

# NCG Schedule for 2023-2024

*Note: Meeting locations are subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control.  
Be sure to check social media for the latest information.*

## 2023

*September 9, 2023 -- Guild Meeting at the Frist Museum (in person)*

**September 16, 2023 --Akim Cursive Workshop with Ann Cobb at Paper & Ink Arts (in person)**

*October 8 -- Guild Anniversary Party (in person)*

*November 11, 2023 --Guild Meeting at the Frist Museum*

**December 2 & 3, 2023 -- Watercolor Elements with Carol Hall at Paper & Ink Arts (in person)**

*December 2023 -- Christmas Party. Details to follow.*

## 2024

*January 13, 2024 -- Guild Meeting at the Frist Museum*

*February 2024 -- Scribheaven 2024. Details to follow.*

*March 9, 2024 -- Guild Meeting at Paper and Ink Arts*

*May 11, 2024--Guild Meeting (Location TBA)*

## Other Calligraphic Events

June 22-29, 2024, International Calligraphy Conference, Davenport, Iowa

June 30 - July 6, 2024, IAMPETH Conference, San Antonio, Texas

**NASHVILLE  
CALLIGRAPHERS  
GUILD  
2023-2024 BOARD OFFICERS:**

PRESIDENT: Valerie Cypress  
VICE PRESIDENT: Beth Paul  
TREASURER: Marsha French  
RECORDING SECRETARY:  
Ginny Pennekamp  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:  
Marilyn Stirrett  
MEMBERS AT LARGE:  
Susan Wallace - Past President  
Sharon Perry  
Ruth Farwell  
Teresa Gray  
Miranda Fuller

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

WORKSHOPS: Ann Cobb  
EXHIBITS: Valerie Cypress  
MEMBERSHIP: Chris Hackenbrack  
NEWSLETTER: Beth Paul  
SCRIBEHAVEN: Vicki Brandt  
WEBSITE: Christine Shaw, social media  
INSTAGRAM: Kristina Howard  
SUMMER ENVELOPE EXCHANGE:  
Carol Hall  
LOGO DESIGN: Vicki Brandt

Thank you to the contributors of this issue: Valerie Cypress, Vicki Brandt, Ann Cobb, Carol Hall, Chris Hackenbrack, and Maryann Mize.

**\*\*\*\*\*Special Thanks to Vicki Brandt for this month's cover art.\*\*\*\*\***

## Mark your Calendars!

**A Guild as great as our deserves to be celebrated. So, please join us for an afternoon party in honor of NCG's 42nd Anniversary.**

**Sunday, October 8th from 2:00-4:00  
Sequoia Swim Club, 2120 Chickering Lane, Nashville, TN 37215**

**We will have indoor and outdoor seating and an assortment of delicious refreshments. It will be a time to reconnect with friends and celebrate our Guild. See you there!**

**Valerie Cypress, NCG President**

With kids going back to school, Fall must be around the corner.....and with that comes our Guild meeting on September 9th. There is so much to look forward to in the coming year.

First of all, I would like to thank Susan Wallace and the entire NCG board for guiding the Guild through all the uncertainty of the past 3 years. We were fortunate to have such dedicated, talented and capable members at the helm. They left the Guild in great shape and made it easy for me to be your president.

I also want to thank our new board members for their willingness to step up in support of the Guild. It takes many people to keep an organization running well. Thankfully, we have that team in place-Beth, Marsha, Ginny, Marilyn, Ruth F., Miranda, Teresa, Sharon, Susan, Ann, Chris, Christine, and Kristina. A special thanks goes to Beth Paul who will preside over the September and November meetings for me, in addition to doing the newsletter and programs. I couldn't ask for a better team to work with.

This Fall, Ann Cobb has organized two workshops, we have a 42nd anniversary party in October to look forward to and an exhibit in December to pique the curiosity of those who see it. These public events often lead to new members which is always a plus. (I joined after I saw a Centennial Art Center exhibit in 1996!)

I hope you will join us as we explore new ways to express ourselves through the lettering arts. There is so much to do and discover. Sign up for a class, start a study group, or join us as we celebrate 42 years as a guild. It is going to be a great year!

