

Letter Perfect

The Newsletter of SDFC

January Workshop

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March 2017

A Sharp Pencil and a Keen Eye

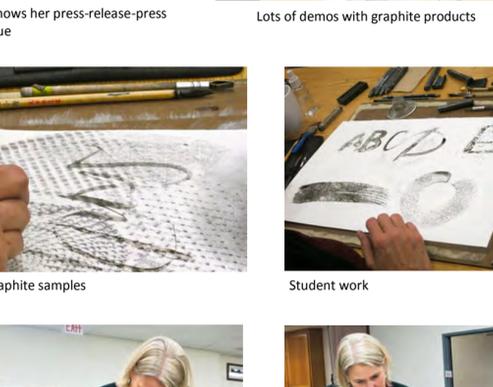
With Amity Parks, January 14 & 15, 2017
By Diane Reiter

SDFC began 2017 with the workshop *A Sharp Pencil and A Keen Eye*, taught by artist and calligrapher Amity Parks. The class description was spot on! Over the course of two days participants learned how “the humble pencil and its relatives could become powerful tools in creating many effects from subtle to stunning.” There were numerous instructor demonstrations and ample opportunities to practice and experiment with pencils, erasers, graphite sticks, etc. Participants received helpful suggestions and tips from Amity as she walked around the room to check on student progress. Many of the techniques learned in the workshop could be used right away or at a later date (possibly in a finished piece for the SDFC Member Exhibit in September?).

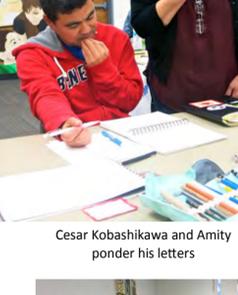
Those who attended the workshop were asked about their workshop experience. “It was an amazing class! What a treat! It was lively and informative” were a few of the comments made. Others said, “This workshop definitely exceeded my expectations. There’s so much one can do with the humble pencil; can’t wait to step outside the box and create something amazing. Professional, informational and inspirational!” Another wrote, “Amity Parks is an enthusiastic and encouraging teacher who provided useful information on tools, graphite techniques and creative application. Her keen eye for design and layout also demonstrates the highest level of artistic achievement.” Thank you, Amity, for a great workshop!

Workshop Gallery

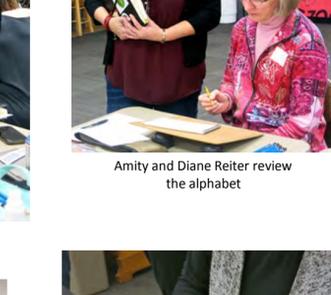
(Thanks to Phawnda Moore for these class photos)



Class group photo



Amity shows her press-release-press technique



Lots of demos with graphite products



More graphite samples



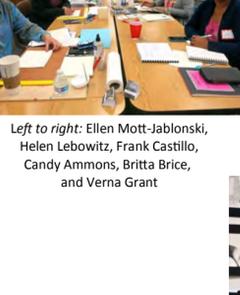
Student work



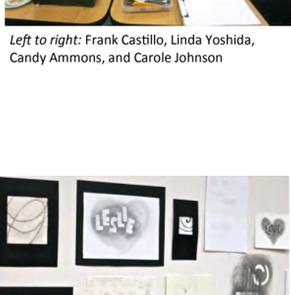
Cesar Kobashikawa and Amity ponder his letters



Amity and Diane Reiter review the alphabet



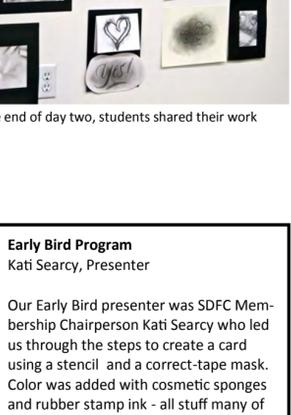
Standing: Ellen Mott-Jablonski, Frank Castillo, Candy Ammons, Kati Searcy, Cesar Kobashikawa; Seated: Amity Parks, Elizabeth Kenney, Barbara Steel



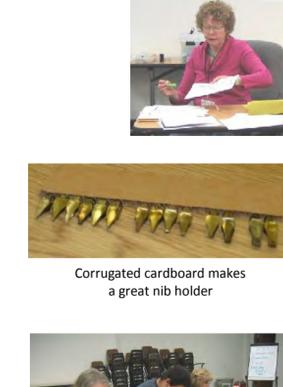
Erasers as writing tools!



