

Calligraphers' Guild of Manitoba

2026 NEW YEAR NEWSLETTER

Schedule

January 21

Members Meeting
Watercolour Blending & Theory with Ann Rivera
7:00 - 9:00 PM, Zoom

February 19

Members Meeting
TOPIC TBA
7:00 - 9:00 PM, Zoom

February 23, 26, March 2, 5

Spencerian Script Adventure with Kalo Chu (Online)
Members: \$100, Non-members: \$165

March 14

Gelli Plate Printing with Sonja Strausz (In-person)
Members: \$70, Non-members: \$75
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Bronx Park Community Centre

March 19

Members Meeting
Calligraphy Study Session
Location TBA

April 18 & 19

Folded Pen Adventures Workshop with Lorraine Douglas (In-person)
\$130 members, \$150 non-members
Wildwood Park Community Centre

May 3

Annual General Meeting (Hybrid)
Date & Location TBA

Upcoming Selection of Learning Opportunities:

Letter Locking: Folded Secrets with Rachel Payne (online)

February 3, 2025, 7:00 - 9:00 PM CT

<https://mnbookarts.org/events/letterlocking-folded-secrets-february-2026>

Craft + Craft Beer: Gothic Calligraphy with Janet Murata at Sookram's Brewing Co

March 10th, 2026 from 7-10 pm at 479-B Warsaw Avenue, Winnipeg

<https://c2centreforcrafft.ca/2025/11/20/craft-craft-beer-gothic-calligraphy-with-janet-sustrik-at-sookrams-brewing-co/>

Flourish Festival (formerly Western Canada Calligraphy Conference)

Calgary, AB, October 22 - 25, 2026

<https://www.flourish-festival.com>

CBBAG Artists' Books Presentation by Erwin Huebner

The Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild hosted last year an online presentation of the work of local Winnipeg book artist Erwin Huebner. It's a beautiful example of the intersection of art and science.

https://youtu.be/jpPYbXF6J0w?si=DQtfoKXMKL_kaQ5z

<https://erwinhuebner.com>



2025 Western Canada Calligraphy Conference By Ann Rivera

Last October, four members of our guild—Patricia Wilcock, LeeAnn Mytz, Janet Murata, and I—attended the inaugural calligraphy conference in Calgary, AB. Spanning four days, the event featured a highly esteemed teaching faculty. Classes generally ran from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, with breaks for refreshments and a midday break for a lunch buffet, included in the tuition at the dining hall. Open to everyone, “Serendipity Hour” took place daily from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM, showcasing demonstrations of various techniques. The evening “Lettering Lounge” in the dining room was open until 11:00 PM, providing students with a chance to practice their lettering forms in a relaxed atmosphere or learn some origami from Janet Murata. An optional daytrip to Banff followed the intense period of learning.

Having previously attended conferences at university campuses, I found the short ride on the hotel elevator down to the classrooms to be very convenient. Breakfasts and dinners were available at the hotel restaurant or via room service. Some students even stocked their mini-fridges with essentials from a quick taxi trip to a grocery store. For calligraphy supplies, a pop-up store by Kensington Art Supplies was conveniently located down the hall from the classrooms. Their permanent store is just a 20-minute bus ride or a 10-minute taxi or rideshare trip away.

Committing to an inaugural conference initially felt a bit of a leap of faith but in the end it was well worth it.

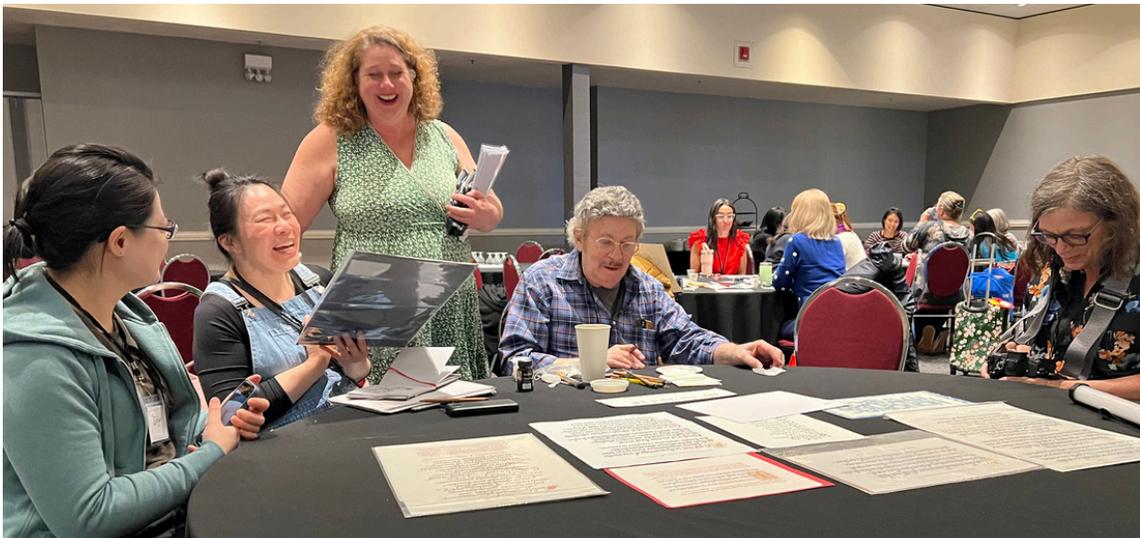
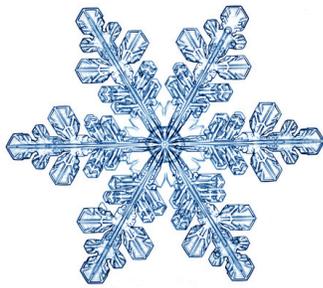