Yours in letters,

Valerie Cypress  
NCG President

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### **Brentwood Library Exhibit**

In an effort to reach out and let people know about our wonderful Guild, we will have an exhibit at the Brentwood Library in December. There is a lot of space to fill!

There is wall space for maybe 10-12 large pieces and enclosed glass cases for small works like books and framed pieces on easels. I would also like to put together displays of tools, inks and the like to give a feeling of what we use in creating our art. I will hang the show on Friday, December 1st and take it all down on December 29th or 30th.

Exhibit release forms will be in the November newsletter. Please be thinking of what you would like to put in the show. All members are welcome to exhibit.

Valerie Cypress, Exhibit Chair

# September Meeting

\*\*\*\*\*In Person\*\*\*\*\*

**General Meeting: Saturday, September 9, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.**

**Program to Follow**

**Location: Frist Museum, 919 Broadway, Nashville, TN 37203**  
(Parking for the Frist Museum for the Nashville Calligraphers Guild meeting will be a discounted rate of \$2 per hour)

## **TRAFFIC NOTE:**

Getting to the Frist is easy from I-40 or other areas of town.

However, for the past 8 weeks or so, the Broadway Bridge near the Frist has been demolished and reconstructed. The road is scheduled to reopen on September 8th—the day before our meeting at the Frist on Sept. 9th. Yay!

That said, before you come, you may want to double check your route to the Frist. Demonbruen Street is an alternate route to Broadway with the Frist parking lot right off Demonbruen.

## **THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM: "Showing and Sharing"**

As September begins the 42nd year of the Nashville Calligraphers Guild, this month's program will focus on the members "showing and sharing" events and projects since the May meeting including:

- "2023 Summer Envelope Exchange". The theme this year was "Birds of a Feather" so everyone is encouraged to bring their envelopes for everyone to see the results.
- IAMPETH Review. Members who attended the Conference in July will share their experiences and examples of what they learned from the classes.
- Favorite tools. Members are asked to bring their favorite tool(s) they use for calligraphy to share with others who may not know. After all, we can't have too many tools!
- In addition, there will be discussion about the upcoming year. Hopefully, everyone received the survey Ann Cobb sent out to find out the primary interests of the Guild. Right now, there are tentative plans for Guild activities every month through March! And that does not include the scheduled workshops with Ann Cobb and Carol Hall!

This year may be the busiest year the Guild has experienced in awhile so be sure to attend the meeting to show your support and share in the enthusiasm of the Guild. See you there!

Beth Paul,  
Program Chair

# LETTERING PROJECT 2023

Reminders for our Word of the Month project.

Here are the simple rules:

1. 3” x 5” paper -- colored, plain white or black, handmade, your choice of color and type.
2. Create the assigned word in any calligraphic style you like, embellish it, flourish it, emboss it -- make it yours.
3. List tools and materials on the back side of the paper.

We will be creating a handmade book at the end of this 2+ year project in which you will place your words. So keep that in mind as you choose a color scheme.

Sound like fun? Feel free to join us on this journey. Go back to hands that you have learned since Covid sidelined us all or hands that you studied in live workshops -- any hands that you like. This is your opportunity to be creative.

Your next words are:

September -- Ideal  
October -- Jazz

Here are the words in the previous newsletters, they are:

January -- Awesome  
February – Bloom  
March – Color  
April -- Dream  
May -- Earth  
June–Fancy  
July – Gem  
August – Hope

Have fun with this project.  
Ann Cobb

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## 2023 SUMMER ENVELOPE EXCHANGE RESULTS!

Calling all “Birds of a Feather” envelopers! Please bring your envelopes from the summer exchange to display at our September Guild meeting! We are all eagerly anticipating the creative use of our theme! Thank you to all who participated.

Carol Hall  
2023 Summer Envelope Exchange Chair



### *Speaking of envelopes...*



Some of us signed up for the IAMPETH Envelope Exchange as well and here are some samples. The one on the right (from Iceland!) has bird stamps!

