

The School for Bookbinding Arts Class Schedule 2021



Offering workshops in Bookbinding & Kindred Arts

Let's take a journey! Enroll in our Silk Road

Arts Series. Your adventure starts here...

- Japanese Bookbinding
 - Suminagashi Marbling ▪
 - Italian-Style Paper Marbling ▪
 - Spices from Along the Silk Road ▪
 - Introduction to Book Restoration ▪
 - Book Repair for Library Collections ▪
- Book Sewing & Sewn Endbanding Intensives ▪
- Advanced Cloth Binding Restoration ▪
- New Cloth Bindings Workshop ▪
- Beginning Paper Marbling ▪
- Wine Tasting and Canapés ▪
- Intro to Paper Repair ▪
- Ebru Marbling ▪
- Coptic Binding

Bookbinding & restoration classes galore!

Enroll now for the 2021 season.

Winchester, Virginia

THE SCHOOL FOR BOOKBINDING ARTS began in 2002 as the workshop division of Cat Tail Run Hand Bookbinding. Our goal is simple: to make the study of bookbinding and related crafts enjoyable yet substantive. Our workshops feature demonstrations of the techniques coupled with supervised student practice time. The topics in our classes are sure to entice you whether you are interested in bookbinding or the myriad allied topics we call the “kindred arts.” Take a look inside—we know you’ll find classes that are perfect for you!

There is nothing like working with your hands to promote creativity in your thinking that in turn feeds the output of your hands. Creativity is truly a form of perpetual motion—all you need to do is start, and from there it never stops! This year we have devised a special group of classes on a theme intended to energize our minds and spark our creativity in a most delightful way: **The Silk Road Arts Series**. In this series, we will investigate crafts and processes that were conveyed along the Silk Road trade routes. So, to your camels! The Adventure begins!



Above: Silk Road Arts Series instructor Regina St. John immersing herself in research about the Silk Road while visiting a nomadic family in Mongolia who raise Bactrian camels.

To find information about our host facility, Cat Tail Run Hand Bookbinding, please see page 15. Find biographical information for all our instructors in the Workshops section of our website located at www.SchoolforBookbindingArts.com.

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To REGISTER: We accept credit card payments over the telephone at 540-662-2683. You can also pay using check or credit card by printing, completing, and mailing the Workshop Registration Form from our website www.SchoolforBookbindingArts.com.

Our email is workshops@cattailrun.com.

Our Covid-19 statement is on our website.

— *Bookbinding & Restoration* —
Start Your Bookbinding Studies Here.

INTRODUCTORY BOOKBINDING COURSES

◆ Introduction to Book Restoration

Instructors: Jill Deiss & Susan McCabe

July 15 – 16 OR August 12 – 13

(both sessions Thurs – Fri), 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. **\$265**

This is a good first class to take if you are interested in book restoration.

*Shabby books need not be relegated to the dustbin! In this class, learn to repair damaged corners and tattered endcaps & how to stabilize splitting joints on cloth and leather books. Dyeing, toning, and leather polishing are included. This course is designed for those wanting to learn how to refurbish antiquarian books and for anyone who wants to move on to our more challenging Advanced Restoration courses. For book dealers in particular, this class introduces many simple techniques that they or their staff can easily perform on ailing books, greatly increasing their shelf presence. **No prerequisite.***

◆ Introduction to Paper Repair

Instructors: Jill Deiss & Susan McCabe

October 21 – 22 (Thurs – Fri), 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **\$295**

You'll need this class, too—the pages of books are often damaged.

*This course teaches methods for repairing damage to paper along with the necessary preparatory steps of non-invasive surface-cleaning, removal methods for pressure-sensitive tape, and humidifying and flattening of rolled or crumpled pages. **No prerequisite.***

◆ New Cloth Binding Construction

Instructors: Jill Deiss & Rowland Kirks

September 30 – October 1 (Thurs – Fri), 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. **\$295**

*Historically, the making of new covers constituted the primary endeavor of a bookbinder and is no less important today. Each student will create a new, hard cover for a book of their own, plus receive instruction on two additional cover styles. Students will learn to set type and gold-stamp their own titling layout. If you are interested in book restoration, this is an essential course for understanding book structure, allowing you better to assess damaged books you want to restore. **No prerequisite.***

“There’s no way to fix a book unless you know how to make one.”

wisdom from master binder Nobuo Okano of Tokyo

— **Bookbinding & Restoration** —
Presses. Brushes. Book Cloth. Shears. Rulers.
Bone Folders. Cutting Mats. Let's Go!

