

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Library to celebrate National Handwriting Day with a
Handwriting the Constitution Event**

PORTLAND, OR, JANUARY 7, 2025 — To Celebrate National Handwriting Day, the Multnomah County Library is inviting the public to come together quietly to copy the United States Constitution by hand on Wednesday, January 22 from 3pm to 5:30pm at the Hillsdale Branch Library at 1525 SW Sunset Boulevard in Portland, Oregon. This event is free and open to the public.

Handwriting the Constitution is an opportunity for reflection on the meaning and content of this foundation of self-governance, using tools that are available to all of us: pen and paper. Free copies of the U. S. Constitution will be available for all participants. Participants are asked to bring a writing tool and paper (some paper and pens will be on hand). A free “Handwriting Tips” informational sheet will also be available. This Multnomah County Library Event is a partnership between Handwriting the Constitution and Handwriting Success, which is sponsoring this event by providing materials and staff.

Handwriting the Constitution events were conceived in 2017 by artist Morgan O’Hara. “Hand copying a document can produce an intimate connection to the text and its meaning,” explains O’Hara. “The ‘handwriter’ may discover things about this document that they never knew, a passage that challenges or moves them. They may even leave with a deeper connection to the founders and the country, or even a sense of encouragement.”

“Every year, on John Hancock’s birthday, the United States celebrates the amazing phenomenon of handwriting,” says Jonathan Dubay, CEO and Curriculum Specialist of Handwriting Success, sponsor of this event. “Handwriting communicates, organizes, helps us to learn, and to think. And it connects us to thousands of years of cultural history. We think that taking the time to hand copy a document that is at the core of our

American culture is a great way to celebrate National Handwriting Day, and we are thrilled to be able to support the Multnomah County Library in creating this opportunity.”

Handwriting Success publishes the Getty-Dubay® Italic books, materials, apps for tablet and stylus, and downloadable computer fonts that bring legibility, beauty and ease to the everyday experience of writing by hand. Since 1979, Getty-Dubay® Italic has offered learning tools for anyone who wants to improve their handwriting or learn the art of calligraphy. Getty-Dubay® Italic books are in use in schools and thousands of homes across America and abroad.

The Multnomah County Library is the oldest public library on the west coast, with a history that dates back to 1864. Today, Central Library and 18 other neighborhood libraries including Hillsdale Library make up a library system that offers more than 2.9 million books and other library materials. As Oregon's largest public library, Multnomah County Library serves nearly one-fifth of the state's population. Information on other Events and Classes at the Multnomah County Library can be found at <https://multcolib.org/events-classes>.

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