



# Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild

# Annual Report

## For the year ending December 31, 2017

### President's Report

As you will read in the following pages, 2017 was a very active year for the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild. As usual, it is the energy and imagination of CBBAG's volunteer membership, both as individuals and within the chapters, that drives that activity. While total membership has remained constant over the past few years, the good news is that as older members retire from the field (and sometimes from CBBAG), their places are being taken up by new and often younger members. Through workshops, exhibitions, and presentations CBBAG is increasingly reaching out to younger generations to whom bookbinding and book arts represent something new and almost exotic – there is something in the materiality of books that goes beyond the digital.

At the board level, CBBAG now has representation ranging from Prince Edward Island right across the country to British Columbia. We have younger board members, all of whom come from academic backgrounds, bringing fresh insights into books as bearers of information and as art form.

The move of the CBBAG office and bindery to the Artscape Youngplace facility in Toronto represents significant new opportunities to interact with a younger and much wider range of art practitioners who are certainly at the vibrant end of the art scene in Toronto.

In financial terms, the year ended with a balanced budget, thanks to some one-time financial measures, notwithstanding the cut by the Ontario Arts Council to CBBAG's 2017 operating grant. Looking forward to 2018, the financial picture is far more challenging. The OAC informed

CBBAG that there would be a further cut to the operating grant for 2018. It is projected that this cut, combined with increased expenses will likely lead to a deficit in 2018. After much discussion, the board decided to manage the budget through the year while looking where revenues could be increased and expenses reduced without affecting member's benefits.

I'm pleased to report that plans are well underway for *Art of the Book 2018*, the launch of which will celebrate the thirty-fifth anniversary of CBBAG. The jurying will take place in Victoria in April 2018 and by the end of 2017, the AB2018 Organizing Committee had arranged for the travelling exhibition to visit nine locations across the country from the opening in August 2018 through the end of 2020. More about the exhibition can be found on page 2 of this report.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the members of the board of directors for their hard work and dedication to the organization in 2017, the many CBBAG volunteers across the country,

and CBBAG's membership and workshop registrar Meg Best and arts administrator Susan Corrigan.

Jose Villa-Arce, *president*

### Book Arts DVD Loan Programme

In 2017 only nine DVDs were borrowed by CBBAG members, down from the previous year's total of nineteen DVDs borrowed. Susan Corrigan is responsible for mailing out DVDs to CBBAG members. DVDs from the Guild of Book Works seminars continue to be the most popular titles borrowed. A full list of the DVDs is available on the CBBAG website in the Resources area.

### Donations & Grants

The Canadian The Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Ontario Arts Council, an agency of the Government of Ontario, in providing support for CBBAG. The support of the OAC is important to its activities and greatly appreciated by CBBAG.

Each year many members send in donations with their membership renewal. Their assistance helps with the CBBAG's valuable programmes. In 2017 donations were gratefully received from members Gail Austin, Heidi Bergstrom, Betty Britschgi, Kari Bronaugh, Tara Bryan, John Burbidge, Lauren Campbell, Stephan Canty, Terry Ann Carter, Oscar Castanon Barragan, Gail Chin, Dr. John Collins, Mary Conley, Susan V. Corrigan, Mira Coviensky, Maureen Da Silva, Leslie Drisdale, Lise Dubois, Lise



Students Iona Reid and Jerene Lane at a CBBAG Bookbinding III workshop lead by Dan Mezza, in Victoria BC.

Dubois, Susan Duffield, Jacques Fournier, Chester & Camila Gryski, Kathryn Hamre, Kathryn Hamre, Kathryn Hamre, Sylvia Hart, James K. Higginson, Stuart Hill, Stuart Hill, Helga Hobday, Lang Ingalls, Jennifer Iserman, Darlene Kalynka, Claudia Kutchukian, Roxanne Lafleur, Dayle Lambert, Val Lem, Beatrice Leroux, Norma Lundberg, Marlene MacCallum & David Morrish, Mary McIntyre, Diane McKay, Manfred Meurer, Yehuda Miklaf, Denise Moraze, Sharon Musgrave, Harriet Nishioka, Diana Patterson, Marion Porath, Jamie Pratt, Iona Reid, Sylvie Roy, Norman Schmidt, Maria Soteriades, Lisa D Stanley, Claire Van Vliet, and Elspeth Wood.

