

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC



Write this down: Festival promotes handwritten letters

Weldon B. Johnson
The Arizona Republic
Jan. 27, 2006 12:00 AM

SCOTTSDALE - With cellphones, text messages and e-mails, it's easy to stay in touch with people.

Cindy Zimmermann is hoping people will take the time to slow down and not just reach out to other folks, but also make a good impression.

To further that goal, Zimmermann is presenting a Writing in Style Celebration, from noon through 5 p.m. Sunday at Ancala Country Club in Scottsdale.

Admission is \$9 Purchasing tickets in advance is recommended, but not required.

The festival will feature sights, sounds, smells, tastes and textures to inspire creative writing and promote the skills and tools needed to write by hand.

"My thought is that when you're writing, you can't write as fast (as when typing) so you think more about what you're saying and you put more energy into it," Zimmermann said. "People connect with that."

People are free to come and go during the festival. Zimmermann is hopeful they will be inspired by what they find there.

"When you send a handwritten envelope to someone's home it stands out because there aren't any others in the mailbox," Zimmermann said. "I'm hoping in maybe a year from now I won't be able to say that sentence any more. That's my goal."