



*January 2022*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Happy New Year Scribes!

I hope the New Year finds you well and that you had a wonderful Christmas. I am hopeful about the New Year and what we will be able to do again.

The January meeting is going to be by Zoom again. As I write my letter in December, the Covid numbers are trending up, so I thought it would be prudent to have a Zoom meeting in January. I hope to have the guild meeting in March in person. When we are closer to March, I will fill you in on details. Since Plaza Arts is still using the classroom space as a shipping area, we will need to have an in-person meeting in a new location.

Don't worry, I have a space already reserved. The Frist Art Museum has started to have in-person classes again. The Guild was given the wonderful opportunity to be a part of a couple of the classes. It was an incredible outreach opportunity for the Guild. Ann Cobb and Carol Hall did an excellent job teaching the classes. The classes were done to be a complement to the Medieval Bologna: Art for a University City exhibit. I felt honored that the Frist gave the Guild the opportunity to work with them, and I am hopeful that we will be able to collaborate with them again.

Last month Ann Cobb recommended a book to me. She recommended [Calligraphy A Complete Guide](#) by Julien Chazal. I have had the book two weeks and I already know this will be a good resource to have handy on the bookshelf. I encourage others to check it out like Ann encouraged me to check it out.

I continue to encourage you to share your lettering projects or exchange envelopes on social media for all of us to see. Use the #nashvillecalligraphersguild. Happy writing and Happy New Year!

Susan Wallace  
NCG President

**Next meeting:**

**January 8, 2022**  
**at 10:30 a.m.**  
via ZOOM

**Members will receive an invitation  
with a link to join by Susan Wallace  
before the meeting.**

**The NCG Board Meeting  
will be at 9 a.m.**

## **SCRIBEHAVEN POSTPONED**

It is with a heavy heart that I must announce the postponement of Scribehaven for February 2022. Unfortunately, Lake Barkley suffered a devastating fire on November 28. Several lodge rooms were totally destroyed while others on the same wing had severe damage. As a result, one whole wing of lodge rooms will remain closed for the near future as they investigate the fire and face recovery and rebuilding. Fortunately no one was killed or injured in the fire. In addition to the fire, they are still following Covid protocols which means the dining room is closed and they are facing a staffing shortage. Upon hearing the news, I suggested that we cancel our February reservation and push the reservation to February 2023. That said, I will remain in touch with the park in hopes that we might be able to do something in late summer or early fall depending on availability and their ability to recover from the fire.

I hope you will all join me in prayer for recovery and restoration of this beautiful place we have all come to know and love. Our Lake Barkley family will appreciate your support and understanding.

Vicki Brandt  
Scribehaven Chair

## NCG Schedule for 2021-2022

Note: Locations and times to be announced closer to date

### NASHVILLE CALLIGRAPHERS GUILD

#### 2021-2022 BOARD OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Susan Wallace  
VICE PRESIDENT: Carol Hall  
TREASURER: Marsha French  
RECORDING SECRETARY:  
Joyce Holleman

#### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Ruth Haskins

#### MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Valerie Cypress  
Carol Percy  
Chris Hackenbrack  
Sharon Perry

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

WORKSHOPS: Ann Cobb  
EXHIBITS: Valerie Cypress  
LIBRARIAN: Gayla Hall  
MEMBERSHIP: Sharon Shirley  
NEWSLETTER: Beth Paul, Joyce Skaggs  
SCRIBHAVEN: Vicki Brandt  
WEBSITE: Kimberly Blevins, Laura Kraft  
SUMMER ENVELOPE EXCHANGE:  
Carol Hall  
LOGO DESIGN: Vicki Brandt

*January 8, 2022 -- Guild Meeting*

February 5 & 6, 2022 -- Botanical Art 101 with Miranda Fuller

*March 12, 2022 -- Guild Meeting*

April 2 & 3, 2022 -- Layout and Design with Julie Wildman

May 1-31, 2022 - Green Hills Library Guild Exhibition

*May 14, 2022 -- Guild Meeting*

August 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2022 -- Dutch Masters Script with Judy Detrick (via zoom)

*September 10, 2022 -- Guild Meeting*

*November 12, 2022 -- Guild Meeting*

#### **Other Calligraphic Events in 2022**

July 11 - 16, 2022 -- IAMPETH in Atlanta

A big thank you to the contributors of this issue: Susan Wallace, Carol Hall, Ann Cobb, Valerie Cypress and Vicki Brandt.