INTRODUCTORY BOOKBINDING COURSES

◆ Book Repairs for General Library Collections

Instructors: Jamie Thurman & Jill Deiss

July 12 (Mon), 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. **\$205**

Librarians take pride in the care they have traditionally offered the books within their libraries. This workshop is intended for librarians and library staff, although it is open to all interested students.



*Expand your expertise in the area of library book repair by learning to mend damaged joints and spines and to re-adhere texts that have become loose or detached at their inner hinges. Tips for repairing damaged pages will also be included. We emphasize the structural aspect of these repairs so that the books can hold their own while receiving heavy use. Even so, these practical and economical repairs are designed to deliver a neat, professional result. **No prerequisite.***

ADVANCED BOOKBINDING COURSES

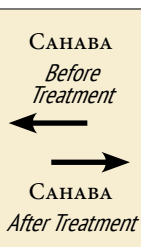
◆ Advanced Cloth Binding Restoration: The Cloth Reback

Instructor: Jill Deiss

October 28 – 29 (Thurs – Fri), 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. **\$295**

This course teaches the Cloth Reback—the professional technique for restoring cloth-bound volumes when the boards have detached from the text. In a cloth reback, new matching material is taken under the original for a functional repair that also improves its presentation. Being able to reback cloth-bound books smoothly and with confidence is one of the most important skills needed by a bookbinder.

Prerequisite: SBA's Introduction to Book Restoration.



— Bookbinding & Restoration —

Live a Bookful Life.™

ADVANCED BOOKBINDING COURSES

◆ Book Sewing Intensive

Instructor: Susan McCabe

October 13 – 14 (Wed – Thurs), 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. **\$295**

In this course, you will learn how to sew on tapes, sunken cords, raised bands, and split thongs all while using a traditional sewing frame (your own or one of ours). Students will also learn to determine when damaged sewing can be repaired and how to make those repairs. *Prerequisite: SBBAs Introduction to Book Restoration OR New Cloth Binding Construction.*



Views of text sewing in progress



◆ Endbanding Intensive

Instructor: Susan McCabe

October 15 (Fri), 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. **\$205**

Students will learn to make a variety of styles of wrapped-core endbands. In particular students will learn the art of sewn—or “worked”—endbanding along with how to undertake repairs of damaged endbands. *Prerequisite: SBBAs Introduction to Book Restoration OR New Cloth Binding Construction.*



Above: A burgundy and gold silk-sewn endband being worked on a copy of The Complete Poems of Edna St. Vincent Millay

— *The Kindred Arts* —
SILK ROAD ARTS SERIES

◆ **The Art of Fabric Marbling**

Instructors: Regina & Dan St. John

April 22 – 23 (Thurs – Fri) **OR** April 26 – 27 (Mon – Tue)

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **\$295 + \$55 materials fee**

*Fabric marbling is an art and a passion for guest instructors Regina and Dan St. John, who will teach you how to turn blank cloth into marbled magic. This class affords students the opportunity to marble their own yardage of cotton, linen, or silk, and to purchase scarves and other finished goods on which to marble. **No prerequisite.***

To the Romans, silk was a wondrous yet mysterious material, given that they knew little about how it was created. Time has changed much, and the knowledge of how silk is produced is known throughout the world. It is now the marbling of the silk within which the magic resides.



Above: Marbled silk fabric hanging up to dry

◆ **Japanese Bookbinding**

Instructor: Lana Lambert

August 26 – 27 (Thurs – Fri), 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials fee

*From making rice paste to cutting paper, everything has a way and a purpose in the world of Japanese bookbinding. In this course, create your own Japanese-style bound books using traditional Nipponese methods. Emphasis will be placed on established construction techniques and historical uses. The class features demonstrations of two key components for the craft: the making of rice paste and preparation of book cloth. As a bonus, students will look in on a demonstration of traditional Japanese woodblock printing. **No prerequisite.***



The Art of Fabric Marbling (page 7)

April 22 – 23 (Thurs – Fri) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
\$295 + \$55 materials

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April 26 – 27 (Mon – Tue) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
\$295 + \$55 materials