As well, CBBAG thanks Robert C. Brandeis for the donation of bookbinding materials and tools; Warren Huska for the donation of a wood press; and Robert Robertson for the donation of bookbinding materials.

CBBAG thanks the members who responded to the fourteenth annual Year-End Appeal in 2017 – Ruth D. Brown, Wendy Cain, Susan Corrigan, Mira Coviensky, Ann Douglas, Betsy Palmer Eldridge, Betty Elliott, Jeanne Germani, Greta Golick, James K. Higginson, Constance Jefferess, Cassandra Knapp, Anne Laird, Karen McMillan, Lise Melhorn-Boe, Marion Porath, Brian Queen, William Rueter, Ellen Spears, Barbara Trott, Liana Van der Bellen, and anonymous (3).

The Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild is a volunteer organization. Without the board members, committee chairs and members, regional coordinators, and other volunteers who donated hundreds of hours of their time to CBBAG, it could not carry out all, or any, of its programmes. Their assistance is gratefully received and acknowledged.

Susan Corrigan, *arts administrator*



## Exhibitions

### *Art of the Book 2018:*

#### **Venues:**

Keith Valentine confirmed the following venues have been confirmed for the travelling exhibit:

2018:

- Audain Gallery, Visual Arts Building, University of Victoria, Victoria BC
- Library, University of the Fraser Valley, Abbotsford BC

2019:

- Fine Arts Building Gallery, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB
  - Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina SK
  - Centre Culturel franco-manitobain, Winnipeg MB
  - McGill University Library, Montreal QC
- 2020:
- Craft Ontario, Toronto ON
  - Harriet Irving Library, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton NB
  - Mary E Black Gallery Nova Scotia Centre for Craft and Design, Halifax NS
  - Craft Council of Newfoundland and Labrador, St. John's NL

#### **Jurors:**

The AB2018 Organizing Committee was pleased to announce the jurors for the exhibition will be Betsy Palmer Eldridge, Jan Elsted, Lang Ingalls, and Susan Warner Keene, RCA.

#### **Outreach:**

Because of the emphasis on outreach by funding sources, and also some requests from venues for assistance to provide programming around the travelling exhibition, one volunteer, Denise Moraze is dedicated to work with each venue to explore local opportunities in association with CBBAG members in the area. An important aspect of outreach is the use of social media, and Iona Reid has been developing the social media for both the chapter and the AB2018 web site.

#### **AB2018 Web site:**

The web site was designed and launched by mid-2017.

#### **AB2018 Competition:**

Online registration for the exhibition began October 1, 2017. However, by December it was clear that the pace of registrations was very slow. In reviewing the situation, the CBBAG board of directors made a number of recommendations for the consideration of the AB2018 Organizing Committee.

In its deliberations, the committee felt that given the upcoming holiday season, if there changes were to be made, it should be done immediately to be effective. The changes were as follows:

- Registration deadline moved from January 15, 2018, to February 12, 2018
- Entries to be completed after January 1, 2015 (from January 1, 2017)
- Entry fee of \$75 for first entry, and \$50 each for a second and third entry (from \$75 per entry)

- Up to three worked maybe be entered, only two per category (from only one entry per category)

Jose Villa-Arce, *chair*,  
AB2018 Organizing Committee



Work by Bookbinding III students in Victoria BC.

