



The
2019 Annual Report

of the **Chicago**
Calligraphy
COLLECTIVE

cal·lig·ra·phy (kə-lig'rə-fē) *n.*
1. The art of beautiful writing.
[French *calligraphie*, from Greek
kalligraphia : CALLI- + -GRAPHY.]

The
2019 Annual Report
of the



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“ *Calligraphy is an expression of joy and surprise. Calligraphy builds a bridge from one human being to another, from country to country.*”

~Karlgeorg Hoefler

Our Mission

The Chicago Calligraphy Collective is organized for the charitable and educational purposes of promoting the study, practice, and appreciation of calligraphy—the art of beautiful writing—in all its historical and present-day applications. By offering educational opportunities, the Collective enhances public awareness and interest in the calligraphic lettering arts.

**Board of Officers and Directors
2019–2020**

PresidentMary Zabrin
Vice PresidentKaren Brooks
TreasurerPatricia Kutz
Corresponding SecretaryKelly Medina
Recording SecretaryPosition Open
Exhibits DirectorJulie Wildman
Membership DirectorJoanna Zdzenicka
Special Events DirectorPamela Rodey
Workshops DirectorKaren Ness
Ad Hoc DirectorPosition Open

President's Message

The year 2019 marked the Chicago Calligraphy Collective's 44th year as an organization. We continue to focus on our mission to promote the study, practice, and appreciation of calligraphy in all its many forms. I applaud the members who devote their time and efforts to maintain this vibrant and strong organization. I am especially grateful to the devoted Officers, Directors and support staff who keep it running smoothly on a daily basis.

The Board and Support Staff

2019 brought one new member to our Board. Karen Brooks joined us as Vice President in March.

Pat Kutz, Kelly Medina, Karen Ness, Pamela Rodey, Julie Wildman, and Joanna Zdzienicka continued in their roles as Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, Workshops Director, Special Events Director, Exhibits Director, and Membership Director, respectively. The Recording Secretary and AdHoc Director positions remain open. In addition to the Board, there is our support staff: Christine Shaw, Webmaster; Lindsey Hook, Newsletter Editor; and Linda Hancock, Proofreader. The CCC would not run smoothly without the dedication and commitment of all of these amazing people.



CCC members Mary Zabrin (at left) and Julie Wildman demonstrate calligraphy techniques at an event at the Irish American Heritage Center.

The Board continues to take its responsibilities seriously. We are focused on providing excellent learning opportunities, fiscal leadership, and good communications.

Community and Collaboration

Our partnership with the Irish American Heritage Center continues to flourish. We provide volunteer artists at the ready for special signage requests. We also participate in the IAHC's Irish Fest, iBAM Festival, and Christmas Bazaar.

We continue to work on our Community Education Program. Our goal is to offer a variety of calligraphy classes to our membership and the surrounding communities. Our Inklings Grant Program is another vehicle the CCC uses to promote calligraphy in the local communities of our members.

Communications, Membership & Administration

Our redesigned website continues to be a powerful tool for our membership. Secure e-commerce capabilities offer members a user-friendly way to renew memberships and register for workshops. Each saw a significant increase in 2019: 84 percent of all workshops registrations were made online, with the remaining 16 percent of on-line orders going to first-time or renewal memberships. Overall membership increased by 25 percent in 2019.

The bi-monthly digital *Newsletter* goes out six times each year, followed up in the interim months with *Nib Notes*—an e-publication—as needed. Both publications provide time-sensitive updates to our membership. Lindsey Hook remained the Newsletter Editor throughout 2019. Corresponding Secretary, Kelly Medina, was responsible for sending out *Nib Notes*.

We continue to post information on our social media accounts—Facebook and Instagram. The number of followers for both accounts increased in 2019. The most significant was a thirty-five percent increase in the number of followers to our Instagram account. Social media continues to be a vital resource for our membership, providing updates in real time.

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Books made by participants in Cheryl Moote's January workshop.

Members also have around-the-clock access to the CCC events calendar and a password-protected online directory, making it easy to stay up-to-date on important events and in touch with fellow members. The calendar and directory are updated on a regular basis.

Excellence in Programming

The following information is a short synopsis of the full reports you will find later in this annual report.

Workshops

We continue to offer many exciting and interesting workshops each year and 2019 set a record with twelve. Workshop Director, Karen Ness, and her committee continue to bring sought-after instructors and exciting workshops to our members. We began the year in January with Canadian Cheryl Moote's workshop on bookbinding and ended in November with Peter Thornton's Adolf Bernd Letters. In between those workshops, we brought in a pointed pen expert, a stone carver, a printmaker, and had a four-day retreat with John Stevens. So many beautiful and amazing works of art were produced by the participants in each workshop. We look forward to seeing much more in 2020.

Exhibits

Each year we showcase the talents of our membership in our All Members' Show. In 2019, we had the opportunity to showcase members' work in not one, but two exhibits. These exhibits are designed to include

everyone, from beginners to the advanced. During the second All Members' Show, we invited the public to vote on their favorite works in several categories.

Our juried exhibit, *Exploration*, returned in 2019 after a one-year hiatus. The exhibit consisted of thirty-six calligraphic works ranging from broadsides to books to stone carvings. The artists' reception included three calligraphy demonstrations and a presentation by Jill Gage, Custodian of the John M. Wing Foundation at the Newberry Library.



One of the cases at our All Members' Show, held at the Austin-Irving branch of the Chicago Public Library this past summer.

Special Events

We held three all-member meetings and two artists' receptions in 2019. The January meeting is always a highlight and encourages camaraderie with the annual calligraphy gift exchange. The March meeting brought a stone carving demonstration by member Alicia Marquez, who encouraged members to try their hand at carving. The October meeting coincided with the first of two artists' receptions—this one for an All Members' Show. We then finished the year with our second and final artists' reception in November for *Exploration*, held at North Central College in Naperville, IL.