Pop-Up Structures (page 14)

June 24 – 25 (Thurs – Fri) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. \$295

Book Repairs for General Library Collections (page 5)

July 12 (Mon) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$205

Introduction to Book Restoration (page 4)

July 15 – 16 (Thurs – Fri) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$265

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August 12 – 13 (Thurs – Fri) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$265

The Art of Japanese Bookbinding (page 7)

August 26 – 27 (Thurs – Fri) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
\$295 + \$45 materials

Suminagashi Marbling (page 10)

September 1 (Wed) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. \$205 + \$45 materials

Spices from Along the Silk Road (page 10)

September 2 (Thurs) 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$75

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www.SchoolforBookbindingArts.com

Subscribe to our quarterly newsletter CAT TAIL TALES. To sign up, see the HOME section of our website. Keep abreast of our happenings plus each issue includes "From the Bookbinder's Bench" with bookbinding tips, history, and chronicles of interesting projects.

OF CLASSES

AT

CAT TAIL RUN HAND BOOKBINDING

Beginning Paper Marbling (page 11)

September 3 – 4 (Fri – Sat) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. \$295 + \$45 materials

Peek-a-Boo Coptic Binding (page 11)

September 6 – 7 (Mon – Tue) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials

The Essential Ebru (page 12)

September 8 – 9 (Wed – Thurs) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials

Bellissimo! Italian Marbled Paper Patterns (page 13)

September 10 – 11 (Fri – Sat) 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials

New Cloth Binding Construction (page 4)

September 30 – October 1 (Thurs – Fri) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$295

Book Sewing Intensive (page 6)

October 13 – 14 (Wed – Thurs) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$295

Endbanding Intensive (page 6)

October 15 (Fri) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$205

Introduction to Paper Repair (page 4)

October 21 – 22 (Thurs – Fri) 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. \$295

Advanced Cloth Binding Restoration: The Cloth Reback (page 5)

October 28 – 29 (Thurs – Fri) 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. \$295

F. Marvin Bahr Memorial Scholarship

The annual F. Marvin Bahr award is a need-based scholarship entitling the recipient to the tuition for a one- or two-day class. The scholarship is awarded every April and is to be used within that calendar year. The purpose of the scholarship is to honor and perpetuate the memory of our good friend and longtime student Marvin Bahr in a manner of which he would heartily approve.

For more details, please go to www.SchoolforBookbindingArts.com.

— The Kindred Arts —
SILK ROAD ARTS SERIES

◆ **Suminagashi: Japanese Marbling**

Instructor: Regina St. John

September 1 (Wed), 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$205 + \$45 materials fee

Suminagashi was developed in Japan at least by the 12th century AD. Its ethereal patterns are created from inks floating on water that are manipulated by the gentle forces of the artist's breath or a cat's whisker. (N.B.: The bookbinding school is in possession of several very fine cats who are prolific producers of whiskers.) Suminagashi papers constitute art in their own right, but historically have been used as backgrounds for the written word and for images. Origami from suminagashi marbling is particularly beautiful, and a thousand years on, new and inventive uses for suminagashi continue to inspire and amaze. No prerequisite.

Japanese arts and wares were traded into China and from there were transmitted west via the Silk Road.

◆ **Spices from Along the Silk Road**

Instructor: Chef Natalie Ramos

September 2 (Thurs), 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. **\$75**

Some of the spices transported along the Silk Road are ones that today are commonplace, but in most cases we have become long separated from the history, danger, and mythology associated with the spice trade along the Silk Road. Please join Chef Natalie Ramos as she takes you on a voyage of the senses that will enlighten your palate and bring to life the storied histories and uses of these rich and evocative spices.

Chef Natalie Ramos



The Silk Road could have very easily been called the Spice Road given that the caravans were laden with redolent spices that brought exotic flavors, medicinal uses, and myriad magical properties to people in the various stops along the way.

— *The Kindred Arts* —
SILK ROAD ARTS SERIES

◆ **Beginning Paper Marbling**

Instructors: Regina & Dan St. John

September 3 – 4 (Fri – Sat), 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials fee

Without decorative papers, our world would be all the poorer. Marbled papers grace the covers of books both inside and out and are used in countless other arts from box making to matting & framing to greeting cards. You will learn many traditional combed



Marbling student at work

patterns and how to use the marbling inks to bring forth your own decorative vision from the marbling tank.