## Education

The revision of the manual for the Home Study Bookbinding I course continued well into the year by Mercedes Cirfi Walton, Barbara Helander, and Mirela Parau. The revision of the manual has a number of objectives: fixing typos and errors; improving the instruction's directions; making the manual consistent with the Home Study Monitoring Stream; and reformatting the manual to provide a modern look and feel to the layout. This revised version of the manual is to be made online to those that have purchased the Home Study Bookbinding I. Owing to unforeseen issues, members of this team announced to the chair of the committee their need to step down from the project. Since that time, the project has stalled, but there is hope work can resume at a later date.

Late in 2017, the CBBAG board of directors made the decision to rename National Education Committee to the Education Committee. Following this decision, the committee has been reconstituted with a revised purpose. The Education Committee is to produce short teaser style instruction videos and share them online. It is hoped that these videos will encourage viewers to explore further what they can learn from CBBAG courses. The chair of the Education Committee will be supported by Arielle Vanderschan and Ellen Whelan.

Members of the National Education Committee during 2017:

- Patrick Miller- Chair
- Kari Bronaugh
- Cécile Côté,
- Carolyn Eady
- Roberta Forsyth
- Barb Galeski
- Dan Mezza

Members of the reconstituted Education Committee during 2017:

Patrick Miller- Chair  
Arielle Vanderschan  
Ellen Whelan

Patrick Miller, *chair,*  
*Education Committee*

## Home Study Programme

The CBBAG Home Study programme continues to be useful to binders over a wide geographic area. Each Home Study segment includes multiple DVDs and a manual.

In 2017 sixteen courses were sold, up from eleven courses sold in the previous year.

Bookbinding I continues to be the main course sold, with six copies sold in 2017, compared to eight in 2016. Two copies of Bookbinding II were sold, compared to three in 2016, and three copies of Bookbinding III were sold, compared to none in 2016. One copy of Finishing, one of Introduction to Leather, three copies of Restoration and Repair, and one copy of Marbling were sold, compared to none of these titles last year.

There were seven Monitoring Stream courses purchased, four for Bookbinding I, one for Bookbinding II, and two for Bookbinding III, with six Resource and Reference Stream courses (two each for Bookbinding I and III, one for Bookbinding II, and the two Restoration & Repair and one each for Introduction to Leather the Marbling course).

Thirteen courses were sold to students in Canada and three sold to students in the United States.

The Monitoring Stream is offered for Bookbinding I, II, and III, and successful completion of these Home Study courses in this stream count towards the CBBAG Certificate of Completion. Finishing, Restoration and Repair, Introduction to Leather, and Marbling are only offered in the Resource and Reference stream.

## Membership

The number of members at the end of the year was 484, essentially the same as last year's 480. The geographical distribution of membership breaks down as follows:

Canada 86.4% (up slightly from 84.8% last year), United States 10.6% (down from 11.4% last year), and overseas 3.0% (down slightly from 3.8% last year). In addition to individual, family, life, and student members, there were 24 institutional and 26 exchange members.

The Canadian membership (individual, family, life, student) is divided as follows (compared to the previous year): Alberta - 6.2% (7.1%); British Columbia - 14.8% (16.9%); Manitoba - 1.6% (2.2%); New Brunswick - 0.7% (0.7%); Newfoundland - 0.7% (0.5%); Nova Scotia - 1.6% (2.2%); Ontario - 62.5% (57.7%); Prince Edward Island - 0.4% (0.2%); Quebec - 7.8% (8.4%); Saskatchewan - 3.5% (3.9%); Yukon - 0.2% (0.2%).

At CBBAG's Annual General Meeting on June 15, 2017, CBBAG president Jose Villa-Arce reported that Joan Byers, of the BCIslands Chapter, was presented a Member of the Year award in Victoria in spring 2017.

Jose then presented Susan Corrigan with a CBBAG Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her volunteer service to CBBAG. Susan has been involved with CBBAG since it was founded in May 1983 and was in attendance at the founding meeting. She served on the board of directors from 1985 to 1991, serving briefly as president in 1988. In addition to serving on the publicity, membership, and nominating committees, Susan served as Exhibitions Committee chair from 1984-1988 and co-chair with Shelagh Smith from 1988-2008. She co-curated seven exhibitions, including the first five Art of the Book exhibitions, and curated nine additional exhibitions. Susan has served as CBBAG's arts administrator since 1988.

