The Beauty of Calligraphy

Performance Program

Sunday, October 4, 2026 | 1:00-3:00 PM
Flushing Library Auditorium
41-17 Main St, Flushing, NY 11355

Program

01 **Song: “The Beauty of Calligraphy”**
Vocal performance; lyrics: Xiang Feng; music: Gemini; accompaniment: Suno

02 **“Eight Principles of the Character Yong”**
Chinese instrumental ensemble; Baban Chinese Music Ensemble; featured pipa guest: Chen Tao

03 **“Dance of the Songs of Chu”**
Classical dance (pre-Qin inspiration); Lily

04 **“Preface to the Orchid Pavilion”**
Classical recitation; Bill Engst

05 **“Ink Dance in the Long Wind”**
Classical dance inspired by the calligraphic spirit of the Two Wangs

06 **42-Form Tai Chi**
Traditional martial arts / movement aesthetics; Amy Bai

07 **Kunqu Opera: “Picking Up the Portrait”**
Kunqu performance; Liyuan Society Youth Center

08 **“Orchid Pavilion - Floating Cups on a Winding Stream”**
Guqin performance

09 **“When Will the Moon Be Clear and Bright?”**
Classical poetry recitation; Elva Zhang

10 **“Morning Dew, Facing the Wind”**
Flute / xiao and dance presentation

Program Notes

01 “The Beauty of Calligraphy” - Opening Theme

A musical opening inspired by the beauty of Chinese calligraphy, presenting the spirit and imagery of brush, ink, paper, and the written line.

02 “Eight Principles of the Character Yong” - The Way of the Brush

The Eight Principles of Yong represent the foundational brush techniques of Chinese calligraphy. The music responds to the rhythm and movement of the brush.

03 “Dance of the Songs of Chu” - Pre-Qin Elegance

Poetry, music, dance, and costume evoke the imaginative world and romantic spirit associated with the Songs of Chu.

04 “Preface to the Orchid Pavilion” - Wei-Jin Elegance

A recitation centered on Wang Xizhi's celebrated Preface to the Orchid Pavilion, reflecting the literary and calligraphic spirit of the Wei-Jin era.

05 “Ink Dance in the Long Wind” - Transformations of Ink

A dance interpretation inspired by the expressive energy of Chinese ink and the calligraphic tradition of Wang Xizhi and Wang Xianzhi.

Program Notes - Continued

06 42-Form Tai Chi - Inner Strength and Flow

Tai Chi movement expresses continuity, balance, internal strength, and flowing energy, echoing the rhythm and transformation of calligraphic brushwork.

07 Kunqu Opera: “Picking Up the Portrait” - Theater and Calligraphy

A Kunqu selection bringing together classical theater, gesture, music, and the refined visual spirit of traditional Chinese arts.

08 “Orchid Pavilion - Floating Cups on a Winding Stream” - Qin Music

A guqin performance inspired by the Orchid Pavilion gathering and the literati tradition of poetry, music, friendship, and calligraphy.

09 “When Will the Moon Be Clear and Bright?” - Song-Dynasty Poetry

A performance of Su Shi's celebrated verse, presenting the enduring beauty of classical poetry and its close relationship with calligraphy.

10 “Morning Dew, Facing the Wind” - Closing the Program

A concluding presentation bringing music and movement together to close the performance in an atmosphere of elegance and reflection.

Program Appendix

01 Song: “The Beauty of Calligraphy”
Lyrics: Xiang Feng Music: Gemini Accompaniment: Suno

The work uses calligraphy as its theme and brings together music and the imagery of brush, ink, paper, and movement.

04 Classical Recitation: “Preface to the Orchid Pavilion”
By Wang Xizhi Recitation: Bill Engst

The original Chinese text is preserved in the official Chinese program.

Performers & Participating Organizations

North American Chinese Calligraphers Association; Flushing Library; Baban Chinese Music Ensemble; Liyuan Society Youth Center; Chinese American Culture & Arts Center; and participating artists and performers listed in the official program.

Featured performers include: Lily; Bill Engst; Amy Bai; Elva Zhang; and other artists named in the official Chinese program.

Audience Reminders

- Please silence or turn off mobile phones.
- Please avoid unnecessary movement during the performance.
- Please do not enter restricted performance areas.
- In case of special circumstances, please do not leave the venue without notice.
- If you need to leave early, please inform staff so that seating can be arranged with minimal disruption.

Scan to view the digital program
bmsfj.org/PerformanceProgram