

## ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

The purpose of this workshop is to introduce the art of *etegami* (drawing letter) and to provide American and Japanese college students with hands-on experience in the Japanese brush art.

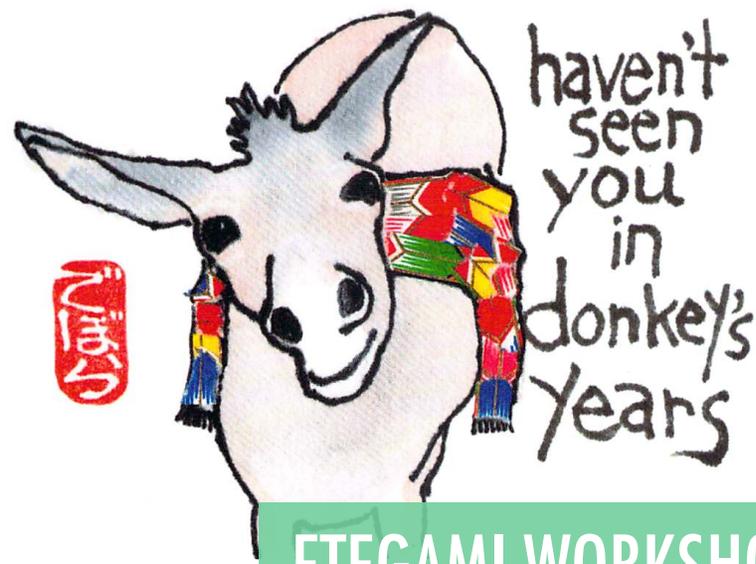
The workshop consists of a one-hour lecture on *etegami* and two-hour hands-on and guided activities to create *etegami*. The workshop leader will be Ms. Tomoko Shibuya, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Jobu University, who has practiced *etegami* for over 20 years. Ms. Shibuya has contributed to a recent boom in *etegami* in Japan to a great deal through appearing in national TV programs and publishing a book-length introduction to *etegami* (*Arakusa Damashii* by Yukensya in 2013).

This workshop is intended for students of Japanese language classes of LaGuardia Community College, but all LaGuardia students are welcome to attend. Students and professors of the Jobu University will be also present at this workshop. Equipment and materials will be provided during the workshop. For more information and inquiries, please contact Prof. Tomonori Nagano at the contact number below.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ETAGAMI

More information about *etegami* and today's workshop can be found on the following websites and books:

- Dosankodebbie. (2014). *A Beginner's Guide to Etegami*. Tokyo, Japan: Blurb.
- Nishimura, M. (2015). *Etegami Drawing with a little message*. Tokyo. Nihon-no-Kaze.
- Shibuya, T. (2013). *Arakusa Damashii (Be Tough As Nails)*. Tokyo, Japan: Yukensha.
- Dosankodebbie's *Etegami Notebook*: <http://etegamibydosankodebbie.blogspot.com>
- Handwriting Culture Lab at Jobu University (<http://www.jobu.ac.jp/tegakibunka/>)
- The Japan Etegami Society (<http://www.etegami.or.jp>)
- Jet Pen (Japanese Stationeries in the U.S.; <http://www.jetpens.com>)



## ETEGAMI WORKSHOP

*Etegami* (Drawing Letter) Workshop: Learning Exquisiteness and Expressivity of Japanese Brush Art

Tuesday, March 22, 2016 (1:00pm-4:00pm)

@ LaGuardia Community College (Room E-500)

RSVP: Sign up at <http://bit.ly/lagccEventReg>



## CONTACT

Prof. Tomonori Nagano  
LaGuardia Community College  
30-10 Thomson Ave (B-234)  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
Tel: 718-482-5484  
E-mail: [tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu](mailto:tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu)

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## ABOUT ETEGAMI

Etegami, a form of the Japanese fork art, is literally translated into "Picture Letter", but should more naturally be called "Drawing Postcard with the Japanese brush art." The origin of etegami goes back to the 1960's when Mr. Kunio Koike, the founder of etegami art, sought for a departure from the rigid traditions of the Japanese calligraphy and brush art. As a disciple of the traditional calligraphy school, Mr. Koike challenged the highly prescribed traditions in the traditional art forms, including the one he belonged to, because he believed that the art should be "spontaneous, honest, and personal."

The procedure to make an etegami is fairly simple yet highly entertaining and engaging as it incorporates techniques that have been developed in various forms of the traditional Japanese art. Minimally, an etegami should consist of a picture, illustrated with a calligraphy brush, sumi (black ink), and water-soluble mineral-based gansai paints on a small postcard made of washi (Japanese traditional paper), and a simple phrase to convey a message of the moment from the pitcher (the one who draws an etegami) to the catcher (the one who received the etegami).

Since the foundation of the Japan Etegami Society by Kunio Koike in 1996, the members of the Japan Etegami Society, including Ms. Tomoko Shibuya, the lecturer of today's workshop, have outreached to introduce this new Japanese fork art to the general public in Japan. Currently, more than 20,000 people are members of the Japan Etegami Society and regularly create etegami to send seasonal messages, share their daily experiences, and communicate with individuals with whom they want to share personal news to them.

The tools employed for etegami are identical to those used in the traditional Japanese art such as calligraphy, sculpture, and ink painting. For this workshop, we will use (a) a line-drawing (small) brush, (b) coloring (big) brushes, (c) liquid and solid sumi ink, (d) water-soluble mineral-based *gansai* paints, (e) porcelain dish for mixing paints, and (f) gasenshi (washi postcard). All the tools and materials used in today's workshop are available locally (at The Kinokuniya Bookstore, 1073 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10018 / 212-869-1700)



## AGENDA OF THE EVENT

TIME	EVENT
1:00pm	Welcome and Introduction (Prof. Tomonori Nagano)
1:05pm	Remarks by Dr. Gail Mellow, President of LaGuardia Community College
1:10pm	Remarks by Dr. Masabumi Shibuya, President of Jobu University
1:15pm	Introduction to Jobu University (Dr. Masabumi Shibuya)
1:25pm	Lecture on etegami (Ms. Tomoko Shibuya)
2:10pm	Creating etegami in groups
3:40pm	Short presentations of etegami by students
3:55pm	Concluding Remarks (Prof. Tomonori Nagano)

## MS. TOMOKO SHIBUYA, WORKSHOP LEADER

Ms. Tomoko Shibuya, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Jobu University, has practiced etegami for over 20 years. Ms. Shibuya has contributed to a recent boom in etegami in Japan through appearing in interviews on the national TV programs and publishing a book-length introduction to etegami (*Arakusa Damashii* by Yukensya in 2013).



Ms. Shibuya has been teaching an Art class at her college, in which she introduces the history and joy of etegami to her students.