

*Hand Papermaking is a non-profit organization advancing traditional and contemporary ideas in the art of making paper by hand.*

[www.handpapermaking.org](http://www.handpapermaking.org)

# HAND PAPERMAKING

PO BOX 1070, BELTSVILLE, MD 20704, (301) 220-2393, FAX (301) 220-2394

TOM BANNISTER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
[tom@handpapermaking.org](mailto:tom@handpapermaking.org)

MINA TAKAHASHI  
EDITOR  
[mina@handpapermaking.org](mailto:mina@handpapermaking.org)

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October 15, 2016

Dear Friends and Subscribers,

In the spring of 2017, Tom Bannister will be stepping down as Executive Director (ED) of Hand Papermaking, Inc. Tom has done an exceptional job as ED and his dedication to our organization has been an inspiration to us all. He will be sincerely missed.

I quote Tom's resignation letter to our board: "After twenty-some years it is time for fresh energy at the helm of HP, and time for me to finally get my basement paper studio set up. I look forward to contemplating the slurry, but there is a lot to do between now and then. In the months ahead there will be plenty of talk about future strategies and smooth transitions, and I appreciate your willingness to help guide the organization we all cherish."

Board member Bernie Vinzani summed it up beautifully after Tom announced his resignation to our Directors: "Tom – Many thanks for your vision and leadership over the years. Hand Papermaking has been crafted as well as the finest sheet—strong, sublime, and inspirational."

According to our by-laws, the board chair and vice-chair have now formed a search committee. Amy Richard, Tom Balbo, Helen Hiebert, Mina Takahashi, and I had our first meeting during our recent 5-year board retreat in Colorado. We will launch a national search for a new ED and post a detailed job description with the required qualifications on our website by the end of November.

We welcome your suggestions and nominations, and hope to find a strong candidate within our larger papermaking community. Our goal is to have a new Executive Director in place by March 1st. We appreciate your support of Hand Papermaking over the years and look forward to the next chapter of our organization's evolution.

Susan Mackin Dolan  
Chair of the Board of Directors