CBBAG chapters in Ontario nominated up to two members each for an Ontario Volunteer Service Award. The CBBAG nominated recipients for 2017 were: GTA Chapter: Gabriele Lundeen and James Spyker; Ottawa Valley Chapter: Maggie McGovern and Larry Thompson; and Southwestern Ontario Chapter: Nancy Latchford.

Meg Best continued as the membership and workshop registrar in 2017 and thanks go for her hard work on CBBAG's behalf.

## Publications

The CBBAG publications team thanks the board of directors for its support for *Book Arts arts du livre Canada*.

The magazine continues to print 48 pages of largely Canadian content. The spring 2017 issue included a profile of Quebec bookbinder Lise Dubois and the fall issue featured book artist Susan Mills, a teacher and community builder from Saskatchewan. Articles ranged from conservation and restoration to teaching children to make books.

The e-newsletter continues to fill in the gap between the two yearly issues of the magazine and has created connections between chapters and individual members. Included was information on the upcoming exhibition *Art of the Book 2018* in each issue.

Each of the 2017 issues had one or more articles expertly translated into French by CBBAG member Mirela Parau.

Advertising revenue remains steady. The publications team asks that readers consider the CBBAG magazine's advertisers when they need supplies: Columbia Finishing Mills, J. Hewit & Sons, Illtyd Perkins Woodworking, Papeterie St. Armand, The Japanese Paper Place, and Harmatan Leather.

The magazine would not be possible except for the talents in research, editing, and proofreading by publications team members Tara Bryan, Cathryn Miller, Mirela Parau, Caryl Peters, Meaghan Scanlon, Christine McNair, and Jan Van Fleet.

Once again, CBBAG has been fortunate to have wonderful volunteers Edna Hajnal and Betty Elliott, who prepared the magazine for mailing, joined by Kate Murdoch. Edna and Betty retired from this task after the mailing of the May 2017 magazine and Barbara Trott, Kate Murdoch, and Lisa Stanley took on the responsibility of mailing out the November magazine. Thanks to all.

As well, thanks go to Susan Corrigan who oversaw the accounting, kept us on track, and lent her eagle eyes to copy from time to time.

Frances Hunter, *chair,*  
*Publications Committee*

# Financial Report

2017 was a successful financial year, as CBBAG revenues exceeded expenses by \$266. An opportunity arose to move the national office and GTA bindery to a more dynamic location, Artscape Youngplace, in downtown Toronto, requiring changes in the budget. The volunteer board of directors, including treasurer Barbara Trott, continued their careful financial management.

CBBAG received \$9,025 in arts service organization operating funding from the Ontario Arts Council, for which it is very grateful. A \$1,600 grant from the Canada Council for the Arts was much appreciated.

Overall, revenue from operations decreased by \$5388. Home Study programme revenue increases were offset by reductions in workshop income and grant funds. Increased exhibition revenues related to *Art of the Book 2018* are offset by exhibition planning expenses. \$8,000 of deferred fees were brought into membership fees at the request of CBBAG's auditor. These funds largely offset moving costs of \$5,554.

The reduction in grant funds from \$18,050 (2016) to \$10,625 was expected. A further reduction to \$7,671 is reflected in the 2018 budget. Changes in OAC grant criteria are being actively implemented, as shown by CBBAG's growth in community outreach and social engagement.

Aggregate expenses declined to \$95,496 in 2017, as reduced revenues from workshops reduced expenses. Annual variations in expenses arise from inflation and overall variability.

CBBAG did not contribute to the Ontario Arts Foundation Endowment in 2017. This fund, managed by professional investment managers, provides an annual payout. CBBAG received \$6,838 in 2017. These funds support operating costs.

