

Method

(^t/_b) type bar

A Type Bar 'Speaker' participant dictates a letter to a 'Typist' participant.

- Together they use a manual typewriter to move outside of normal experience and to open communication.
- The Speaker has an opportunity to reflect as s/he composes a letter out loud to the Typist.
- The Typist explores listening by asking questions or helping the Speaker choose phrasing, and typing the message.
- With no delete or cut-and-paste, the Speaker and Typist are faced with the apparent permanence of their creation as they compose in real-time together. However briefly, participants become artists or print-makers of a sort.
- Type Bar letters have been: notes, poems, lists, formal letters, once-upon-a-time stories, message Speakers have been wanting to say but haven't, thank you notes, messages to future selves, messages to those who've passed, and more.
- Type Bar Letters are augmented with clippings, quotes, art, and vintage postage stamps. This completes the perception that the message transcends routine time.
- Letters are then either mailed or hand-delivered to their recipients by The Type Bar service.

Recipients of Type Bar messages express a variety of moods and experiences on receiving their hand-typed letters.

The Solo Practice

Participants are welcomed to type letters, poems, or type-art by themselves. This is a great way to get familiar with the typewriter. Creating private letters or to exploring type-art on the page also moves the participant outside of normal time.

See <http://www.thetypebar.com/category/art/>

The Slow Communication Manifesto: <http://www.thetypebar.com/slow-communication-manifesto/>

Thank you to all collaborators who have contributed to this method.

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