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The 2019-2020 CCC Board. Pictured back row, left to right: Julie Wildman, Exhibits Director; Joanna Zdzenicka, Membership Director; Karen Ness, Workshops Director; and Pamela Rodey, Special Events Director. Front row, left to right: Pat Kutz, Treasurer; Mary Zabrin, President; and Karen Brooks, Vice President. Not present: Kelly Medina, Corresponding Secretary (inset photo).

Final Thoughts

As I near the end of my third and final year as President of the CCC, I write this with mixed emotions. I am grateful for having the opportunity to serve you and the CCC for the last seven years; three as President and four as Exhibits Director. I am proud to be part of this organization and I will continue to work hard to promote its mission and ideals.

I have been blessed to work with a wonderful Board of Directors and an amazing support staff. I cannot thank them enough for the hard work they do each and every day for you, our members. I am in awe of their dedication and grateful to call each of them my friend.

Many thanks go out to the numerous volunteers who help behind the scenes throughout the year. Your kindness and generosity knows no bounds.

I encourage every member to get more involved in the CCC in 2020; whether that means taking a workshop or showing up at a meeting; volunteering to hand-letter bookmarks or submitting your art for an exhibit; joining the Board or joining a study group. Choose to do whatever you can, whenever you can. The CCC needs all of you to keep it running smoothly and efficiently.

It has been my honor to serve as your president. Thank you for your enthusiasm, your support and, most of all, your friendship.

Mary Zabrin
President 🌸

The State of the Chicago Calligraphy Collective

This Annual Report is more than a documentation of the year's accomplishments and activities of the Chicago Calligraphy Collective. It is intended to reflect and celebrate the organization's creative spirit and values, as well as its service to its mission to inspire, challenge and instruct its membership and interested public through workshops, exhibitions and programs. It is fundamentally about its identity, about how the organization defines itself and strives to impact the calligraphic community. It is an enduring commitment to build on its extraordinary legacy and a framework for sustaining great traditions while engaging in new adventures.

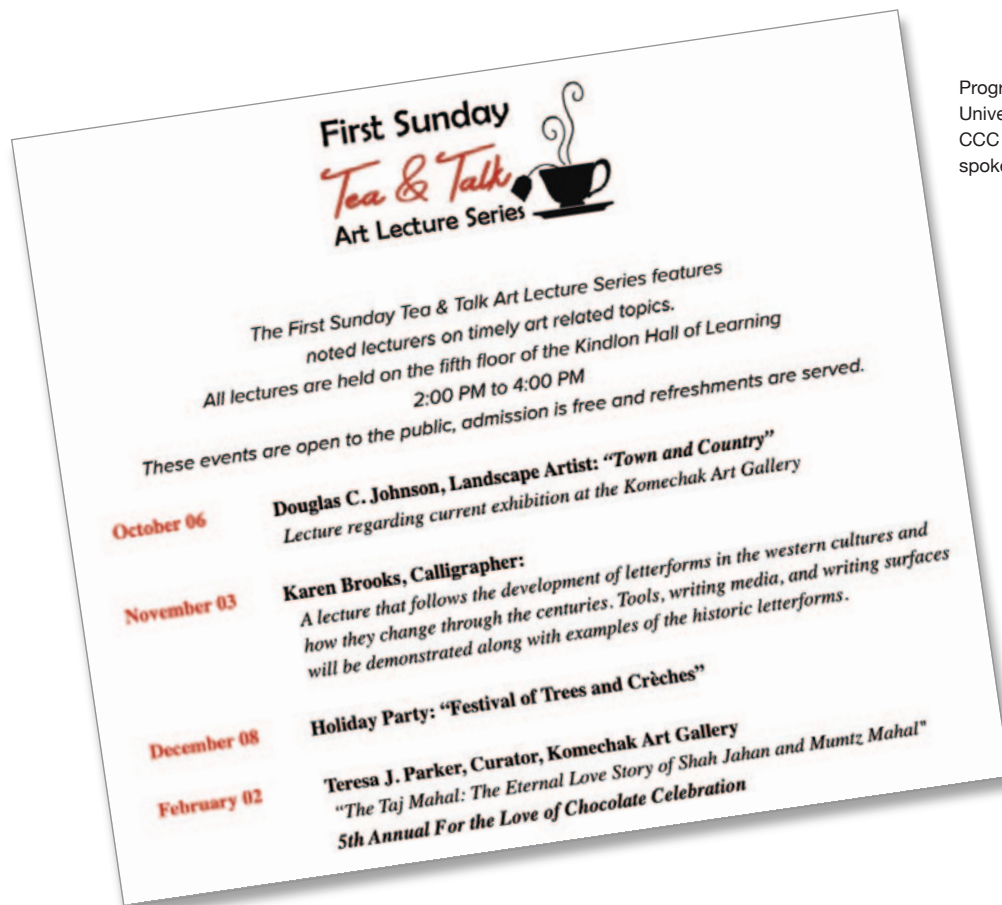
Vice President's Report | Karen Brooks

Karen Brooks gave a presentation at the Komachek Art Gallery at Benedictine University on November 3, 2019 for their First Sunday Tea and Talk series. The program, which was open to the public with free admission, was attended by about 20 people. A question and answer session followed the PowerPoint presentation on the History of Western Calligraphy. Postcards for *Exploration 2019*, our juried exhibit at North Central College, were handed out and extra postcards were left at the gallery's front desk. Karen would be willing to do this presentation in the future and will reach out to CCC

members who might know of any schools, groups or libraries which might be interested in offering this program.