Barbara Trott, *treasurer*

## Balance Sheet as at December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current:		
Cash and cash equivalents:		
General Fund	\$ 43,232	\$ 42,468
Robert Muma Fund	26,655	26,577
	0	1,255
Amounts receivable	2,360	3,095
Prepaid expenses	72,247	73,355
	<u>72,247</u>	<u>73,355</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	11,878	8,763
Deferred membership and other fees and donations	19,277	20,890
Deferred grants	8,481	11,435
	<u>39,636</u>	<u>41,088</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>		
Robert Muma Fund	26,655	26,578
General Fund	5,956	5,690
	<u>32,611</u>	<u>32,267</u>
	<u>\$ 72,247</u>	<u>\$ 73,355</u>

## Statement of Operations, General Fund - For the year ending December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Ontario Arts Council Grant	\$ 9,025	\$ 18,050
Canada Council for the Arts Grant	1,600	0
Donations	5,576	5,596
Exhibitions	4,480	1,133
Home Study	7,870	6,364
Magazine	1,050	1,445
Membership Fees	34,026	25,264
Ontario Arts Foundation Endowment	6,838	7,077
Other	424	134
Workshop	24,871	36,087
	<u>95,760</u>	<u>101,150</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Administration	25,425	26,066
Book Arts Fair & Events	865	1,114
Chapters Annual Allocations and Grants	3,461	2,950
Contribution to OAF Endowment Fund	0	7,500
Exhibitions	4,123	262
Home Study	3,534	797
Magazine	12,835	12,326
Membership Services	8,049	8,522
Office Rental/Move & Office Set-Up	11,135	7,007
Workshops	26,068	34,227
	<u>95,495</u>	<u>100,771</u>
Excess of Revenues/ (loss) over Expenses	<u>\$ 265</u>	<u>\$ 379</u>



BC Lower Mainland Chapter member Suzan Lee demonstrates case bindings at Word Vancouver.



Work by Albert North Chapter members Janice Peters, Selena Elniski, and Barbara Johnston from a chapter exhibit at the St. Albert Public Library. More work from the exhibition can be found on page 8.

# Regional Chapters Activities

## CBBAG Alberta North

Submitted by Janice Peters & Dawn Woolsey

The CBBAG Alberta North Chapter held four meetings and set up one exhibition this year. Our main focus this year was working on our group project, another letterpress book.

Our first meeting in February focused on troubleshooting and finalizing final designs for carving lino blocks. This was new territory for some members and much time and effort went into submitting the blocks for the first proofing. Another round of recarving in March and April was undertaken before the second proofing and everyone was satisfied with their graphics. Although this took more time than anticipated, it was a very useful learning experience as the blocks and proofs were examined by the group and there was much discussion over the materials, tools, design elements, and opportunities/constraints.

We also decided to expand our project with the aid of a CBBAG chapter grant for outreach projects. As a small group we have always struggled with funding and the grant will help us put together a hands-on teaching tool provisionally called *The Making of a Book*.

Our last meeting before summer break was a social event and a time to share progress on other individual projects.

We set up an exhibition in the St. Albert Public Library for the month of August.

Photos from the exhibition are on pages 4 and 8 of this report.

In October we got our meetings underway again and looked at more work in progress.

We submitted two names for the CBBAG exceptional volunteer awards this year: Dawn Woolsey, who has spent so much time and effort shepherding our letterpress printing through innumerable setbacks this year; and Barbara Johnston, who coordinated our early exhibitions, was instrumental in setting up the library book box, and unfailingly makes sure that we have hot drinks and treats at every meeting. A big thank you to these invaluable chapter members!

Our final meeting of the year was our dinner and book exchange at the end of November, decimated by flu and travel plans this year. We are looking forward to finishing the book project in 2018 and enjoying a variety of meeting topics thanks to the energy brought to programming by one of our younger members.