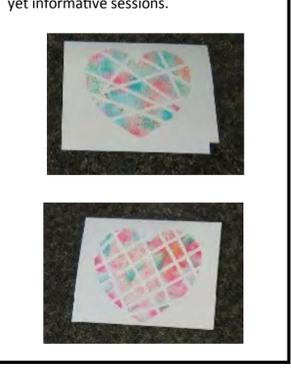
Cesar Kobashikawa, Phawnda Moore, and Diane Reiter



Diane and Cesar are happy to be in class!



Left to right: Ellen Mott-Jablonski, Helen Lebowitz, Frank Castillo, Candy Ammons, Britta Brice, and Verna Grant



Left to right: Frank Castillo, Linda Yoshida, Candy Ammons, and Carole Johnson



At the end of day two, students shared their work

February General Meeting

“Italic Boot Camp - Tone Your Italic”
Ellen Mott-Jablonski, Presenter
February 11, 2017

Our well-prepared SDFC Vice President Ellen Mott-Jablonski (below) led us in a review of basic italic letterforms, good for both new and more experienced calligraphers. We left with a bundle of handouts and hours of practice.



Ellen Mott-Jablonski



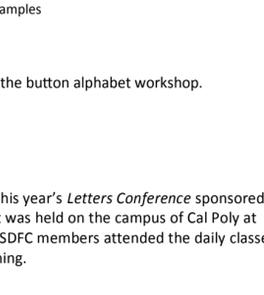
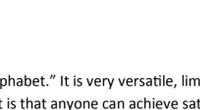
Corrugated cardboard makes a great nib holder



Diane Reiter, Andrew L, and Jo Cornell

Early Bird Program
Kati Searcy, Presenter

Our Early Bird presenter was SDFC Membership Chairperson Kati Searcy who led us through the steps to create a card using a stencil and a correct-tape mask. Color was added with cosmetic sponges and rubber stamp ink - all stuff many of us have sitting around unused at home. We look forward to more of these quick yet informative sessions.



Jeanie Kashima and Verna Grant

Upcoming March General Meeting

Saturday, March 11, 2017

9:00 a.m. Early Bird Presentation by Ellen Mott-Jablonski

The Golden Grid Project

Learn a new trick of the trade. Bring a 1/2" or 1" flat brush appropriate for acrylic paint (no special or good watercolor brushes!), a water container, paper towels and a roll of 3/4" Scotch removable tape. Paper and paint will be provided.

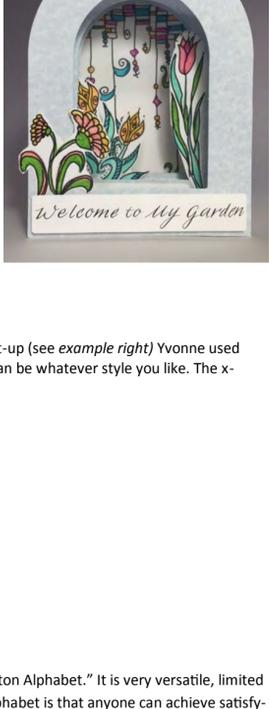
9:30 a.m. Meeting presentation by Yvonne Perez-Collins

Zenspired Tunnel Book

You will keep busy while making this book, but it's easy with the designs already planned and the book structure precut. Yvonne will share a simple method for selecting a limited palette, and then you'll see the quick way she fills in the designs. Make this special by adding your calligraphy in places that you like.

To Complete the Book Bring:

- Mechanical pencil
- Scissors
- Colored markers (there will be Crayola brand markers to borrow; thinner ones take forever to fill in)
- Black Sharpie ULTRA Fine Point
- Glue stick
- Bone folder (if you have one, but not critical)
- X-Acto, small cutting mat, straight edge
- Favorite calligraphy writing tool and ink set-up (see *example right*) Yvonne used Moon Palace for this paper; the lettering can be whatever style you like. The x-height is about 1/8".)