There were two Inklings proposals submitted and approved by the Board during 2019. Additional information can be found under Inklings Grant Program on page 15 of this Annual Report.

The Vice President is responsible for filling the slate of officers and preparing ballots for the annual March elections. 🌸



Program advertising Benedictine University's "Tea & Talk" series. CCC member, Karen Brooks, spoke at the November 3 event.

Corresponding Secretary | Kelly Medina

In 2019, the Corresponding Secretary duties involved maintaining correspondence directed to the CCC Google Mail account from the CCC website and written mail directed to our address listed below. Direct messages from our social media accounts, Facebook and Instagram, are also under the purview of the CS.

The e-publication, *Nib Notes*, is produced and sent to membership during the interim months of the *Newsletter* as needed. In 2019, *Nib Notes* was sent in February, April, June, August, and October. Other duties included Facebook and Instagram postings with focus on communication to the membership and social media interest groups. Occasional written correspondence for condolence or thank you cards is sent throughout the year.

As of December 31, 2019, our Facebook page had 2,960 followers, a 1% increase over 2018. Our Instagram page had 1401 followers, a 35% increase since December 2018.

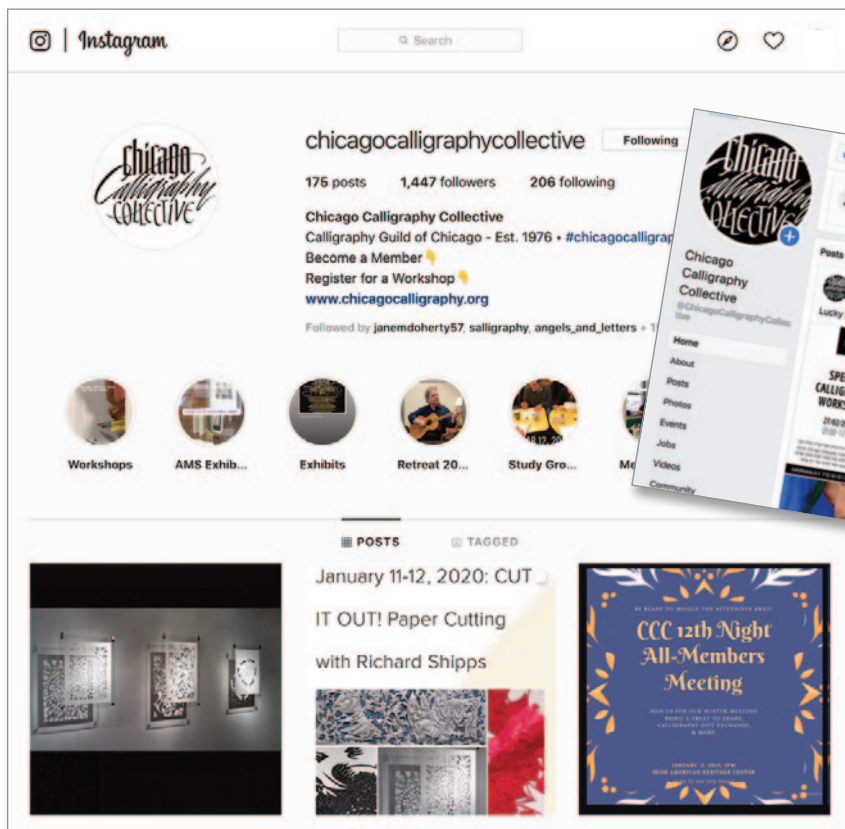
Written correspondence can be mailed to our address located in the Irish American Heritage Center building:

Chicago Calligraphy Collective
4626 North Knox Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60630

Digital correspondence can be directed to the CCC Website at: www.chicagocalligraphycollective.org/contact-us or secretary@chicagocalligraphy.org

Facebook: Chicago Calligraphy Collective

Instagram: @chicagocalligraphycollective 🍷



The CCC's current Instagram and Facebook pages.

Exhibits | Julie Wildman

2019 was a busy year for exhibits!

All Members' Shows

As mentioned in the 2018 Annual Report, we started off with our All Members' Show, held at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library during the month of January. The show was titled "Make Your Mark" and was a non-juried exhibit designed to include everyone, from beginners to veterans. The theme was abstract mark-making, and the pieces were displayed in a very large display window on the second floor.



Part of the All Members' Show "Go Make Something" exhibit installed at the Austin-Irving Branch of the Chicago Public Library.

We also had the opportunity to host another All Members' Show at the Austin-Irving Branch of the Chicago Public Library. The exhibit ran from July 6 through September 21. It was titled, "Go Make Something," and had no specific theme. Again, all levels of skill were welcomed. This year, we put out ballots for the public—and our members—to vote on their favorite pieces in six categories: Best Traditional Calligraphy; Best Modern Calligraphy; Best 3-Dimensional; Best Abstract; Best Use of Color; and Overall Favorite. The winners were announced at our Fall Members' Meeting and reception on September 21.

Exploration 2019

Exploration 2019 was held at the Oesterle Library on the North Central College campus in Naperville, Illinois. The exhibit ran from November 3 through December 31.



The Exploration 2019 logo was designed by CCC member Alicia Marquez.

Exploration 2019 began with the Call for Entries in June. We received a total of 49 entries, of which 31 pieces were accepted. Including the jurors' five pieces, we had a total of 36 works exhibited.

Jurying day was held on Saturday, September 7 at the Irish American Heritage Center. The jury consisted of four CCC members and one guest juror: Mary Zabrin, Matt Wright, Alicia Marquez, Judith Mayer, and guest juror Cathy Feeman.

This year, the jury was asked to pick their favorite in each of six categories: Best Traditional Calligraphy; Best Mixed Media; Best Abstract; Best in Show; Best Use of Color; and Best Expressive Lettering.