*This course includes instruction in marbling the edges of book pages and leather, and students will create their own marbled-leather, edge-marbled journals. In addition to the journals, students may reasonably expect to produce 20 to 30 marbled papers during the class. **No prerequisite.***

◆ **Peek-a-Boo Coptic Binding (see photo on back cover)**

Instructor: Dan St. John

September 6 – 7 (Mon – Tue), 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials fee

*As our journey continues to various Silk Road ports of trade, we find ourselves in the bustling markets of Cairo. In the shadow of pyramids and sphinxes, bookbinders labored creating ledgers and other books. The style featured in this workshop is a signature-sewn text with its structural origins in the 2nd century among the Egyptian Christian community, the Copts. Coptic bindings continued to be made and used through the 11th century, and today these bindings are recognized as an important foundation for western bookbinding. Dan St. John adds his own flair to this ancient form by incorporating marbled paper that peeps out fetchingly from the sewing structure to give a modern touch to this historical style steeped in rich tradition. **No prerequisite.***

— The Kindred Arts —
SILK ROAD ARTS SERIES

A series of east-west land and sea trade routes existed by at least the first century AD but are not known to have had any contemporary name associated with them. It was in the 19th century that German explorer and geographer Baron Ferdinand von Richthofen coined the name “Seidenstrasse” (Silk Road) to describe these early routes that transported all manner of goods from eastern Asia to as far west as Rome.

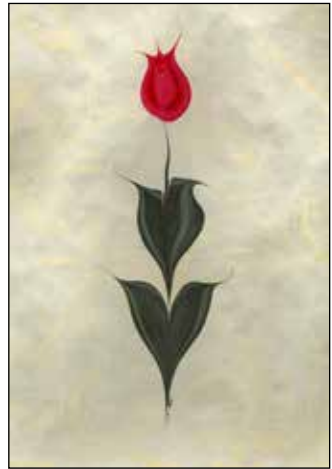
◆ **The Essential Ebru: Turkish Marbling**

Instructors: Regina & Dan St. John

September 8 – 9 (Wed – Thurs), 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials fee

*Ebru, meaning “cloud painting,” has a long and venerated history within Turkish marbling tradition. The St. Johns have been honored to visit the workshops of numerous contemporary ebru masters and to learn about their philosophies, methods, and tools. This workshop will teach the principles of ebru using acrylic pigments. At right are two ebru marbled patterns embodying the essence of this exquisite art that is uniquely Turkish. **No prerequisite.***



Our fascination with things Turkish was fed initially by the trade routes that spread the artistry of Constantinople throughout the medieval world. Interest in Turkish arts and cuisine has unsurprisingly continued into more modern times, even capturing the imagination of the likes of Mozart. His Piano Sonata No. 11 in A Major of the 1780s concludes with an exciting and still very popular Allegretto movement that bears the musical direction of “alla turca”—play in a Turkish style.*

** but remember: “She’ll be waiting for you in Istanbul...”*



— *The Kindred Arts* —
SILK ROAD ARTS SERIES

◆ **Bellissimo! Italian Marbled Paper Patterns**

Instructor: Regina & Dan St. John

September 10 – 11 (Fri – Sat), 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

\$295 + \$45 materials fee

*Our last stop on our Silk Road odyssey is Italy where our attention will be drawn to the cities of Florence and Venice, which were early centers for creating exquisite carta marmorizzata. This course will take you beyond the traditional Italian combed patterns (marmo pettinato) into the realms of challenging patterns such as peacock (pavone), snail (chiocciola), and stone (pietra). In their travels, Regina and Dan always make a point of visiting Italian marbling production houses both small and large. The knowledge shared through these contacts represents a legacy that continues on through the teaching of the craft. **No prerequisite.***



The beautiful pavone pattern

The peafowl was introduced to the Mediterranean region from India during the time of Alexander the Great. The remarkable plumage of the peacock inspired the Italian marbling community to create an elegant, combed pattern based on the eye of the peacock's feather.

◆ **La Dolce Vita: Wine Tasting Reception**

We will conclude the Silk Road Arts Series with drink and food. As the second day of Italian Marbled Paper Patterns winds down, the wine will begin to flow and the food will roll out. Our journey will be at an end, and it will be time to feast.

