

# Treasures at the James Ford Bell Library

**WHAT:** Colleagues of Calligraphy Program

**WHEN:** *Saturday, February 18th, 2012.* Arrive between **12:30-12:45 PM**; doors close at 1:00 PM. End time is open—around 4:00 PM.

**WHERE:** *U of M, Minneapolis Campus West Bank*

**WHY:** To learn from the best teacher-- the original sources

For the February 18th CoC meeting, we have a change in venue—something different and very special. We will be gathering at the **James Ford Bell Library** (JFBL) at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis campus on the ‘West Bank’ (west side) of the Mississippi. *(JFBL is a library collection within Wilson Library on the 4th floor).*

Dr. Maggie Ragnow, curator, will be our guide for an **up-close view of medieval hand-written books, maps, manuscripts, treaties, contracts, hymnals, and Books of Hours in Latin, Italian, Old French, Middle English, etc.** Also on hand will be a facsimile copy of The Book of Kells. If available, we will see much older items such as clay cuneiform tablets and a goatskin Hebrew scroll. Many of these items are beautifully decorated and



*Closeup of historical manuscript*

illuminated on parchment, and lettered in a fascinating array of calligraphic hands.

Here are some **rules and guidelines** for viewing items: The JFBL has a few magnifying glasses for us to use. If you have one of your own, please bring it with you. Non-flash photography is now allowed (within reason). Note-taking is encouraged, but no ink pens are allowed—only pencils.

Hands must be washed before handling any items (a restroom is close by). If you want to request an item to view, graduate student helpers will be there to assist. We will not have treats or beverages for this meeting, so make sure you’ve had a bite to eat before arrival.

**Parking** is available in public parking ramps on the perimeter of the campus for a fee. Carpooling is encouraged. **Freeway access** to the University of Minnesota West Bank is at the Riverside Ave. exit from 94, or the Washington Ave/West Bank exit from 35W. **A map and information** can be viewed on the U of M, Minneapolis Campus web site (West Bank).

Be prepared for a wonderful treat—we’ll see you there!

*-Article and photo by Janey Westin*