

Frequently Asked Questions about Letters of Joy (LOJ)

2020

Write On Calligraphers (WOC)

Following are some of the frequently asked questions and answers about LOJ.

1. Does Write On Calligraphers have more than one email address?

- **YES.**

- writeoncalligraphers@gmail.com is a **new** WOC email address. It is used for PayPal payments, LOJ, Facebook and Instagram questions.

- info@writeoncalligraphers.org is used for questions sent to the WOC website.

2. How do I use PayPal to pay for my LOJ registration, WOC membership and/or WOC workshop registration?

- You **MUST** have a **personal PayPal account**.

- If you do not have a PayPal account, you **MUST** sign up for one at <http://www.paypal.com>. This is free.

- You add a credit card or bank account number to the PayPal account. [This is the account that money will be withdrawn from to pay for anything when you use PayPal.]

- Once you have a PayPal account, you click on the **SEND MONEY TO** field and enter writeoncalligraphers@gmail.com.

- Enter the amount of money you want to send to WOC.

- Confirm the payment method and click **SEND PAYMENT NOW**.

2. Why can't all the classes be in the same building?

The college assigns classrooms for LOJ. We do our best to group classes for participants' convenience and in consideration of those with accessibility issues.

3. Why can't we have LOJ go through Sunday?

While we would like to have a longer conference, the cost is prohibitive at this time.

4. Can teenagers participate in LOJ?

Anyone **16 years** and older can participate in LOJ.

5. Why aren't we having the usual hospitality table with food contributions by participants?

Shoreline Community College operates under health department rules for food brought into the conference from outside sources. Items made at home are not allowed. An individual who has dietary restrictions and/or allergies may bring food to meet his/her dietary restrictions. These items may not be shared with others. Shoreline no longer has a catering service. We have hired an outside catering service so our Friday refreshments, Saturday lunch and snacks have been selected from the caterer's menu.

6. Why do I need to pay a supply fee to the teacher? Why not combine fees into the general charge for LOJ?

The supply fee depends on what the teacher brings and how much it costs. Some teachers provide all the supplies used while others ask you to bring all the supplies you will need. These costs vary and we have no way of knowing the costs in advance.

7. What is the difference between SESSION and CHOICE on the registration form?

SESSION is the time period, 9-11, 12:30-2:30 or 3-5. **CHOICE** is the class you would prefer in a session. We ask you for four choices for each session so that if your first choice is already full, we can give you something else you want. Your first choice for session 1 might be 1AB1, second choice 1BC1, third choice 1DE1 and fourth choice 1FG1. The choices allow the registrar to place you according to your own selections.

8. Is it all right to list the same class for all four choices for a session, i.e., 1AB1, 1AB1, 1AB1, 1AB1?

This reduces your chances of getting the classes you want. You may list 1AB1, 2AB2, 3AB3 (when the class is offered in all three sessions) for the sessions and increase your chances of getting one of them.

9. How are registrations handled so it is fair to all?

ALL envelopes, whether payment is by PayPal or with check accompanying the mailed-in registration form, are held until the end of the week following the first day of registration. Beginning with the first day's postmark, the registrar randomly selects envelopes and assigns classes. The procedure continues until all envelopes have been processed. Usually the first day's postmark is about 50-75 registrations. Popular classes fill quickly.

10. Can I mail more than one person's registration in the same envelope?

YES! This increases your chances of being in the same class with a friend.

11. If I join WOC at LOJ time, when does my WOC membership expire?

The WOC year goes from July 1 to June 30. If you join at LOJ, you receive an additional two months (May and June of that year.)

12. Why don't we have goody bags anymore?

During the past few years we have found it difficult to get organizations/businesses to contribute free items, even coupons, for the goody bags. With nothing but paper to include, we decided to go with the folder instead. Vendors, however, are generous with donations to our silent auction.

13. What is the history of Letters of Joy?

In 1980 Kathleen Joy O'Brien, the calligrapher and teacher who inspired many calligraphers in the Puget Sound area in Washington State, died of cancer. The newly-formed Write On Calligraphers wanted to honor Kathleen's memory, by passing on her love of calligraphy and related art forms, with a mini-conference. The first LOJ, held in February 1981, was a one-day event attended by 75 people. It consisted of a workshop and evening lecture. The first keynote speaker was Tim Girvin, local calligrapher and designer. There was an exhibit of Kathleen's work. Kathleen had been secretary to the President of Edmonds Community College (ECC) and through this close association, ECC became a hub for calligraphy classes, workshops and home to LOJ. In 2016 LOJ moved to Shoreline Community College, in 2019 to Green River College and in 2020 back to Shoreline Community College.