We held the Artists' Reception on Saturday, November 16 at Heining Hall in the Larrance Academic Center at NCC. There were demonstrations by three of our

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Guests viewing the artwork on display at *Exploration 2019*, held at the Oesterle Library Gallery at North Central College in Naperville, IL.

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members: Pointed Brush Lettering by Karen Ness; Experimental Lettering with Japanese Brush by Kathy Mandell; and Digital Lettering by Judith Mayer.

Our speaker was Jill Gage, Custodian of the John M. Wing Foundation at the Newberry Library in Chicago. Her presentation was titled “Calligraphy at the ‘New’ Newberry.” Jill talked about the changes which have taken place since the construction project at the Newberry; presented some recent calligraphic acquisitions; and announced an upcoming event/exhibit in the Winter of 2021. It is titled “The Pen’s Triumph, or The Curse of Cursive,” and it is Jill’s hope that the CCC might collaborate with the Newberry to bring the exhibit about.

After the presentation, our President, Mary Zabrin, handed out certificates—which were lettered by Janice Kiska—to the artists, then announced the juror awards. They were: Mike Kecseg’s “Darkness and Light” for Best Traditional; Linda Hancock’s “Like Stars or Feathers” for Best Mixed Media; Pamela Paulsrud’s “Line in Time I” for Best Abstract; Sherri Trial’s “Everything Turns” for Best in Show; Julie Wildman’s “Psalm 97:1” for Best Use of Color; and Julie Wildman’s “Psalm 117” for Best Expressive Lettering.

The finale of the presentation was Jill Gage’s announcement of the 2019 Newberry Purchase Prize Award, which went to Mary Zabrin for her beautiful “Book of Numbers.” Jill also announced that the Newberry was purchasing Judith Mayer’s piece titled “Lyrical.”

I continue to investigate other venues to host the next *Exploration* and welcome members’ participation in my search. 🌀



CCC member Mary Zabrin won the Newberry Library’s Purchase Prize award for her “Book of Numbers” at *Exploration 2019*.



“Lyrical” by Judith Mayer. Judith’s piece was an additional purchase made by the Newberry Library at *Exploration 2019*.

Membership | Joanna Zdzienicka

Our total membership as of December 31 was 248, including nine honorary members and seven affiliates. The CCC welcomed 51 new and returning members in 2019 and eleven of them joined through the Get-A-Member-Get-A-Gift Program. Eleven Blick e-gift cards were sent out for member referrals.

Thirty of our members paid for business listings on the CCC website. By the end of the year, we had ten subscribers to the print version of the bi-monthly *Newsletter*.

A majority of the membership reside in Illinois, but we have members across 26 states and two foreign countries.

Annual membership dues renewal email reminders were sent out on February 8, 2019.

The President's letter was mailed to the membership in early June with a mechanical pencil imprinted with our

website and a pencil pouch that has the current CCC logo, website and artwork with the saying "Go Make Something," designed by Julie Wildman for the All Members' Show.

As new members join or existing members update their contact information, the member database continues to be updated and information is published in the *Newsletter*. A password protected Member Directory is also maintained on the CCC website.

To clarify our terms of membership, the following statement was added to the website: "Our membership year runs from March 4 through March 3 of the following year. New members are welcome to join at any time during the membership year, but all memberships are retroactive to the beginning of a given membership year. Dues are not prorated." 🍷



Mechanical pencil and pouch given as members' gifts in 2019.

Special Events | Pamela Rodey

January Members' Meeting and Gift Exchange: January 6 at IAHC

This is always our best attended meeting due to the anticipation of taking home a calligraphic treasure or exciting art supplies by participating in our Australian grab bag game. The "rules" of the game were stressed in the pre-meeting *Newsletter* and *Nib Notes*: only calligraphy (original or prints) or art-related materials are appropriate.

It was a fun afternoon with tasty treats supplied by the membership and drinks by the CCC.

March All Members' Meeting: March 2 at IAHC

The March meeting highlight was Alicia Marquez's stone carving demo and opportunity for members to try carving with stones and equipment she generously provided. The Calligra-flea market featured several new member's items. With several generously donated items (including a slate 'R' from Alicia), along with the five Blick \$20 gift cards provided by the CCC, everyone went home with at least one raffle prize.



CCC member, Alicia Marquez, demonstrates stone carving at our March meeting.



CCC members Rosie Kelly and Reggie Ezell at the January Members' Meeting and Gift Exchange on January 6, 2019.

Karen Brooks was elected to fill the Vice President position. All other officers were re-elected. No one came forward to fill the Recording Secretary or Ad Hoc positions.

Fall Meeting and All Members' Show Reception: September 21 at Austin-Irving Library

The Austin-Irving Library was a lovely setting for our show and meeting. Visitors voted for their favorites in six categories for awards during the run of the show. Those ballots were added to the members voting at the reception and six members were awarded \$50 John Neal gift certificates. The gift certificates were generously donated by John Neal Books and purchased by the CCC.

The award winners were:

Best Abstract ~ Janice Kiska for "Untitled"

Best Traditional Lettering ~ Mike Kecseg for
"Darkness and Light"

Best Modern Expressive Lettering ~ Mary Zabrin
for "Someone I Loved"

Best 3D ~ Alicia Marquez for "Luna"

Best Use of Color ~ Shizuka Toyama for "Canvas"

Overall Favorite ~ Cheryl Pocus for "Friends"

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Ballot box and CCC banner for our All Members' Show in the summer of 2019, held at the Austin-Irving branch of the Chicago Public Library.



CCC member, Judith Mayer, explains digital lettering to onlookers at the *Exploration* 2019 reception at North Central College.

For our raffle we again had donated items and, because of the light attendance, everyone went home with one prize. We were especially touched by former member Beverly Hubbard's husband's donation of some of Bev's supplies.