## Akim Cursive

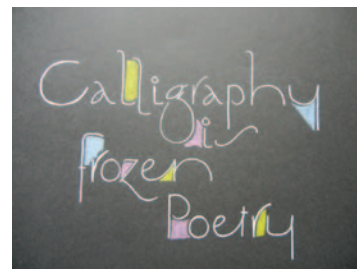
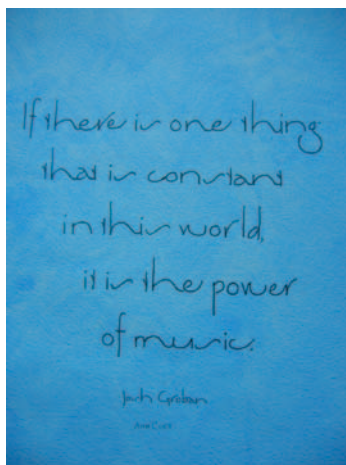
Akim Cursive is a hand created by calligrapher Hans-Joachim Burgert and is said to replicate the rhythm of the human heart.



Hans-Joachim Burgert (1928-2009) was a calligrapher, sculptor, and educator. He was instrumental in the foundation of the Berlin Calligraphy Collection at the Akademie der Künste by donating seventy works to the

collection.

We will briefly explore Burgert's version of Akim, then move into more expressive variations using several different tools. Once students become familiar with working on the variations, we begin writing longer texts and compositions, focusing on the rhythmic patterns for which Akim is known.



### Akim Cursive

with

**Ann Cobb  
September 16, 2023**

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**At Paper & Ink Arts**

Cost: \$ 50.00

## Akim Cursive

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**Workshop Fee: \$ 50.00** Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Nashville Calligraphers Guild**

Mail checks and registration form to:

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

## Watercolor Elements

*A two-day watercolor workshop with Carol V. Hall December 2 and 3, 2023*

**Note new dates!!!!!!!**

Learn how to create unique botanicals, decorate initials, and add calligraphic elements to your designs.



**Day One:** Explore at least 8 different ways to make simple flowers, plants and autumn leaves using watercolors.

**Day Two:** Learn several easy ways to embellish an initial and participate in a fun, neurographic exercise for name writing. We will wrap up the experience

by looking at some ways to add lettering to your designs. There's bound to be surprises along the way!



**The Finished Product:** Take home between 10-20 watercolor cards that you can pop in an envelope and send to friends, or keep as a reference book for yourself.

I hope you will join me!

### Watercolor Elements

with

**Carol Hall  
December 2 and 3, 2023**

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**At Paper & Ink Arts**

Workshop Cost: \$ 115.00

Deposit Required: \$35.00

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## Watercolor Elements

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**Workshop Deposit \$ 35.00** Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to **Nashville Calligraphers Guild**

Mail checks and registration form to:

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

# IAMPETH 2023

*The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting held their annual conference July 17-23, 2023. This year's conference offered a special visit to the Weinberg Library to see the collections of calligraphic art. Here are comments from members who attended the conference.*

Iampeth 2023, held in Scranton, Pennsylvania, was attended by at least five of our guild members, and presided over by our workshop chair, Ann Cobb.

I had a wonderful week of classes and enjoying the evening activities, but the highlight for me was a field trip to the library where we got to see and handle ancient illuminated manuscripts, and many other fascinating works by giants in the Engrossing and Illuminating fields.

While all of the teachers were excellent, I am showing two of the pieces I did in classes. The hummingbird was done in Dan Mooney's class, where he taught using two different bases for gilding: Ormaline, which is a flat gilding base, and Instacol which is used for raised gilding. Then we tooled into the raised gilding with an awl.

The word "Peace" was done in Heather Held's class, where she taught decorated letters. She showed us how to draw and paint the letter as well as gild it using Miniatum as a base.



Carol V. Hall



## My IAMPETH Experience

While the trip getting to Scranton, PA, was a bit challenging with transportation more costly than any of us wanted, the experience was very much worth it!

How to describe the experience? Like-minded people, spending a week learning, sharing life and having fun!

You can check out the line-up of all the fabulous, world-class instructors and their classes, but what you can't sense is the uniqueness of the experience.

