



D ELIGHTFUL DESIGN DECORATES DISTINCTIVE DELIVERIES

Entrants from Pennsylvania to Australia illustrated, embellished and mailed their handcrafted masterpieces in an annual competition that celebrates the art of written correspondence. The Graceful Envelope Contest, now in its 18th year, is sponsored by the National Association of Letter Carriers in conjunction with the Washington Calligraphers Guild.

The 2012 theme, “D-liver D-letter D-sooner D-better,” saluted us, the nation’s letter carriers, who “D-liver” 170 billion pieces of mail a year. Entrants were urged to design an envelope inspired by anything that begins with the letter “D.” The hundreds of entries the contest yielded explored dolphins, donuts, the Declaration of Independence, doors and many other ideas that participants decided to develop.

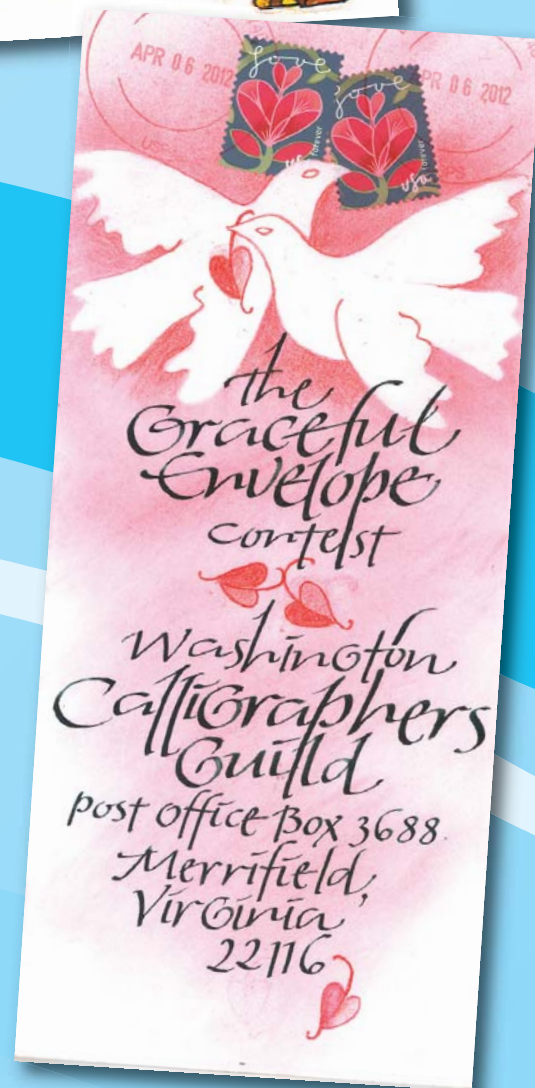
A trio of judges selected this year’s contest winners: designer and calligrapher Lee Ann Clark; calligrapher and

illustrator Tamara Stoneburner; and National Association of Letter Carriers graphic designer Mike Shea. They looked for creative interpretation of the theme, skill in lettering and illustration, and effective use of color and design, among other criteria.

The top prize was awarded to Ruth Korch of Santa Cruz, CA, for a skilled and creative entry that included a clever depiction of a dog. Other unforgettable entries translated the theme to include a variety of subjects, such as diversity, Darth Vader and DNA. As always, the submissions themselves were envelopes that passed through the regular mail stream.

Out of more than 150 entries received in the adult division, nine envelopes were selected as “Winners” and 13 were given the distinction “Honorable Mention.” The judges also picked student winners from more than 350 entries in the junior and children’s divisions.

Some of the winning envelopes are shown on these pages. All winning adult entries also are on display in the lobby of the NALC Headquarters building in Washington, and winning entries in all of the categories can be seen online at calligraphersguild.org. For information about the 2013 contest, see the inside back cover of this *Postal Record*. ✉





Opposite page (from top): Ruth Korch of Santa Cruz, CA, and Judith Leitch of Lake Mary, FL

This page (from top r): Sue McKendrick of Mechanicsburg, PA; Catherine Langsdorf of Hendersonville, NC; William Stewart of Vineyard Haven, MA; and Janneth Morales of Camden, NJ