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Online Article not to be missed...

I am always on the lookout for anything interesting pertaining to calligraphers, especially online. The best place I have found for reliable information and amazing eye candy is the [Medievalists.net](https://www.Medievalists.net) website.

I recently saw a feature article on the site entitled "Who Were These People Copying Manuscripts? The Mysteries of Medieval Scribes" by Shari Boodts. The date it was published was not given but the previous one to it was about Christmas so I believe it to be recent. It was very informative and I learned facts about scribes that I did not know including the mention of a well known female scribe in the 11th century named Diemut. The historical examples are beautiful and since they are online, it is easy to enlarge to see details!

There is a search button on the site but do so at your own risk and when you have plenty of time! I entered the word "scribe" and there were 2,809 responses, each one more interesting than the last. If you love the historical calligraphic world, then take some time and enjoy the riches to be found on [Medievalists.net](https://www.Medievalists.net).

Beth Paul, Editor

## NEW EXHIBIT FOR THE GUILD

Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope one of your resolutions is to finish more calligraphy in 2022 and to get it framed! Why, you ask? Well, because several members have requested it, we have another show coming up!

This time, we will be at the Green Hills Library May 1-31 of 2022. That gives us four months to finish up those pieces that would so love to be displayed and seen.

The show is open to all guild members from the beginner to the advanced. I don't want anyone to feel intimidated because they don't think their work is "good enough". Calligraphy is a journey and showing your work is part of it. I hope you will consider adding your talent to our show. It will be worth the effort.

Valerie Cypress  
Exhibit Chair

### A Letter a Week 2022

Welcome to a letter a week 2022, a project that is primarily about having fun, experimenting and having a regular, small project to focus on each week. We have done a similar program in the past, but this one is a bit different.

The aim is simply to: - Write/create one letter each week, ending with 52 letters. These letters can form one complete alphabet with both upper and lower-case letters, two separate alphabets, 52 of the same letters (upper and lower case) done in various lettering styles, or any combination of letters that you choose.

The main rule is that the letter must be presented on a piece of material measuring 3" by 3" or smaller – this helps keep a sense of uniformity amongst the pieces, which helps with exhibition coherence. If you choose, one alphabet could be "black and white with a touch of..." That means it is primarily a black and white alphabet with the opportunity for a touch of something to lift the piece or make you smile (maybe red or gold or whatever you choose).

The final letters could be preserved as a framed piece (perhaps for an exhibit), in a scrapbook, an accordion book, or in another method of your choosing.

Let's begin 2022 with a fun lettering project!

### JANUARY PROGRAM

For our January program we will be presenting information and inspiration for our year-long "Letter of the Week 2022" project!

This presentation will take a roundtable format, with many of our members showing their works for similar projects from the past. Ann Cobb will present an overview of the project, and Beth Paul will share some of the ways to present the final pieces. This should be a very inspirational program and a wonderful way to kick off the new year.

We plan to meet in person in March, and will dedicate our program time to taking your ideas for "Letter of the Week 2022" and looking at ways to develop them into finished projects!

Finally, in January of 2023, we hope to have a marvelous display of "Letter of the Week 2022" projects by our members. Thank you in advance for your participation!

Carol Hall  
VP/ Program Chair

# UPCOMING WORKSHOP

## Botanical Art 101

Stop and smell the roses as Miranda teaches you beginning botanical art! This 2-day workshop invites you to relax and enjoy the plant world in a creative way and encourages self-expression during the process. You will learn how to study, draw, and color your favorite botanicals.



The first day, we will cover the differences between botanical illustration and botanical art, how to examine plant life, creating your art space, basic drawing techniques with graphite, texture, shading, and blending techniques with colored pencils.

The second day will be spent on watercolor techniques and adding fine details. Miranda will also

demonstrate masking and background techniques.

**NOTE:** All Classes and Workshops are open first to current Nashville Calligraphers Guild members. If openings exist after members have registered, only then will the workshops be opened to non-members.

### Botanical Art 101

with

**Miranda Fuller**  
**February 5 – 6, 2022**

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Paper & Ink Arts  
(Pending Covid  
Situation)

Cost: \$ 115.00



## Botanical Art 101

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop Deposit **\$35** Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Non-members, please add \$30 to workshop fee.

