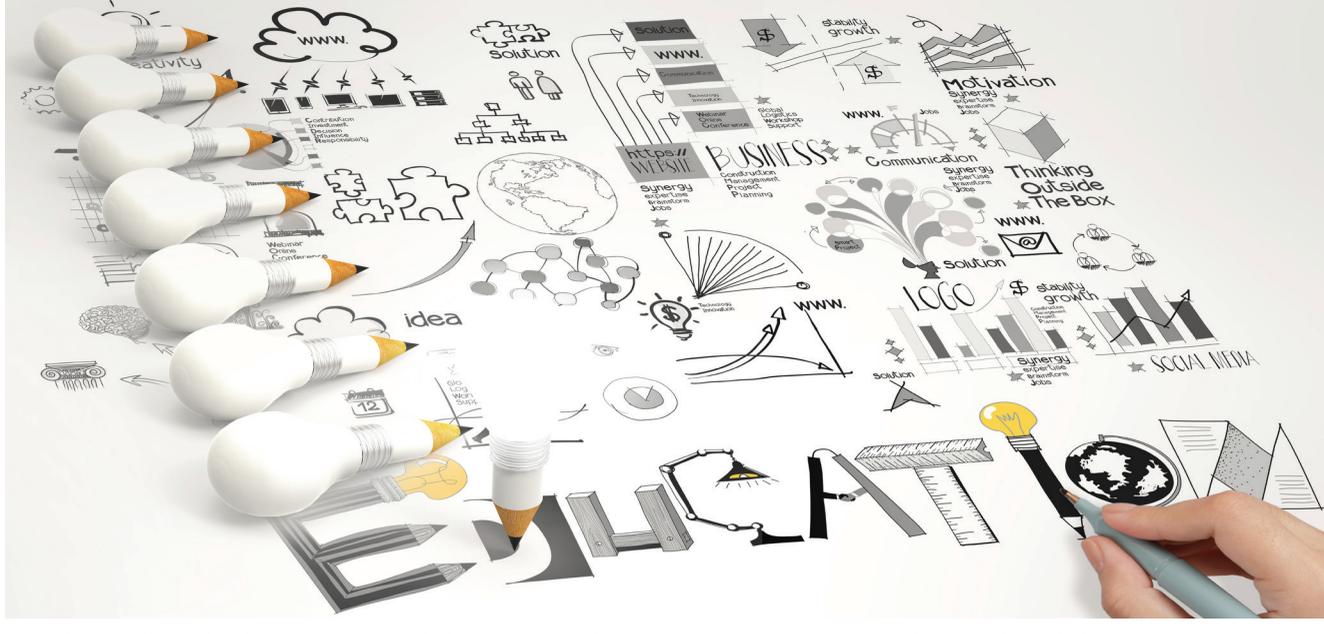


Calligraphy

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL - Is cursive writing still taught in school? I was amazed to learn that many public school districts have abandoned or are currently phasing out penmanship from school curriculums. There were countless hours that my friends and I would practice writing on the little green sheets specifically lined to help us form the letters. We would examine the signatures of our parents and marvel at the beauty found in the signature. In my earliest memories of my childhood, it is my mom showing me how to write my name. It was during the holiday season that penmanship was most important.

What does a Calligrapher do?
 "Modern calligraphers typically use one of several calligraphy alphabets, creating attractive texts and lettering for wedding and event invitations, logo designs, maps, memorial documents, religious art, cut stone inscriptions, quotes, poems, testimonials, birth and death certificates, letters and stationery.

Typically, a calligrapher works as a freelancer, taking special orders from clients. A calligrapher may be hired by a graphic design firm, or an educational institute to help create diplomas, or a wedding planning



It was then that I learned that it was something for a pen to the paper with your signature, that it was a promise. The signature on any legal document makes one bound. It is an acknowledgement that it is "I" and no one else who is making a promise. The promise was also found in the thought to when physically addressing greeting cards for wishes of love, peace, and joy to our family and friends. It is in this promise that led Steve Jobs, founder of Apple Corporation to want to give the digital world more than one font option. He fell in love with Calligraphy and studied the formation to produce beauty through typed words. There are well over 1000 fonts available today for one to choose when creating a document.

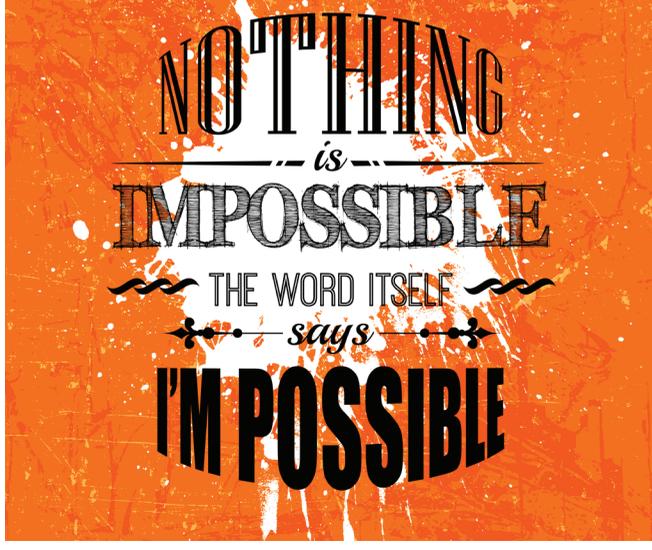
company to help write client invitations. Film and television companies may also need a calligrapher's services for images and props."

What is the workplace of a Calligrapher like?
 "A professional calligrapher has the option to work independently as a freelancer or in a calligraphy studio, though there are only a few different types of studios that still hire calligraphers. For example, wedding planning companies may hire a calligrapher to create wedding invitations. An educational institute might also employ a calligrapher to help create degrees and diplomas. For the most part, professional calligraphers work as freelancers, taking on commissioned work."

Exactly what was Steve studying? Calligraphy is the art of producing decorative handwriting or lettering with a pen or brush. The word comes from the Greek which means beautifully written; which means a calligrapher is a person who writes beautifully. Can one make a living from Calligraphy? The white house spends \$277,000 on calligraphers each year. The average calligrapher makes \$29.52 per hour, (\$61,410 per year) according to sokanu.com a website dedicated to the calligrapher's career. They further explain the life and work of a calligrapher.



I wonder if removing penmanship from the curriculum would negate the opportunity of a promise to legal documents, fade the opportunity of students to be the next Steve Jobs, a White House calligrapher, or a calligrapher that is an entrepreneur making a living creating lettering that is beautiful.



ART ON AIDS/HIV

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 Artists of all ages have a message to share in helping this epidemic that is affecting our community.

