

Calligraphy A – Z with Carol Foldvary-Anderson

Grades 6 - Adult

Calligraphy and our alphabet have a long history tracing back to the beginning of time. Question? What took place before the printing press, and computer? How did people document information? Why is hand lettering valuable in our current society? Students will come to understand that writing beautifully can evoke an emotion, and is able to influence our vocabulary, and our psyche. Beautiful handwriting has entertained people for generations, and is able to teach us many lessons about ourselves and life. Writing out thoughts and positive verse beautifully is the goal.

Materials: 2 sharp pencils held together with a rubber band, bond paper lined/unlined, scissors and tape

The Lesson:

Students will gain knowledge of typography. How to execute a simple verse in Calligraphy in hopes to have them become interested in writing positive affirmations themselves.

1. The history of the Alphabet
2. Develop skills to write their own letters
3. Learn the vocabulary of typography to discuss a particular letter's characteristic
4. Compare lettering styles with ascenders and descenders of a particular letter and word
5. Identify lettering in popular culture to encourage affirmations and journaling.

Intro: Discuss the history of the Roman Alphabet, the printing press, and typography.

Exercise 1: On a clean sheet of lined/unlined paper, and the 2 sharp tipped pencils make parallel swirls and parallel straight lines. Play, get a feel for the tool.

Exercise 2: Introduce Typography vocabulary. (A pdf print out is available, end of video).

Exercise 3: Write the suggested letters, discuss each letter's elements

Exercise 4: Complete a short 4-word 2-3 lined verse.

Exercise 5: Critique on what works, what might work better.

Conclusion: Present ideas to work on in Calligraphy! (Screen shots/video insert)

Affirmation examples

Connection to the Nevada Academic Content Standards for the Fine Arts

- Creating: Conceiving and developing new artistic work and ideas.
- Connecting: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external context

VA:Re7.6.2 Analyze ways that visual components and cultural associations suggested by images influence ideas, emotions, and actions.

VA:Cr2.7.3 Apply visual organizational strategies to design and produce a work of art, design, or media that clearly communicates information or ideas.

VA:Pr4.7.2 Develop a portfolio of works that convey personal meaning

Connection to Literacy: Words and lettering surrounds us daily and constantly. These messages in lettering either have a message to sell you something, support a particular idea or inspire you to do things you never thought possible. Each one of these messages influences us in either a negative or a

positive way. I am reaching for the positive. I know with positive affirmations scattered around my home I begin to think positive and do positive. Calligraphy is communicating and speaking in the visual sense. It is making direct connections and expressing ideas. Calligraphy writing is a skill, and appreciation that will last a lifetime.

About the Artist

Carol Foldvary-Anderson

Carol is an award-winning mixed media artist, designer, calligrapher, inventor, and teaching artist on the Nevada Arts Council's Teaching Artist Roster. She has been recognized as Carson City's Artist of the Year (2001) and since 2009 a Licensing Designer member of the global Association for Creative Industries (AFCI). She has several Adult Coloring Books published by Dover Publishing of NY, and Adult Coloring eBooks illustrated in her unique style with Prime Publishing/FaveCrafts.com. Carol has written articles both nationally and locally, invented the art technique, Oil Pastel "Smudge", and competed for a prize of \$10,000 offered by Michael's Crafts. She has exhibited her works in both joint and solo shows and worked with the Nevada State Legislature to write in calligraphy the names under the photographs of the 73rd session of the Nevada State Legislature. She has received grant funding for several art projects from the Nevada Arts Council and a Professional Artist grant from Sierra Arts Foundation. Carol has offered classes in Reno and the Lake Tahoe area for over 33 years. She is currently on the board of the Latimer Art Club, Reno. Past Marketing Director of the Nevada Artist's Association and past Assistant to the Program Director of the Nevada Inventors Association.

Carol owns and manages four websites: www.varyCarol.com, www.Calligraphy-theLetteraryArts, www.OilPastelSmudge.com & www.MakeArtYourBusiness.com.



The Nevada Arts Council Teaching Artist Roster is an online resource for schools, organizations and communities seeking to engage teaching artists. Roster artists are experienced in collaborating with schools and communities to conduct arts learning and cultural experiences in, through and about the arts.

Explore the roster at <https://www.nvartscouncil.org/rosters/teaching-artists/>