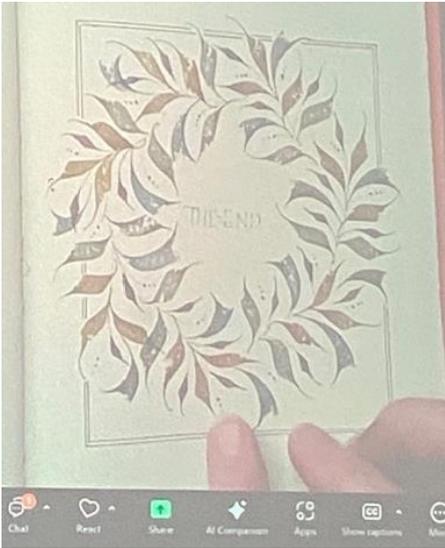
Classwork by Lori Festa



Many thanks to Phil Schoenherr who transported Nina from and to Eugene each day for the class.

## April, 2025 meeting

Written by Brenda Russell



The program, "Magic of the Parallel Pen," was a zoom presentation by well-known calligrapher and instructor Suzie Beringer. Ms. Beringer began by explaining why she prefers the Parallel pen above others. She unscrewed a 60 mm pen and pointed out how each internal component contributes to the smooth flow of ink, resulting in optimal



quality of work. Then she demonstrated the pen's versatility, showing how it can be used for creating designs as well as for writing words. She started by using the pen to draw simple diamond shapes, then continued to lines and curves, as we attempted to follow with our 60 mm pens. Turning the pen while moving and lifting it in one smooth stroke produced sharply pointed leaves and petals. Striking designs resulted when they were arranged in concentric circles painted with watercolors and embellished with graceful tendrils. We learned how we can use our parallel pens to enhance our lettering. This program showed us that these pens can do much more than write words.



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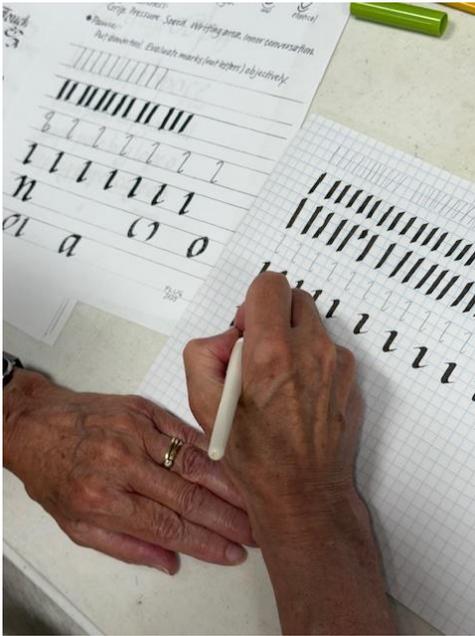
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Apologies from the editor for not identifying calligraphers' classwork.



## May, 2025 meeting

Written by Brenda Russell

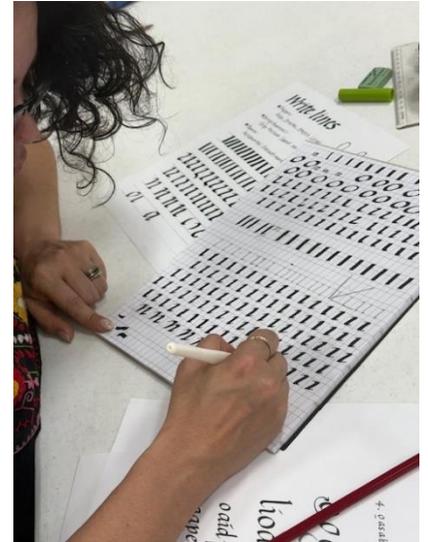


Margo Jensen

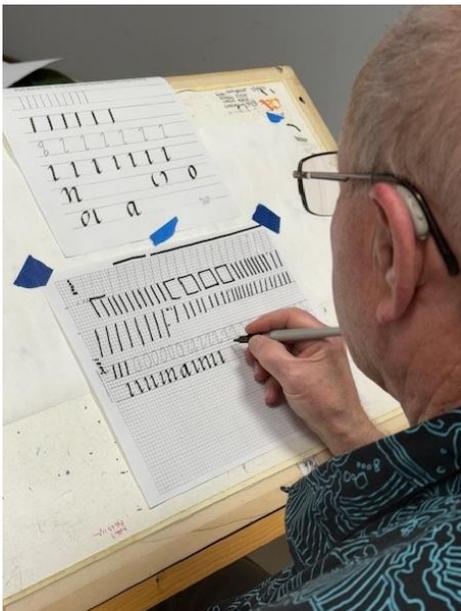
Prindi Flug, well known calligrapher and instructor, presented the program, "What Makes a Letter/Word Look Good?" By asking us this question, Prindi encouraged us to arrive at some answers, among them consistency, uniform shape,