Left: Faculty being given official Calgary White Hat greeting. Right: Janet Murata speaking at opening evening reception.



Left: Barry Morentz discussing his work with students in his Italic Variations class.

Right: Gurpreet Singh teaching Turkish Calligraphy



Jill Burk (standing), conference organizer visiting Barry Morentz's presentation on gilding techniques during Serendipity Hour in the dining room.

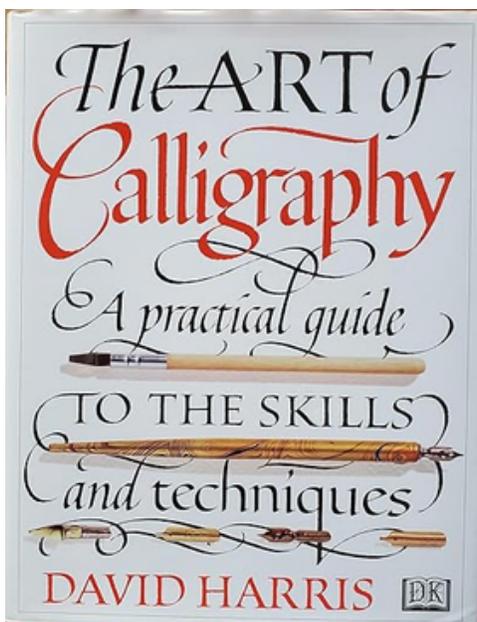
A Book Review by Gretta Bileski

The Art of Calligraphy: A Practical Guide to the Skills and Techniques **David Harris (1995, Dorling Kindersley Limited, London)**

I first encountered this layout while exploring Pinterest for specific calligraphic scripts. However, it became far more captivating after I took an Illuminated Capitals class with Heather Held in 2021. This inspired me to search for the book, and I successfully found a good copy. It has proven to be an incredible source of information and inspiration.

The Art of Calligraphy* by David Harris features 26 scripts complete with timelines, uses, comparisons, examples, and detailed instructions. The instructions are particularly meticulous, offering alternative letters and formations when applicable. It thoroughly addresses pen angles, letter angles, stroke sequences, and more, providing an in-depth analysis of each script.

I wholeheartedly recommend this book for beginners and as a valuable reference for more seasoned calligraphers.



A free PDF download can be found here:
<https://daretobebetternow.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/the-art-of-calligraphy-by-david-harris.pdf>



While discussing workshop ideas during our executive board meetings, we realize that while our guild's primary mission is to teach calligraphy, some of our members might be interested in learning other art mediums to add to creative skill set. For affordable classes always check your local municipal leisure guide or rural art council. The following is a list of only some of our local arts education organizations.

Local Artist-Run Non-profit Groups



Forum Art Centre

120 Eugenie Street, Winnipeg
<https://forumartcentre.com>

Winnipeg Art Gallery

<https://www.wag.ca/learn/art-classes/>



Manitoba Printmakers Association

11 Martha Street, Winnipeg
<https://www.printmakers.mb.ca/education/classes-and-workshops/>

Winnipeg Sketch Club

565 Guilbault Street, Winnipeg
<https://winnipegsketchclub.ca>, FaceBook page is more up to date

Local Colour Art Group

180 Poplar Avenue, Winnipeg
<https://www.localcolourart.com/visit-us>

The Edge Gallery and Urban Art Centre (ceramics)
<https://www.edgevillage.com/classes-and-workshops>

Manitoba Craft Council

<https://c2centreforcraft.ca>

Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba

2 - 710 Rosser Avenue, Brandon, MB
<https://agsm.ca/classes/>



Arts West Retreat (annual 1 week retreat in June)

Riding Mountain Conference Centre (Camp Wannukumbac), Clear Lake, Manitoba
https://www.artswestcouncil.ca/page/artists_retreatnew