## CBBAG BC Islands

Submitted by Jose Villa-Arce

### Workshops:

- In January Joan Byers instructed a 6-day Bookbinding I workshop, with four participants; and a subsequent Bookbinding I with four participants in November.
- In February Dan Mezza instructed a one-day Leather Preparation course, which was a prerequisite for the six-day Bookbinding III workshop that followed. There were six

- participants.
- Dan also instructed a three-day workshop on Boxes and Protective Enclosures. There were eight participants.
- In July Joan Byers held a two-day workshop on New Oriental Binding, with ten participants
- In April and May Lorraine Butler instructed two Paper Repair sessions, with seven participants.
- In November, Joan conducted a

25 Boxes for Christmas workshop, with nine participants.

### Meetings:

The chapter held three meetings during the year, two regular chapter meeting and one focused on *Art of the Book 2018*.

Guest speakers at the regular chapter meetings were:

- Robert Amos: Robert described how he creates books by hand and inscribes the words of James Joyce's *Finnegan's Wake* with a brush in a variety of formats including accordion-fold books, scrolls, and decorated porcelain, all accompanied with many hands-on examples and photos.
- Michael Lines, Medieval Studies subject librarian, Special Collections, University of Victoria: Michael provided a social overview of the European Medieval world, the rise and role of monasteries in that world, and their part in advancing literacy and book production. All this was complimented by a rich sample of books from both the general and special library collections of the University of Victoria.

### Field Trip:

On July 23 a presentation by Martina Edmondson of the works of Geraldine Slater, followed by a tea.

## CBBAG BC Lower Mainland

Submitted by Suzan Lee & Gina Page

The CBBAG BC Lower Mainland Chapter planned five activities this year:

- (a) Workshop with Suzanne Cannon: Starbook Workshop, Saturday March 25 at Creekside Community Centre in Vancouver. There were four participants in the workshop.
- (b) Workshop with Suzan Lee: Box Making, Saturday April 4 at Creekside Community Centre in Vancouver. The workshop had to be cancelled, unfortunately, as there were not enough registrants.
- (c) Annual General Meeting, Monday June 12 at The Grind Cafe on Main Street, Vancouver. There were four members present.
- (d) Word Vancouver, Sunday, September 25, Vancouver Public Library Central Branch, Suzan Lee gave a demonstration on case binding; Jack Page display and spoke about his altered books; Jarrett Morrison gave a demonstration on Bookbinding using a beautiful wooden frame; Jessica Tremblay gave a demonstration on star



Boxes and Protective Enclosures workshop presented by the BC Islands Chapter. Back row (L to R): Joan Byers, Jerene Lane, Marc Blouin, Marion Porath, Dan Mezza (visiting instructor), Susan Duffield, Rebecca Villa-Arce; front row (L to R) Sarah Belange, Iona Reid, Lorraine Butler

books; Gina Page gave a demonstration on concertina fold books; Jack Page gave a second talk about altered books with his own work on display.



Jack Page (above) and Jessica Tremblay (below) at Word Vancouver.



(e) The Alcuin Society Wayzgoose, Saturday, November 4 in the Alice MacKay Room of the Vancouver Public Library Central Branch on Georgia Street in Vancouver. The CBBAG BC Lower Mainland Chapter had a table at the popular and well attended letterpress printing and book arts fair.

**Blogsite Statistics:**

- 4,764 views
- 2,636 visitors
- 1.8 pages viewed per visitor
- Top pages viewed:
  - 1,808 views for Blog
  - 1,610 views for Workshops
  - 373 views for Resources
- Top views by country:
  - 3,946 views from Canada
  - 494 views from USA
  - 98 views from Brazil

## CBBAG Calgary

*No activity report for 2017.*



## CBBAG Greater Toronto Area

Submitted by Akiko Lamb

The year 2017 brought exciting new initiatives beginning with the move to our new bindery at 180 Shaw Street, a space shared with Paperhouse Studio. We also focussed on exploring new avenues to reach existing and prospective members, including Instagram and freshening of the GTA chapter's Facebook presence.