Trish Hibler



Karen Guillen-Chapman



Bill Smith

pen angle, and energy. As Prindi demonstrated these qualities with the overhead projector, we attempted to follow her pen strokes. She stressed that the right frame of mind is important when striving for better calligraphy. She said that relaxation is important and recommended that we eliminate stress and tension by meditation before starting to write.

## June, 2025 meeting

Written by Brenda Russell

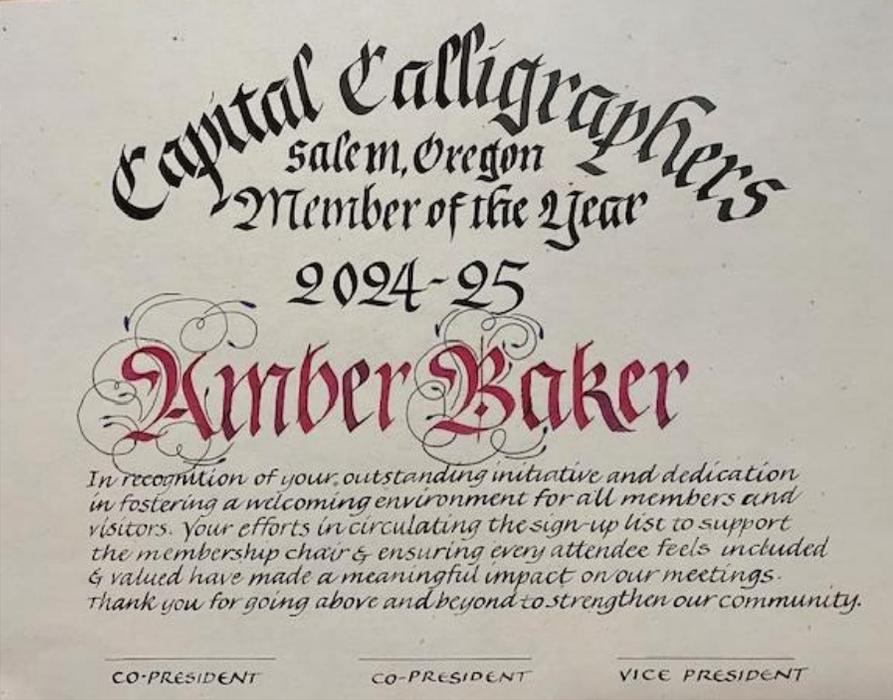
The meeting started at 6 pm with a scrumptious potluck and social time. After Co-President Aries Manoff described the duties of each board member, election was held for next year's board. Amber Baker will take over Hospitality after Maryellen Barker, and Beka Carillo offered to be Assistant Treasurer. All other board members remained in their positions. She then announced the Member(s) of the Year: Maryellen Barker and Amber Baker.



Maryellen was Hospitality Chair for 25 years!! She was so diligent in making sure people were

notified when their volunteer time was near and even brought goodies when someone couldn't. She is finally passing it on to the new chair, Amber. Read more details on certificate.

Amber has been a member for less than 25 years 😊 but has been a contributor in so many ways. We have appreciated her smiling face and welcoming manner, ready to help in any way. Read certificate for more details.