Here's just a sampling:

### *Weinberg Library at Scranton University:*

Imagine being just a short walk from a fabulous library housing a rare, antiquarian collection of books along with a wonderful collection of P. W. Costello's engrossing works. Walking into the library, and seeing firsthand these wonderful works will be something that will be forever in my memory as a very special, lifetime experience.

There was more than just seeing the collection. The director of the collection, Professor Michael Knies provided an excellent lecture on specially curated items from their collection dating back to the 700's. His lecture was so interesting, I requested to hear it again – and did!

You, too, can have an amazing experience by viewing some of the pieces we saw at The University of Scranton Digital Collections.

### *Paper & Ink Arts:*

Paper & Ink Arts provided items for all our calligraphic needs with a well-stocked store, and was



*Continued from page 8*

available each day from 7.30am to 10.00pm. What a treat to have not only browsing (and buying) time, but wait, there was more!

Testing tables: They generously had two tables set up with every imaginable product to test, play, and just have fun. Those tables were always occupied, and it was a lot of fun to share and be inspired. AND I'm sure many of us added/enhanced our collections of product as the result of the experience!

6:30pm Demonstrations: Each evening, there were half hour sessions in the store featuring a specific product. The demonstrations were done by highly regarded calligraphers not only sharing how they used the product, but their special insight! What a treat!

Golden Ticket time:

Remember the movie "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" and THE golden ticket? Paper & Ink Arts had that moment once each day. At different times each day they would post the time that the clues to the whereabouts of "Golden Ticket" would be released. How exciting to search for and find that "Golden Ticket" and be the recipient of a special bag of treasures thanks to Paper & Arts.

Did I search for the Golden Ticket? Did I achieve success? YES! I think it was day 3, and much to my surprise, I found the ticket! I never win anything and was thrilled to receive a curated bag with products that included Ferris Wheel chargers/sampler of inks, set of 6 Coliro Gold and Silver pearl colors, and a Kuretake product that is a glitter additive which turns any ink into a glitter palooza! I may never win anything again in my life, but am so thankful to be the winner of this particular sparkly, glittery goodness – my favorites!

*Michael Sull's generosity:*

Michael Sull generously provided a collection of wooden Zanerian Print Blocks for each attendee to IAMPETH! What a special treat to have a piece of calligraphy history! With about 250 attendees, that was quite a feat to bring them, and generously allow each of us to have one.

Michael also provided a sheet explaining the history

of the blocks: "This wood-mounted print block is a rare artifact from America's Golden Age of Penmanship. With few exceptions, all print blocks are between 80-110 years old." I will always treasure the block I selected, an exemplar.

In conclusion, it was a fabulous experience, and I could go on and on about the "show and tell" evening, the "round robin", the evening of getting your name done by a talented calligraphers, spending time in the archives room, the fabulous "goody bag" we received at the registration (thank you Molly of Paper & Ink Arts for making this the best good bag ever!) and the opening and closing speech by the great grandson of P. W. Costello,

I think the best advice to give you: Go to an IAMPETH conference and experience this all for yourself!

Many thanks to Ann Cobb, president of IAMPETH for a memorably fabulous event!

Maryann Mize



Goody Bags Galore!

## IAMPETH in PA, 2023

I have been to several IAMPETH conferences and each one was special in its own way. What remains the same is the sense of family and being around old friends even if it's your first visit.

The food was wonderful, both the breakfast buffet and the restaurant/bar which had a special menu just for IAMPETH.

We had the entire second floor to enjoy and there were always groups sitting around talking or demonstrating. Michael Sull spent entire evenings sitting at a table, surrounded by students watching him write and asking questions.

The opening banquet was wonderful if somewhat damp as the tributes had most of us teary eyed. First was the gorgeous surprise for Heather Held, the conference dedication certificate by Mike Kesceg. Just as special was the beautiful last president certificate for Ann Cobb by Heather Held. And of course, the keynote speaker was Tom Costello, great grandson of P.W. Costello, the renowned illustrator and engrosser.

I thoroughly enjoyed my classes. First day was with Bill Kemp (Engrosser's Script) where he talked about his mentor, Master Penman, Bill Lilly and patiently showed us how to do the letters "the proper way" as Mr. Lilly would say to him.

