

The Friends of Calligraphy

2026 CLASSES

Register now for classes in the annual series sponsored by the Friends of Calligraphy. Open to the public, these classes are meant for beginners and for scribes who wish to continue improving their skills.

Classes will be held

Online

–or at–

Fort Mason, Building C

2 Marina Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94123

–or at–

Albany Senior Center

846 Masonic Ave., Albany, CA 94706

1 *Italic* | Klein

\$205 (FOC members: \$185)

2 *Copperplate* | Martinez

\$205 (FOC members: \$185)

3 *Versals Old & New* | Paulus

\$150 (FOC members: \$135)

4 *Brush Script* | Leavens

\$125 (FOC members: \$115)

5 *Beginning Calligraphy* | Detrick

\$100 (FOC members: \$90)

The Instructors



Judy Detrick taught calligraphy and graphic design at College of the Redwoods on the Mendocino coast for more than 25 years. Her work can be found in several anthologies of calligraphy and graphic design, and she is represented in the Harrison Collection of Calligraphy at the San Francisco Public Library. She is the author of *Simply Calligraphy, A Beginner's Guide to Elegant Writing*.



Katie Leavens is a freelance illustrator and calligrapher based in San Francisco with a degree in Design. She loves exploring the relationship between tradition and modernism through her art. Katie has been teaching calligraphy since 2020. Her teaching style emphasizes the development of fine motor skills, tool control, and design principles. She strives to make her classes accessible and enjoyable for all skill levels.



Meredith Klein Meredith Klein originally learned italic from books; since then, she has studied with many distinguished teachers. She has taught calligraphy in the Fort Mason program since 2016, been a guest instructor at Janice Braun's History of the Book class at Mills College, and taught for other guilds as well as privately and at various local venues. She is a member of a collaborative artist book group, the Robins. Her work has been published in *Alphabet* and *Bound & Lettered*, and her calligraphy appears in a published limited edition artist book, *Swords and Angels*.

"I had forgotten how much fun a calligraphy class could be."

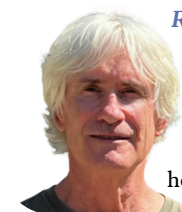
—Catherine B., Student

Friends of Calligraphy is a nonprofit society of people interested in calligraphy and related arts. FOC membership is open to all, and new members are invited to join at any time during the membership year. For more information please visit our website:

friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/join.html



Raoul Martinez had an informal exposure to calligraphy while he was in college. In 2009, his interest was rekindled by the Kalligraphia exhibit. He started taking classes offered by Friends of Calligraphy, where he fell in love with Copperplate. Raoul's artwork has been shown at the San Francisco Public Library, the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, Filoli, the Presentation Center and the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, and has been published in the Speedball Textbook and Alphabet. For examples of his work, see www.CalligraphybyRaoul.com.



Rick Paulus has been a calligrapher and a teacher for over forty years. He apprenticed for several years at the legendary Tolley Studios, in Washington, DC, before becoming the engrosser for the US State Department. In 1998, he was appointed chief calligrapher of the White House, where he remained for two presidents until, in 2006, he answered the call of the wild and left Washington, DC to explore new adventures in nature and art. Today, in addition to enjoying calligraphic explorations in his studio on the shores of Buzzards Bay, Rick is dedicated to sharing the knowledge he gained through many years of studio production and artistic experimentation with students of all ages and skill levels.

How to Register

Visit our website friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/classes.html for instructions on how to register and pay by mail or online.

– or –

Write FOC about the classes which you wish to enroll. Your tuition check should be made payable to Friends of Calligraphy and mailed to:

Registrar, FOC Classes

Friends of Calligraphy

P.O. Box 425194

San Francisco, California 94142-5194

Please register for any class at least six weeks in advance.

Class size is limited to 16. You will be notified by the FOC Class Registrar if you have a place in the class or are on the wait list. Payment of tuition is necessary to hold your place on a wait list. If you need to withdraw, a full refund will be issued 14 days before the class begins. Otherwise the tuition fee is forfeited unless a wait-listed student can take your place.

1 Italic

Meredith Klein, instructor

7 Tues. nights • 6:30 – 9 PM • [Online](#)

March 10, 17, 24, ** April 7, 14, 21, 28

\$205 non-members / \$185 FOC members

Thank you

Arising from Humanist cursive writing during the Italian Renaissance, italic has come down through the centuries as one of our most versatile calligraphy hands.