November Reception for *Exploration*: November 16 at North Central College

Three black tablecloths were purchased for receptions, which produced a more professional look. As was true for all the meetings this year, because of lighter than anticipated attendance, more food than necessary was purchased. This may be an ongoing issue and although adjustments for quantities will be made, we will continue to provide a welcoming array of treats at our events.



CCC member Devina Dhawan makes bookmarks at iBAM! at the Irish American Heritage Center.

iBAM and Christmas Bazaar at the IAHC

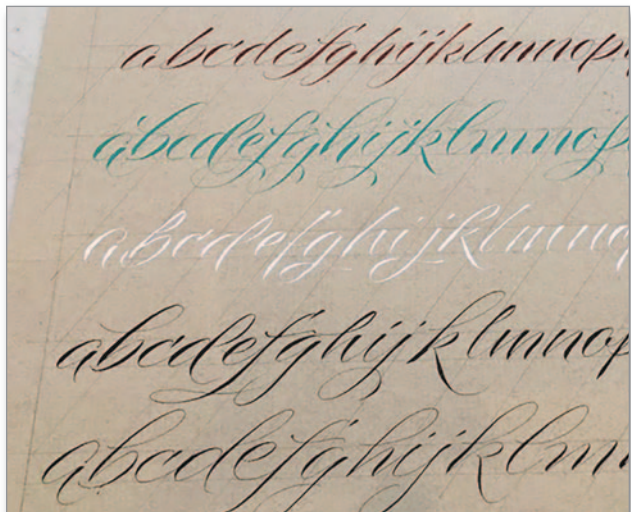
Several members hand-lettered bookmarks at both events. All proceeds went to the CCC Tribute Fund and to the IAHC. During iBAM, volunteer members also worked in the IAHC Gallery and with the participants of the IAHC sponsored calligraphy class taught by Denis Brown, the recipient of the IAHC's 2019 award for "Outstanding Contributions in Visual Arts." 🍷

Workshops | Karen Ness

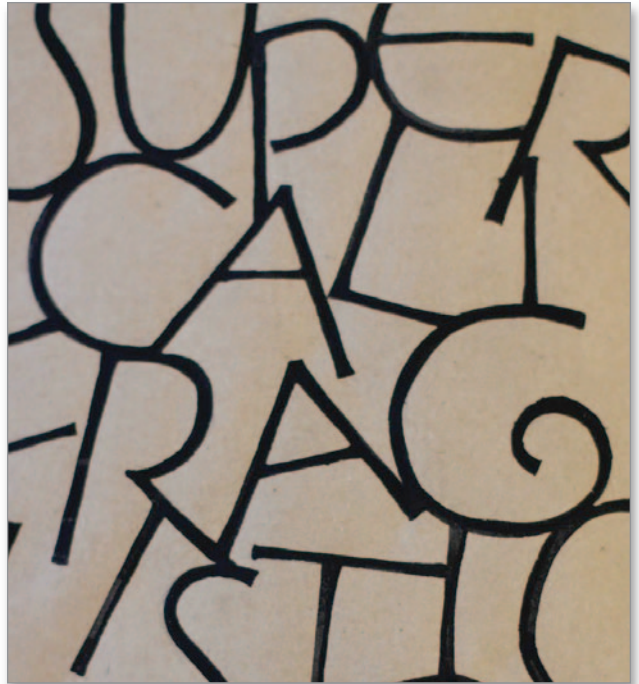
We had a record year for CCC workshops in 2019. We held 12 workshops! We ran two workshops in August! We ran two workshops in October! We brought three international instructors! We filled 182 workshop seats! We had 21 new members join us in connection to workshop registrations! And if all of this were not enough, we added stone carving to our long and exciting list of creative workshops that the Chicago Calligraphy Collective has offered and continues to offer.

The year opened with Canadian, Cherryl Moote, sharing her bookbinding knowledge and skill. We immediately jumped into a two-month intensive workshop with our own Mike Kecseg. Mike taught Beginning and Advanced Copperplate during February and March respectively, requiring student homework between months. Mike carefully and generously critiqued each student's work, and those assignments were redone and brought to the March workshop.

Our annual April retreat was blessed with the gifted hand and focused teaching of the extraordinary John Stevens. Long stretches of students' brown kraft paper hung on walls and windows, covered corridors of carpeting and floor, and layered on top of each other like drapery. It was a creative and learning bonanza.



Lettering samples from Mike Kecseg's "Beginning and Advanced Copperplate" workshop in February and March



Student work from the April retreat with John Stevens

In May we carved slate. Paul Herrera drove into town with a car filled with chisels, mallets and slabs of slate. On the Saturday evening, Paul gave a slide presentation and talk entitled "The Life and Work of Father Catch." Along with dinner, the talk was open to all.

Eleanor Winters returned to Chicago in June to teach Gothicized Italic, followed by Jacqueline Sullivan's sold out Painting the Abstract with Inks workshop in August. This year, we offered a second workshop in August—our rescheduled Coptic Binding study with CCC member Pam Sussman. Martha Ericson returned to the CCC in

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Instructor Martha Ericson demonstrates a printmaking technique in her "Two-Color Lino Block Printing" workshop.

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Student work from Wissam Shawkat's "Calligraforms" workshop in October

September, this time to add a new dimension with Two-Color Lino Block Printing.

Dubai artist, Wissam Shawkat, made his US instructing debut in Chicago in October, teaching his own invented and developed lettering style he calls "Calligraforms." It was nothing we have ever done before, and was eye-opening and exciting. Then within days, Dublin's Denis Brown was honored by the Irish American Heritage Center, and we were very lucky to add a workshop with Denis—Color for Calligraphers.