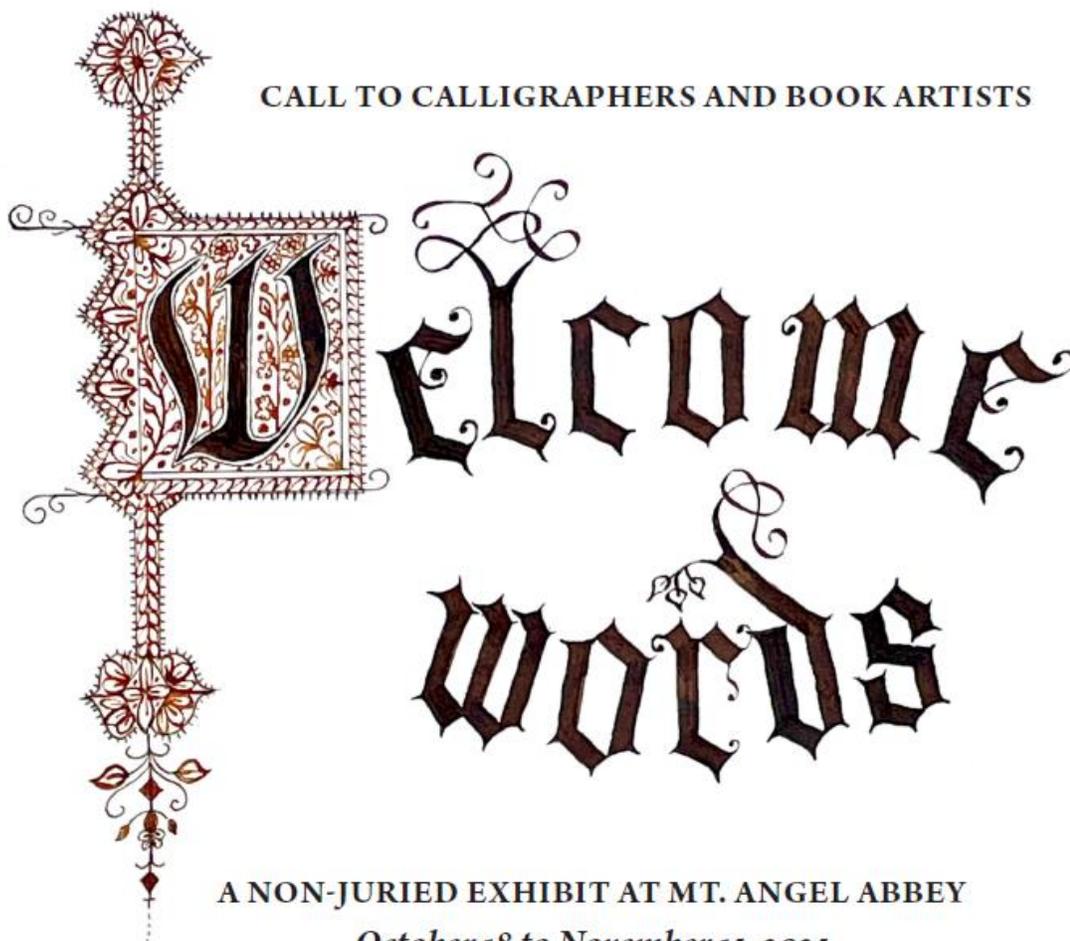


The evening program was "Recycle, Refurbish, Re-invent." Lori Festa demonstrated Cereal Box Embossing. She showed how art could be

produced with scrap paper and pieces of cereal or cracker boxes, using burnishers, pastels, and colored pencils. Laura showed how portfolios could be made by folding cardboard slip sheets from Costco holding them together with red or blue duct tape, making handles of red ribbon, and decorating them with inks or paints. Laurie used surplus pages of sheet music to create envelopes by step-by-step cutting and folding. We left the meeting inspired to try some of these techniques using items so readily available. Sorry, no photos of the envelopes from sheet music or embossing. The photographers were teaching!



CALL TO CALLIGRAPHERS AND BOOK ARTISTS



A NON-JURIED EXHIBIT AT MT. ANGEL ABBEY

*October 18 to November 15, 2025*

Sponsored by the Capital Calligraphers, the Portland Society for Calligraphy,  
and the Valley Calligraphy Guild in conjunction with Mt. Angel Abbey

The theme “Welcome Words” was chosen to reflect our love of words, to acknowledge the way in which three calligraphic guilds have welcomed the opportunity to work together, the Benedictine tradition of welcoming, and our desire to live in a welcoming world.

Calligraphers and book artists who are members of one of the sponsoring guilds are invited to submit up to two pieces of work for the show. Entries will be displayed as space allows.

More information will be sent out in September. In the meantime we invite you to imagine what words you might want to feature that indicate what being welcomed or not being welcomed might mean to you. We encourage you to consider the ambiance of the exhibit and the location and plan your art accordingly.

This is a non-juried exhibit open to all members of the sponsoring guilds and members of Mt. Angel Abbey. The Abbey reserves the right to disqualify offensive pieces of art.

**Saturday, October 18, from 2:00 to 4:00:** Exhibit Opening and Reception,  
including a lecture by Brother Albert.

**Saturday, November 15:** Exhibit closes.

**Sunday, November 16:** Artwork is to be picked up.

Capital Calligraphers  
PO Box 2294  
Salem, Oregon 97308-2294  
[Contact@CapitalCalligraphers.org](mailto:Contact@CapitalCalligraphers.org)

## Officers

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