\$2.50 materials fee

RSVP: [Ellen.Mott-Jablonski](mailto:Ellen.Mott-Jablonski@sdfc.org)

Upcoming May Workshop

May 13, 2017

Louis L. Lemoine: **The Button Alphabet**

Come learn variations of Peter Thornton's "Button Alphabet." It is very versatile, limited only by your imagination. The beauty of this alphabet is that anyone can achieve satisfying results in a relatively short period of time due to its forgiving nature and the fact that there are only 26 characters to worry about. If you come with a positive attitude you are guaranteed to leave with work that you will be proud of.



Button alphabet samples



[Click here for more information](#) on the button alphabet workshop.

Letters, California Style

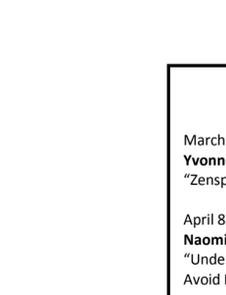
February 17th to the 20th were the dates of this year's *Letters Conference* sponsored by the Society for Calligraphy (SfC). The event was held on the campus of Cal Poly at the Kellogg West Conference Center. Several SDFC members attended the daily classes and mini-workshops, which were held in the evening.



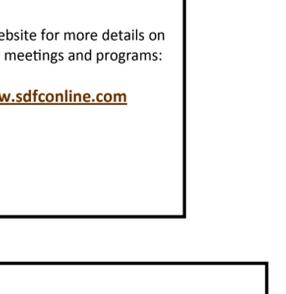
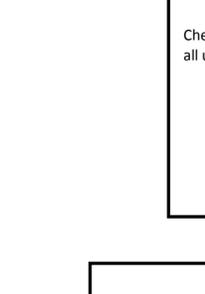
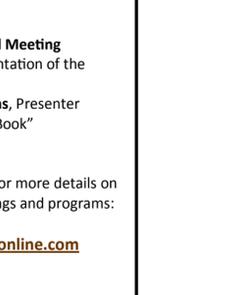
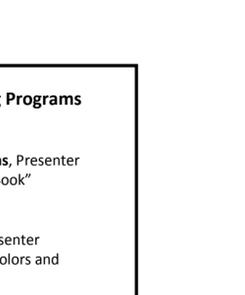
Diane Reiter, Karen Corvan and Elizabeth Kenney



Festive Directionals



Saturday night participants were treated to a demonstration by Loredana Zega, a calligrapher from Slovenia. Along with music, she showed how she uses large brushes to create her lovely words and marks (above and right).



Wendy Telford attended as a "day guest" and went to the mini-class on Boxes. A cream colored card stock was used to construct the boxes. Wendy took hers home and covered one with decorative paper (left).

For information on SfC activities [click here](#).

Upcoming Programs

March 11, 2017
Yvonne Perez-Collins, Presenter
"Zenspired Tunnel Book"

April 8, 2017
Naomi Lesberg, Presenter
"Understand Your Colors and Avoid Mud"

June 10, 2017
End of Year General Meeting
Elections and presentation of the 2017-2018 calendar
Yvonne Perez-Collins, Presenter
"Calligraphic Artist Book"

Check our website for more details on all upcoming meetings and programs:

www.sdfconline.com

Volunteers Needed

Are you ready and willing to help shape the future of SDFC? Volunteers are needed for three openings on the Board of Directors. Those currently in office are willing to "show you the ropes" for a smooth transition. SDFC will be needing a Secretary, Membership Chair and Workshops Chair for 2017-2018. If you would like to help ensure the successful operation of SDFC, please let a Board member know of your willingness to help. Thanks!

SDFC General Meetings

Guests are always welcome at the General Meetings September through June at 9 a.m. on one Saturday morning each month. Our next workshop is on May 13 at 9 a.m. Announcements precede the workshop.

[Click here for directions](#).

Next SDFC Board Meeting

March 6, 2017, 10:30 a.m. Location: Diane Reiter's home. Open to all members. Please RSVP any board member if you plan to attend.

Where We Are

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings and workshops are held at the [San Diego Education Association Conference Room](#), 10393 San Diego Mission Road Suite 100, San Diego, California, 92108. (There is no phone available at our meeting site.)

Directions

Take Friars Road to Rancho Mission Road (just east of I-15), turn south. Proceed to the intersection at the bottom of the hill. Turn right (west) onto San Diego Mission Road. Turn left into the first driveway past the shopping center. The parking lot is behind the building.