The year closed in November with Peter Thornton teaching Adolph Bernd Letters which included letters, design and watercolor work.

To all the 2019 CCC workshop instructors, students and photographers, we offer boundless gratitude for your enthusiastic participation in expanding our calligraphic knowledge, artistry and wonder. In addition to Workshop Committee members Lisa Kivland and Kathy Mandell, my personal thanks go to our president, Mary Zabrin, and the entire CCC Board of Directors. We couldn't be celebrating this record-breaking workshop year without hard work and a strong group effort!

I love our calligraphic community!! 🌸



Student work from Peter Thornton's "Adolf Bernd Letters: Decorated Versals" workshop in November.



CCC member Kathy Mandell works on color exercises in Peter Thornton's "Adolf Bernd Letters: Decorated Versals" workshop.

Inklings Grant Program | Patricia Kutz

The Chicago Calligraphy Collective's Inklings Grant Program utilizes specially earmarked funds available to members and non-members with a Collective sponsor who wish to promote calligraphy in their communities through educational programs. Those interested must submit a proposal to the Board of Directors outlining the details of the undertaking, including a project description and budget. If the outreach project meets the Collective's guidelines for educational purpose, funds are disbursed to help defray the cost of materials and related expenses. In 2019, two applications were submitted by a CCC member and approved by the Board.

On July 24, 2019 Julie Wildman instructed a 2.5-hour Modern Handwriting class for teens (and two adults) at the Hinsdale Public Library in Hinsdale, Illinois. There were 14 students signed up and 8 in attendance. The Inklings Grant allowed Julie to provide each student with a Hiro 111 EF nib, a Speedball holder, a large dinky dip base and cup with sumi ink, lots of Bienfang Marker Layout paper, some blue-line grid paper and one Strathmore card and envelope, along with detailed, spiral-bound handouts. They also received one of the CCC table tent cards and were told about our workshops and that the guild sponsored their supplies.



A mother and daughter enjoyed the Crazy Calligraphy class at the Bartlett Public Library in August.

Julie taught the basic strokes and then the whole lower-case alphabet to the enthusiastic participants. Each student was asked to write their name or a special word at the end of class. Students used the Bienfang paper because it is bleedproof *and* translucent. They were



A student practices the modern Copperplate at the Hinsdale Public Library.

able to see the letterforms and grid through the paper and had the option to trace the letters or use the grid guidelines.

On August 31, 2019 Julie Wildman also instructed a 3-hour Crazy Calligraphy class for patrons of the Bartlett Public Library in Bartlett, Illinois. There were 20 students signed up and 17 in attendance. Each student was given a Zig Dual-Tip Calligraphy Marker, a Pentel Aquash Water Brush, cola and broom bristle pens, cups of sumi and walnut inks, translucent paper, Arches Text Wove, Artagain Black, and detailed, spiral-bound handouts to take home. They were also given a CCC table tent card and were told about our workshops and encouraged to join the guild.

This was an introductory 'Calligraphy 101' type of class. Students received a quick overview of the basic strokes in Italic, along with learning the letters 'a' and 'n.' They created their own monoline alphabets and tried some brush lettering. And finally, students had the opportunity to try the cola and broom bristle pens, as well as seashells, to make unusual letters. 🎨

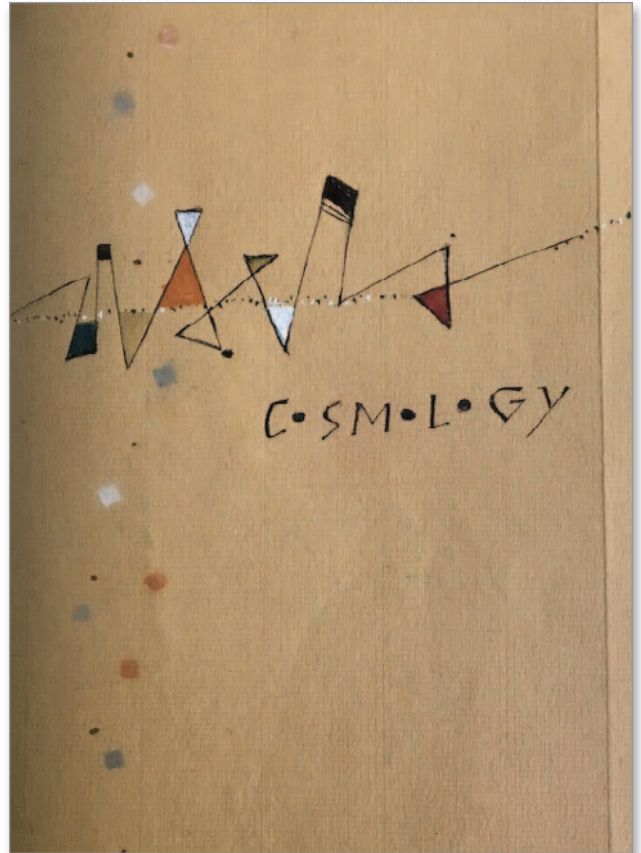
Treasurer's Report | Patricia Kutz

The Chicago Calligraphy Collective strengthened the creative capacity of the calligraphic community in 2019 by providing diverse prospects for art participation. The organization remains dedicated to the ongoing stewardship of our iconic programs, the presentation of outstanding learning opportunities and the engagement of the public through our exhibits. Activities highlighted in this report illustrate a continuing commitment by the Board of Directors, support staff, members and partners to investing in creativity through inspiration and hard work. As you read this report, it is our hope you are reminded why the CCC is important to you.

For fiscal year 2019, the excess of revenue over expenses including the Tribute Fund was \$5,439.86 and assets totaled \$106,416.75. The Collective remains vision-focused, mindful of transparency and has met the standards for charity accountability.

