



NO THICKS, NO THINS: MONOLINE ROMANS WITH A SPEEDBALL B NIB

Location: Marywood University, Insalaco Studio Arts Building (SAC), Room 336A,
3rd Floor (Turn right when you get off the elevator,)

REGISTER: Send an e-mail to our Treasurer, Ann Marie Castelgrande, at art4u1000@aol.com to receive details on how to pay for your seat in the class.

Instructor: Margie Zaums

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026

Time: 9am to 3:30pm **Please bring a bagged lunch**

Cost: Members \$60 Nonmembers \$75

Description: The day will begin with a brief review of the proportions of Roman Majuscules, then move on to writing these letters with a Speedball B-1 nib. The rounded tip of the B nib differs from a broad edged nib in that it creates monoline strokes. The thickness of the line is the same no matter which direction the nib travels, thus there is no need to be concerned with pen angle. As the day moves on, as time allows, we'll talk about ways to bring life to our writing by experimenting with different x-heights, freeing letters from a common base line, and having some letters share a common stroke. All levels of experience are welcome but it's better if you are comfortable using a dip pen and ink.

Bio: Margie Zaums first learned calligraphy when she studied for her degree in art education at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, Pa. She also earned a Masters in Art Education at the University of Pittsburgh. She has attended several international conferences and many workshops and courses offered by well-known calligraphers, including Sheila Waters. A free-lance calligrapher for many years, she has taught calligraphy courses and workshops for a variety of groups including our own guild, at Marywood University for non-credit adult enrichment, and for graduate and undergraduate credit in Marywood's Department of Art. Her work has been displayed in juried exhibits at two of the international conferences and one of those pieces was included in the book *Writing Beyond Words*.

Materials:

Each participant will receive one Speedball B-1 nib, compliments of Stephanie Cavallaro who donated them to the Guild.

You will need to bring:

Pen holder

Practice paper through which you can see guidelines

Borden & Riley Marker Layout is a good choice.

Non waterproof ink (Higgins Eternal or any ink that doesn't bleed on the paper you'll use)

Ruler

Pencil

Small container for water

Colored pencils if you already have them

Easel or lap board if you use one

Very short quote or a meaningful word or two