

# Why you might consider compensating your Scribe

The Kingdom obligates itself to provide each award recipient with an award document  
It is a common misconception that the Kingdom actually pays for original Award Scrolls to be created

*This article was written by Bronwen Sable Sable in tribute to the hardworking Scribes of An Tir - January 2010*

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Every artisan has a set of tools for their art and expects the tools to experience wear, maybe needing occasional replacement. Commercial Artists often finance their tools and anticipate that the sale of their art will eventually pay off the financing. The Scribes of An Tir donate almost every piece of their art to the populace of An Tir and there is no expectation that their art will someday pay for their tools.

*but...*

*one can wish*

Art also requires the use of consumables. The Kingdom, Principalities and Baronies often supply materials for Charters, but the An Tir Scribes do not receive compensation for the materials used on Original Scrolls. Commercial and SCA artists often sell or barter their art. An Tir Scribes are so used to donating their work for use by Their Majesties, Highnesses and Excellencies, that it is rare for them to consider bartering or requesting compensation for their consumables.

And let us not forget about the Scribe's time

*Hours and Hours of research and handwork lovingly donated to the enrichment of An Tir  
(NO – actually Hours and Hours for a single award recipient - YOU)*

Listed below are a few of the things that Scribes purchase in order to create Award Scrolls for recipients (the list is not all inclusive)

## Tool Kit

- ◆ **Drawing Board** (or other suitable surface)
- ◆ **Mechanical Pencils** – Sizes: .5mm, .7mm & 9mm (one of each preferred size for each lead type)
- ◆ **Erasing Shield**
- ◆ **Drafting Brush**
- ◆ **Technical Pens** – Sizes: 00, 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4
- ◆ **Finely divided Scale or Ruler**
- ◆ **Drafting Straightedge or Ruling Edge**
- ◆ **Bow Compass**
- ◆ **Drafting Templates**
- ◆ **Calligraphy Pens** – Sizes: Rotring 1.1, 1.5 and 1.9, Dip Pen Holders with a variety of nib sizes - or other as preferred
- ◆ **Artists Brushes** – Sizes: 000, 0, 1, 3 and 5
- ◆ **Paint Palettes**
- ◆ **X-acto Scalpel Knives** – Sizes: #11 or other
- ◆ **Burnishers** – Sizes: as preferred
- ◆ **Quill Knife**
- ◆ **Research Books**

## Consumables

- ◆ **Supports: from \$1 to \$25 per scroll**  
*Archival Quality Paper – Arches 90lb Hotpress 22x30 = \$4 per sheet - or - \$50 for 20 sheets in a block*  
*pH neutral Pergamenata - Heavyweight 230gm 29x39 = \$6 per sheet*  
*Pre-cut Vellum – Goatskin 9x12 = \$18, 18x24 = \$90 or Sheepskin 9x12 = \$23, 18x24 = \$120*
- ◆ **Ink: from negligible to \$1 per scroll**  
*Replacement Cartridges – Rotring = \$4*  
*Bottled Ink – Higgins Eternal Permanent Black, 2.5 oz = \$4*
- ◆ **Quills: depends on Scribe**  
*Uncured and uncut = \$1*  
*Cured and uncut = \$5*  
*Cured and cut = \$11 thru \$17*
- ◆ **Paints: negligible - approx \$4 per scroll**  
*Artist Grade "Gouache" paint – \$5 to \$15 per 14ml tube*  
*Ivory Black, Lamp Black, Zinc White (for mixing), Permanent White (for whitework), Raw Umber, Burnt Umber, Raw Sienna, Burnt Sienna, Ultramarine Blue, Cobalt Blue, Spectrum Red, Cadmium Red Deep, Spectrum Yellow, Permanent Yellow Deep, Naples Yellow (flesh), Permanent Green Deep, Permanent Green Mid, Forest Green, Purple Lake, Brilliant Violet, etc.*
- ◆ **Pencil Lead: negligible**  
*Replacement Pencil Leads – 2H, H, HB and F for each size of lead holder, pkg of 12 = \$2*
- ◆ **Erasers: negligible**  
*White, Gray Rubber, Gummy = \$3*
- ◆ **Distilled Water: negligible**  
*About \$1.5 per gallon*
- ◆ **Oxgall liquid: negligible**  
*4 oz = \$9*
- ◆ **Gold Leaf: depends on scroll - \$0 to \$20**  
*3 3/8 x 3 3/8 covers 1 1/2 square feet = \$65 (changes with the price of gold)*
- ◆ **Gold Leaf supports: depends on scribe**