The GTA Chapter continued to offer its members evening lectures and CBBAG workshops at our bindery and at other locations. At events throughout the GTA and beyond, our outreach volunteers represented and promoted our organization. An equipment sale in October featured the sale of paper, bookbinding tools, and supplies by members. Chapter meetings occurred on March and September in addition to hosting the CBBAG AGM in June.

### Office and Bindery Move

Submitted by Rose Newlove

July and August saw volunteer members, along with Susan Corrigan and Meg Best, planning, packing, downsizing, and moving the CBBAG office and the bindery to the Youngplace Artscape building on Shaw Street. After unpacking, replanning, and finding homes for everything, we opened with our first workshop and first display of the CBBAG *A Book Arts Mosaic* exhibition (photo page 8) of artists books at the end of August.

So far the space, location, building amenities, not to forget our roomies, have been a hit with members who have come by for a workshop or open studio.

### Open Studio

Submitted by James Spyker

The GTA Chapter participated in several outreach events during 2017, including the Grimsby Wayzgoose, The Word on the Street, and the new Bound book

arts fair held at the historic Arts & Letters Club, as well as promoting CBBAG at the the Makers Festival and Scriptus. GTA members volunteered their time and expertise at these events, showing samples of their work, distributing back issues of the CBBAG Journal and other publications, and selling pamphlet kits (assembled by members using materials donated by members). At Makers Festival our volunteers made folded alphabet books with participants young and old. Across all these events, in 2017, our volunteers talked to thousands of people about CBBAG and its programmes.

The chapter also hosts an open studio evening every Thursday in the new bindery space. As part of our outreach mandate these evenings are PWYC and are open to both CBBAG and Paperhouse Studio members. Attendees sometimes work on their own projects and sometimes take it as an opportunity to ask for help or share ideas and techniques. Even when everyone is working on their own projects there is a real community building that occurs around working in a shared space.

### Toronto Workshop Planning Committee

Submitted by Kari Bronaugh

In 2017 the GTA chapter offered 32 workshops – full day courses and evening courses. We are continuing to experience healthy enrolment in the core curriculum courses of Bookbinding 1 and Bookbinding II. Member participation amounted to 313 student days for 170 students and generated \$24,417 in workshop fees revenue.

The GTA committee was thrilled to offer a peek into the amazing collection at the Fisher Rare Book Library lead by Greta Golick, former co-chair of the GTA committee. Groups were given three tours focusing on



Eugene Fedorenko and Rose Newlove on moving day from the Ward Street office/bindery to CBBAG's new digs on Shaw Street in Toronto.



Evelyn Elliott, Barbara Helander, James Spyker, and Betty Elliott participated in Akiko Lamb's Celebrate the Season: Creating Festive Sculptural Objects workshop in December 2017.

artists' books, treasures from the Thomas Fisher Rare Books Library, and books with moving parts. All three were offered free of charge as a member benefit.

We welcomed back Louise Granahan who taught her course Rough & Tough, a quick leather binding useful for sketch books. Betsy Palmer Eldridge did a one-day quick repair techniques course. Carolyn Eady offered her popular Deconstructed and Reclaimed course and an evening course focusing on flexagons. Rose Newlove offered Bookbinding I and Bookbinding II, along with Portfolios and Bound to be Flat workshops. Don Taylor took on Bookbinding II in the spring and then took a well-deserved break from teaching in the fall. Helen McCusker offered her Paper Engineering course. Fabiana Mattos returned to teaching with a unique Cartonnage Photo Box Structure workshop. GTA executive member Stuart Hill also led two evening courses – one focusing on Japanese bindings and the other with the slightly cheeky title of Single and Still Bound. We rounded out the year with GTA chair, Akiko Lamb, offering a festive paper engineering course called Celebrate the Season.