Make checks payable to **Nashville Calligraphers Guild**

Mail deposits and registration form to:

Ann Cobb, Workshop Chair, 134 La Plaza Drive, Hendersonville, TN 37075

## WORKSHOP REVIEW

**Grisaille**  
**Vivian Mungall**  
**Reviewed by Ann Cobb**

The Grisaille technique is how Baroque and Renaissance painters were able to achieve dramatic and realistic looks to their paintings. It was traditionally done in oils, but can be done in watercolors. Grisaille is a French term that means to paint in monotone, and is pronounced grə'zī.

Vivian taught us to tap in watercolor to create shading on gold. We experimented with Finetec golds, gold gouache, shell gold, and mica powder, and a small watercolor brush.

We first painted our design with our choice of gold. When the gold was completely dry, we tapped in watercolor with a very dry brush after testing the dryness of the brush on a piece of scrap paper. Paint is applied where the shadows would be to give a subtle 3-dimensional effect.

The grisaille effect is very subtle, but adds much to the design.

Vivian also taught us to mix powder gold and mica powder to flow through a pointed nib. She uses Elmer's clear, washable glue, distilled water, and gold powder, mica powder, or glitter. This mixture must be stored in an air-tight container to maintain its fluidity.

The leaf scroll design had brown watercolor added as shading. The holly leaves had green watercolor shading added.

Vivian is always so generous in her sharing of information and techniques. I encourage you to take advantage of any workshops that she offers.





**Calligraphy: A Complete Guide**  
**Written by Julien Chazal**  
**Book Reviewed by Ann Cobb**

There are countless calligraphy books available today. Many are good; some are great; and some – well, we will leave that to reader discretion.

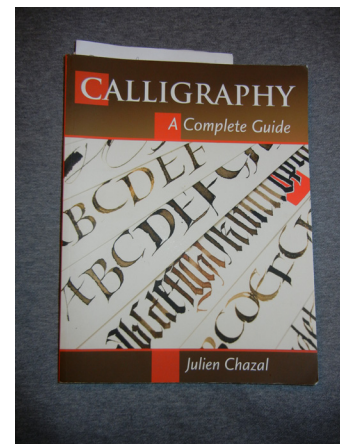
One of the most comprehensive I have found in a long time is Calligraphy: A Complete Guide by Julien Chazal. This 223 page book is comprehensive in its coverage of the art of calligraphy and the history of many scripts.

It begins with an introduction to calligraphy, covering writing tools and mediums for both broad-edge and pointed-pen lettering.

But the heart of the books is the coverage of scripts broken down into these categories:

- Roman Scripts
- Medieval Scripts
- Gothic Scripts
- Modern Scripts
- Contemporary Scripts
- Decoration and Layout

For each of the more than 30 scripts, the author gives 2 pages of history and description of the hand and 2 pages of exemplars for the hand. The sections on formats and layouts provide discussion and several examples of the topics.



If you are looking for a comprehensive book that covers a wealth of information, this may be the book for you.

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#### About the Guild

The Nashville Calligrapher's Guild was formed in 1981 to foster the continued study, practice, and use of calligraphy among its members and to encourage community awareness of the art of calligraphy. To this end, the Guild meets five times a year, publishes a newsletter, and sponsors workshops and related activities.

Membership inquiries can be directed to Sharon Shirley at 615-545-1481. Membership is open to anyone interested in calligraphy. *The membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. Dues are due on June 1 and are considered delinquent if not received within six weeks of that date.* Dues are \$30 per year for a regular membership. Membership forms can be found on the website. Checks are made payable to **Nashville Calligraphers Guild** (no abbreviations, please!) and mailed to Treasurer at P.O. Box 41485, Nashville TN 37204.

Meetings are held the second Saturday in September, November, January, March, and May. The Guild meets at Plaza Artist Materials in downtown Nashville, 633 Middleton Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203. Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. with social time immediately before at 10:00 a.m. (NOT during COVID pandemic, until further notice...).

The Nashville Calligraphers Guild can be found on Facebook and Instagram as well as the NCG website at <http://www.nashvillecalligraphersguild.org>.

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Submissions are made with implied permission to be used on a space-available basis as well as being subject to editing for length, clarity and conformance including but not limited to title and captions. Edits are not routinely returned to authors for review before publication due to time constraints. Photos and artwork may be reduced to accommodate available space. Please send high quality digital files for text, photos and original artwork to [bethletters@bellsouth.net](mailto:bethletters@bellsouth.net).