This elegant, graceful, and practical script can be used for nearly anything: poems, envelopes, certificates, signs, books—the list is endless. In

this class, you will learn the minuscule and majuscule alphabets, focusing on the letterforms, rhythm and spacing. We will also cover layout and ways to create variations

Supplies: *Basic Supplies**, plus layout bond paper (9 x 12" pad and either 11 x 14" or 11 x 17" pad); Brause nibs or Parallel Pens (3.8mm & 2.4mm sizes); protractor, ruler (C-Thru recommended)

***Date skipped for Italic*

4 Brush Script

Katie Leavens, instructor

4 Tues. nights • 6:30 – 9 PM • [In Person, Fort Mason](#)

September 8, 15, 22, 29

\$125 non-members / \$115 FOC members

Confidence

Whether you are new to lettering or an experienced calligrapher, brush script is a fun and expressive style. It will bring ease and flexibility to your writing. In this class, we'll explore a connected, casual script inspired by the italic hand—perfect for envelope names, cards, and bullet journal titles. Using a brush pen, you will learn to create lively, rhythmic letters that feel both natural and intentional.

Supplies: Tombow Dual Brush Pen (dark color), pencil, translucent marker paper (9 x 12")

2 Copperplate

Raoul Martinez, instructor

7 Tues. nights • 6:30 – 9 PM • [In Person, Albany](#)

May 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7

\$205 non-members / \$185 FOC members

Copperplate

Copperplate, an elegant, flowing script, delights the eye with its hairlines, bold swelling strokes, and repeating ovals. It traces its roots back to 17th century Italy. Its name comes from the etched copper plates that were used to print copybooks. Immortalized by George Bickham in *The Universal Penman*, it is still used today for formal occasions and anything that calls for refined elegance. In this class, students will study the pressure and release principle, the basic strokes and the lowercase and uppercase letterforms.

Supplies: *Basic Supplies**, plus Nikko G nib, oblique pen holder with metal flange, marker layout paper (9 x 12"), artist's tape, slant board (minimum 18 x 20")

5 Beginning Calligraphy

Judy Detrick, instructor

4 Sat. mornings • 10AM–Noon • [Online](#)

Oct 3, 10, 17, 24

\$100 non-members / \$90 FOC members

Write
Lightning

In this calligraphy class for beginners, you will be learning a foundational hand, which is likely familiar to you, but when written with a broad-edge pen it takes on an elegant and exotic quality that both the reader and writer can appreciate. You will learn about the best tools, materials, and techniques to get top results right from the start, and the things you learn in this class will carry over to many other calligraphic styles of writing. Come experience the magic that lies at the tip of your pen!

Supplies: *Basic Supplies**, plus a layout bond paper pad (14 x 17"), and a t-square.

3 Versals Old & New

Rick Paulus, instructor

4 Sat. mornings • 10:00AM–1:00PM • [Online](#)

August 1, 8, 15, 22

\$150 non-members / \$135 FOC members

VERSALS

OLD & NEW

Versals, those beautiful capital letters which traditionally indicate the beginning of bodies of text, have drawn our eyes to the page for centuries. Versals are typically colorful, often decorated, and always full of life and spirit, no matter how simply drawn. Beginning with a simple analysis of the Roman alphabet, we will embark on a journey through the ages with Versals as our guide. Participants in this workshop will be gently guided through the process of developing their very own constructed, or drawn, Versal letters with the benefit of historical reference to draw from.

Supplies: *Basic Supplies**, plus both pointed & broad-edge nibs, tracing paper, mixed media paper, gouache, watercolor, pointed detail brush, mixing brush, paint palette, artist tape, recommended: X-acto knife, t-square, triangle, slant board (minimum 18 x 20")

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***Basic Supplies** and/or additional supplies specified by each instructor are listed after each class description. The term **Basic Supplies** refers to:

Non-waterproof black ink (*i.e.*, Pelikan 4001, Higgins Eternal, or Dr Ph Martin's Hydrus Carbon Black), all sizes Brause pen nibs, one or two pen holders, pencil and eraser, 18 or 24 inch metal ruler, notebook, cotton rag, and a small water jar.

If other pens, nibs or holders are specified for a class (*e.g.*, Copperplate), then it is not necessary to buy the Brause pen nibs on the Basic Supplies list.

For more information on where to buy supplies visit:

friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/classes.html

**All levels of lettering
experience are welcome.**