The Engrossing class with Michael Sull was a special treat although I think some students were confused at first as they were expecting to learn flourishing. But, as Michael explained, engrossing is the art of creating a page to honor someone or an event, filling the entire page with elements of decoration such as acanthus leaves, filigree, scrolls, borders and embellished lettering with beautiful colors and gold. It is an art that not many do anymore. Michael admitted that he himself is more of a "penman" than an "engrosser" as he prefers filling the page with flourishing.

One of the teachers who does engrossing is Vivian Mungall who taught a class based on E. A. Lupfer's blackletter style of lettering. It looked deceptively simple and takes practice as the pen angle is different than most. Vivian did names for several people which showed how beautiful this hand is to use.

But the classes are only part of the story. Every night was a different activity in one of the ballrooms. Member night was where members shared their art for everyone to walk around and see. It was great to participate as well as see the other members' work. The Round Robin night was crazy crowded with people enjoying learning new skills. And for the Evening with the Masters, it was standing room only with folks waiting to have their names written by a Master. I don't know the results of the Silent Auction but the tables were full and there were so many items available, I walked around twice and probably did not see all of them.

Of course, the extra special treat was the visit to the library to see the amazing collections of manuscripts, certificates, letters and scrapbooks, some dating back before medieval times. One book in particular was Ethiopian and was dated around the 12th century. There is much more available in the library's digital collections which made it a bit easier to leave.

This year was my husband's first time to accompany me to IAMPETH and we both wondered what he would do all day. But Ann Cobb quickly took care of putting him to work, transporting members to the Library Exhibit and back while I was in class. I think he met more folks than I did! He certainly made new friends as did I, and we brought home some wonderful memories.

Beth Paul, VP



Heather and Ann with Heather's certificate.

## IAMPETH 2023

So many memories from our Conference. Hilton Scranton and Conference Center, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Spencerian Script, Copperplate Script, Costello-Style Lettering, Flourished Borders, Luminous Letters, ROMANTiCAPS, Cursive Handwriting, Carolingian, Engrosser's Script, Gilded Hummingbirds, Old English, Layout and Design, Foundational, Engrossing. Each class allowed participants to see, hear, and learn from some of the best teachers covering traditional classes.

One of the many highlights was the visits to the Weinberg Library to view the Healey Collection and the other 7 collections of illuminated documents there. Michael Knies shared information about the documents, answered questions, and allowed the groups to also view the medieval documents in their library. Special thanks to Johnnie Paul (Beth's hubby) for driving the van to provide transportation between the hotel and the library.

Tom Costello shared his slide show and much family information about his great-grandfather, P. W. Costello. He showed several pieces from his collection that had not been seen before.

Paper & Ink Arts "brought the store" including many new products for purchase. The Artisan Vendor Marketplace showcased ten vendors' hand-crafted items. Items were donated by each vendor for drawings each day to visitors to the marketplace.

The Archives room showcased our collection of vintage documents, scrapbooks, and framed prints. The Round Robin featured more than 25 participants sharing tools, tips, techniques, and information. The Members Show and Share room was filled with members sharing their work. The Evening with the Masters allowed participants to have their names written by approximately 25 outstanding calligraphers.

Michael Sull brought print blocks from ZanerBloser for each participant. He also donated multiple vintage pen holders which were given away in daily drawings.

The Philadelphia Calligraphers Guild and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Calligraphers Guild assisted with

registration, table centerpieces, and manned tables during the week to provide information and assistance.

The Goody Bags were definitely the best we have ever had. They contained approximately 50 items – yes, 50! Molly Kunkel from Paper & Ink Arts served as my donations chair, and did an outstanding job in procuring donations.

The hotel staff was the best we have ever worked with, and the food was delicious.

It was a wonderful week filled with much learning, sharing, friendship, and calligraphy! Thank you for your support these last 3 years during the planning stages.

Ann Cobb, IAMPETH Past President



A photo of Ann's certificate

*In case, you did not see the announcement elsewhere, here is your invitation to the Anniversary Party!*



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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 Chris Hackenbrack at [deMuralist@gmail.com](mailto:deMuralist@gmail.com). 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. Meeting locations may vary. Meetings usually 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).