Art education is an important component of the organization's operations. Seventy-two percent of revenues were generated by workshops, helping calligraphers reach their full potential at all stages of development. Highly ambitious and exceptionally successful, the lineup included ten two-day workshops, a three-day workshop and a four-day retreat at Techny Towers. Seventy-one percent, the bulk of the organization's expenses, were attributable to workshops, including instructor stipends, travel expenses, room rentals and supplies.

The CCC is fortunate that calligraphy to our members is much more than a mere interruption or distraction, but rather a core element of their identity, story and purpose. Nineteen percent of revenues were produced through membership dues, newsletter subscriptions and web listings. Membership remains consistent with 248 members at the end of 2019 and paid membership fees of \$6,502.71. Six percent of expenses were ascribed to membership and are minimal due to electronic renewal notices and the replacement of the annual printed member directory with a password-protected directory



Detail of 'Cosmology,' an artist's book by Rosie Kelly. This piece was on exhibit at *Exploration 2019*.

on the CCC website. The past year has seen the CCC bolster our position as a welcoming and engaging place for calligraphers of all ages and backgrounds as the Board reviewed, redefined and augmented the benefits of membership.

The CCC continues to enhance the ways we present ourselves to society through our exhibits of beautiful lettering. Art displays bring diverse groups of people together for a shared experience; they generate dialogue, provide unique perspectives, and simply entertain. *Exploration*, our annual juried exhibition, has always been an important thread in the fabric of the CCC's rich history. Additionally, during 2019, the CCC hosted two All Members' Shows offering our members—even beginners—a chance to be included in a respected group show environment. Three percent of revenues were produced from *Exploration* entry and hanging fees, while twelve percent of expenses were for exhibit

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presentation costs including the CCC contribution to the Newberry Purchase Prize and *Exploration* artists' reception and speaker honorarium.

The Tribute Fund was established as a distinctive way to acknowledge calligraphers and/or teachers who have inspired us, recognize supporters of our art, and memorialize members and friends of the Collective who have supported our mission. Through donations, member meeting raffles, Calligra-Flea Markets and bookmark sales at the IAHC Christmas Bazaar and iBAM!, Tribute Fund income totaled \$641.00 in 2019. During the year monies from the Tribute Fund were disbursed for a presenter stipend to Alicia Marquez for her informative stone carving demonstration and hands-on learning experience at the March member meeting.

Offering secure, user-friendly e-commerce capabilities on the website, the CCC is able to accept payments with all major credit cards through PayPal and Stripe. We were able to process 254 successful orders totaling \$30,638.50 through the website during 2019. 84 percent of online payments tallying \$25,862.50 were for registrations to all workshops except the four-day retreat, which did not offer an online payment option. The balance of \$4,776.00 collected was for membership fees. The CCC pays reduced nonprofit processing fees with both companies.

The Board strives to honor tradition but at the same time be innovative and bring new ideas to the CCC to keep the organization relevant and ensure we are a dynamic part of calligraphic culture. With conscientious governance and steadfast commitment to advancing the CCC's mission, prudent fiscal management requires timely review of financial reports, advance planning and approval of the annual budget. Working to deploy resources effectively and responsibly, thereby ensuring long-term viability, the Board approved a zero-balance budget for 2020. Although a venue for *Exploration 2020* has not been secured, the Board recognizes the importance of this juried exhibition as an avenue to present a love of lovely letters to the public. Funds have been



Two pieces by CCC member Karen Brooks, on display at our All Members' Show, held at the Austin-Irving branch of the Chicago Public Library this past summer.

earmarked in the 2020 budget for the artist reception and the CCC contribution to the Newberry Purchase Prize. With an eye to the future and a sincere appreciation of our partnership with the IAHC, monies were reserved to subsidize plans to strengthen that bond.

The CCC's vision is to further advance the organization as a prestigious and highly professional art association, consistently striving for excellence in all aspects of our operations as we work exclusively for our exempt purpose. The requirement of a strong financial showing is a true measure of the demands of a sophisticated and highly educated calligraphic community. Dedicated to fiscal stability, the CCC is well positioned to satisfy those needs for many years ahead. 🌀

The Chicago Calligraphy Collective is a public charity and has received qualification as a tax-exempt corporation under the provisions of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3).

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Fiscal Year 2019

ASSETS

Current Assets		
Checking and Savings		
US Bank Certificate of Deposit		47,210.98
US Bank Expense Account		200.41
US Bank Money Market Account		37,327.98
US Bank Operating Account		
CCC Inklings Fund	725.00	
CCC Tribute Fund	4,200.60	
Operating Account - Other	<u>16,751.78</u>	
Total US Bank Operating Account		<u>21,677.38</u>
Total Checking and Savings		<u>106,416.75</u>
Total Current Assets		106,416.75

TOTAL ASSETS 106,416.75

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Equity		
Opening Balance Equity		56,094.36
Unrestricted Net Assets		44,882.53
Net Income		<u>5,439.86</u>
Total Equity		106,416.75

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY 106,416.75

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Fiscal Year 2019

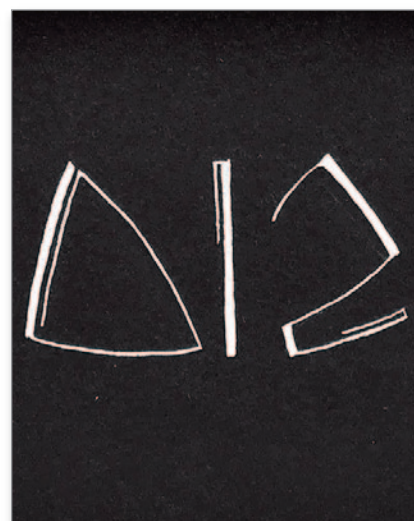
	Operating Account	Tribute Fund	2019 Total
REVENUES AND SUPPORT			
Workshops	23,873.33		23,873.33
Memberships/Subscriptions/ Web Listings	6,502.71		6,502.71
Interest/Administration	1,192.54		1,192.54
Exhibits	985.00		985.00
Tribute Fund		641.00	641.00
TOTAL REVENUES AND SUPPORT	<u><u>32,553.58</u></u>	<u><u>641.00</u></u>	<u><u>33,194.58</u></u>