## CBBAG Ottawa Valley

Submitted by Stephen Quick

The CBBAG Ottawa Valley Chapter continued to promote the book arts in eastern Ontario and western Quebec. The chapter held ten monthly

meetings and the attendance remained stable, averaging 18 members per meeting. The programme consisted of talks or activates directly relating to the book arts and also provided members the opportunity to present their current or ongoing projects.

Eleven workshops were held during the year, including two CBBAG core curriculum certificate programme courses, with an average attendance of seven members per workshop.

The chapter members undertook a major collaborative book arts and binding project themed on the ubiquitous recipe card. As well, the chapter hosted a CANADA 150 CBBAG Book Arts Exhibition.

The chapter revamped and launched a new website – cbbagottawa.ca – to improve usability across multiple platforms. The website details the chapter's meetings, workshops, exhibitions, and shows.

The chapter will host the 2018 CBBAG Book Arts Fair in May 2018 and planning is well underway.

## CBBAG Saskatchewan

Submitted by Robin Canham

The CBBAG Saskatchewan Chapter had a quiet year in terms of official events and workshops, but CBBAG SK members

were able to offer many independent local workshops in papermaking, bookbinding, and box making across the province. Indeed the book arts are alive and well here in Saskatchewan!

In April we held a formal CBBAG workshop in Davidson SK, titled "Hand Lettering & Accordion Book Palooza," which saw full attendance, and there was a small "Book Bee" in Regina in May. Our book bees serve as a time to work with great company on all of those unfinished little projects.

In September we were able to participate for the second time in The Word on the Street in Saskatoon thanks to the funding for a table we received from the CBBAG and the volunteer time by CBBAG SK members in and around the Saskatoon area. Our booth, staffed by volunteers Kristina Komendant and Kate Hodgson, was well received again and we were able to fundraise this time around by selling some handmade books that were donated to the chapter.

Members and the larger book community also participated in our year-long book swap "Adventures in Book Making" which wrapped up on December 31. The swap date is planned for February 2018 in Davidson SK and so there is lots to look forward to already in the upcoming new year.

Timeline:

- April 23, 2017 – Hand Lettering & Accordion Book Palooza, Davidson SK
- May 6, 2017 – Book Bee, Regina SK
- September 24, 2017 – The Word on the Street, Saskatoon SK



Kristina Komendant and Kate Hodgson at The Word on the Street in Saskatoon.

## CBBAG SW Ontario

Submitted by Jan Taylor

As in previous years, the Southwestern Ontario Chapter of CBBAG continues to support both traditional and contemporary bookbinding practices and related skills. We strive to adapt to a changing audience and members with diverse interests and needs. Dan Mezza offered three of the CBBAG core curriculum courses in London this year:

- Repair and Restoration - Part I
- Paper Treatment for Bookbinders
- Bookbinding I

In addition, we held two workshops with guest instructors. James Spyker came from Toronto in April to demonstrate a miniature full leather binding and guide us through the process of constructing our own samples. In August Nancy French from Ottawa led a two-day class in paper marbling at the Visual Arts Centre at Western University, sharing her expertise.

Once again our two special interest groups, one focussing on journaling and the other on alternative book structures, continued to meet at intervals throughout the year to

to share ideas and inspiration.

For the second year we participated in the Grimsby Wayzgoose in April, showing work by our members and talking with the public about the classes available through our chapter and the CBBAG organization.



Student work from James Spyker's workshop on miniature full leather bindings.



Work by CBBAG Albert North Chapter members Dawn Woolsey and Janice Peters (above) and by Rena Whistance-Smith, Barbara Pankratz, and Dawn Woolsey (below) from a chapter exhibition at the St. Albert Public Library, St. Albert, Alberta, in August 2017.



## CBBAG Board of Directors 2017

### Officers:

*Vice President* - Jose Villa-Arce

*Secretary* - Iona M. Reid

*Treasurer* - Barbara Trott

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A Book Arts Mosaic in one of the first floor vitrines in the Youngplace Artscape Building, Toronto.