*“A breath, a wind, a sound,
a voice, a tinkling of the
camel-bell.”*

from *The Kasidah* by Sir Richard Francis Burton (1821 – 1890)

— *The Kindred Arts* —
POP-UPS

◆ **Pop-Up Structures**

Instructor: Carol Barton

June 24 – 25 (Thurs – Fri), 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. **\$295**

*Students will learn a variety of pop-up structures, beginning with non-adhesive cut-and-fold pop-ups and progressing through a series of more complex, glued constructions. Students will receive instruction in folding and positioning techniques as well as suggestions for incorporating graphics into their pop-up designs. A slide show of historical and artist-made pop-ups will be presented to provide models and departure points for students' own innovative work. Students will be encouraged to explore new applications and to experiment with integrating visual content and text with their pop-ups. This is a very comprehensive class and ideal for book artists, paper artists, art teachers, and graphic designers. **No prerequisite.***



Pop-Ups from the students!



CAT TAIL RUN HAND BOOKBINDING, host of the School for Bookbinding Arts, was established in 1991 by Jill Deiss, who studied bookbinding and restoration first in Northampton, Massachusetts, then at Cornell University's Department of Library Conservation, and in the Smithsonian Institution's Conservation Laboratories. She holds a B.S. in chemistry and received a Master of Library Science degree from Syracuse University, where she specialized in the study of archives and rare book collections.

The bookbinders of Cat Tail Run are Susan McCabe, Jill Deiss, Cate Whitehorne, Amy Jackson Lowers, and Rowland Kirks. Ms. McCabe's expertise includes the sewing of texts and the creation of custom-crafted endbanding. Ms. Whitehorne is an apprentice learning all aspects of the hand-bookbinding trade. Ms. Jackson Lowers focuses on special projects—the more complex the better. Jill Deiss serves as the senior binder, and Rowland Kirks is chief of operations for the bindery and the bookbinding school.



THE BINDERY offers a wide range of bookbinding and restoration services to individuals, institutions, and governments. Included among our clients are Clemson University, The Wharton School, Museum of Natural History Division of Birds (Smithsonian Institution), and The George Washington University. For the United States Park Service, the bindery has prepared books for exhibitions at the James A. Garfield House, the Andrew Johnson House, Andersonville Prison National Historic Site, and Theodore Roosevelt's Sagamore Hill library. Other noteworthy works include treatment of John Wilkes Booth's diary for Ford's Theater Museum, conservation of the bank account record volumes of Abraham Lincoln for Riggs Bank, and restoration of Robert E. Lee's family Bible for Arlington House. For Georgetown University, the bindery restored Martha and George Washington's copy of Mark Catesby's *Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands* (1731–1743) and conserved and rebound a Shakespeare First Folio (1623). Gunston Hall (historic home of George Mason) chose Cat Tail Run to conserve books from George Mason's library, and the Washington National Cathedral selected Cat Tail Run to provide treatment for its pulpit Bible.

School for Bookbinding Arts



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Winchester, VA 22603
www.schoolforbookbindingarts.com
540-662-2683

THE SCHOOL FOR BOOKBINDING ARTS
is committed to providing quality training in the
craft of bookbinding and its kindred arts.



Japanese Bookbinding with Lana Lambert

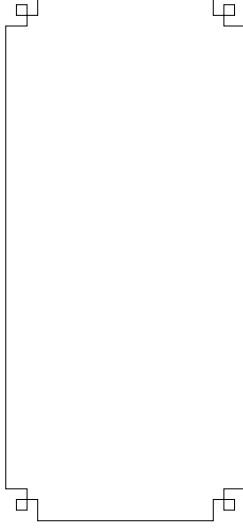
From Regina & Dan St. John:

*Fabric Marbling ✧ Suminagashi ✧ Beginning
Paper Marbling ✧ Peek-a-Boo Coptic ✧ Ebru
Marbling ✧ Italian Marbled Paper Patterns*

*Spices from along the Silk Road with
Chef Natalie Ramos*

*Bookbinding & Restoration courses by Jill Deiss,
Susan McCabe, Jamie Thurman, Lana Lambert,
Dan St. John, and Rowland Kirks.*

 @ctrbookarts



*Peek-a-Boo Coptic
Binding Workshop,
see page 12*