EXPENSES

Workshops	19,635.94		19,635.94
Exhibits	3,337.65		3,337.65
Membership	1,704.87		1,704.87
Operation	915.62		915.62
Insurance	508.00		508.00
Membership Meetings	450.63		450.63
Website	328.17		328.17
CCC Community Outreach*Goodwill	249.38		249.38
Newsletter	222.78		222.78
Inklings Grant	200.00		200.00
Tribute Fund Outreach		160.00	160.00
Administration	41.68		41.68

TOTAL EXPENSES 27,594.72 160.00 27,754.72

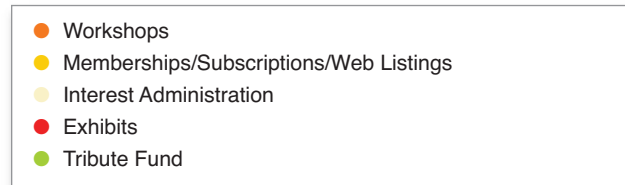
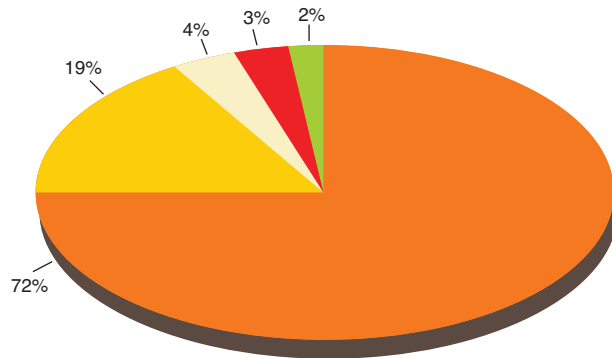
Change in Net Assets	4,958.86	481.00	5,439.86
Net Assets Beginning of Year	97,257.29	3,719.60	100,976.89
Net Assets End of Year	102,216.15	4,200.60	106,416.75



Numbers from pages in the "Book of Numbers" by Mary Zabrín. The book won the Newberry Library's Purchase Prize award at *Exploration 2019*.

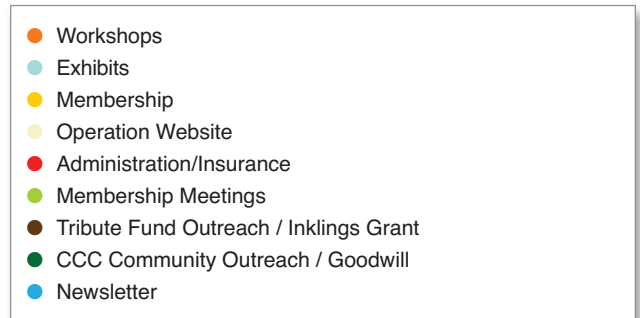
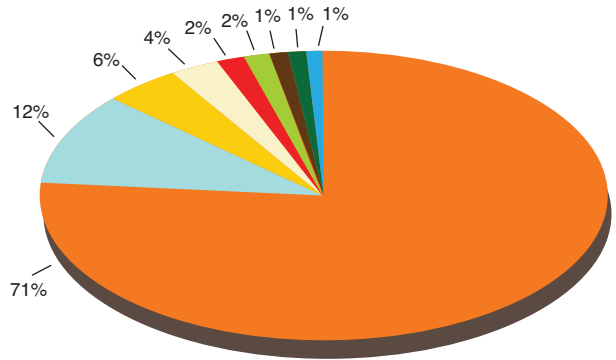
REVENUES AND SUPPORT

Fiscal Year 2019



EXPENSES

Fiscal Year 2019



BUDGET OF ACTIVITIES

Fiscal Year 2020

REVENUES AND SUPPORT

	Operating Account	Tribute Fund	2020 Total
Workshops	21,778.40		21,778.40
Memberships/Subscriptions/ Web Listings	6,294.00		6,294.00
Interest	1,094.97		1,094.97
Fundraising	700.00		700.00
Tribute Fund		400.00	400.00
TOTAL REVENUES AND SUPPORT	29,867.37	400.00	30,267.37

EXPENSES

Workshops	21,042.00		21,042.00
Exhibits	2,870.00		2,870.00
Membership	2,640.00		2,640.00
Operation	1,000.00		1,000.00
Insurance	510.00		510.00
CCC Community Outreach/Goodwill	440.00		440.00
Tribute Fund Outreach		400.00	400.00
Membership Meetings	400.00		400.00
Newsletter	375.20		375.20
Website	328.17		328.17
Administration	162.00		162.00
Printing/Office Supplies	100.00		100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	29,867.37	400.00	30,267.37

Change in Net Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00
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Credits

Thank you to all the Officers and Directors for diligently preparing their summaries for this Report.

A very special thanks to:

Patricia Kutz and Mary Zabrin for compiling the copy and images for this report; to Linda Hancock for her expert proofreading skills; to Lindsey Hook and Alicia Marquez, as well as many others, for supplying photos; and to Julie Wildman for the design and production of this publication.

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The CCC logo was designed by Timothy Botts. The letters on the front cover were designed by: 'L' - Valerie Weilmuenster; 'R' - Rita Foltz; 'S' - LynnAnn Babuk; and 'C' - Kathy Mandell.



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