

The Way of *Beauty*

A Formation Cultivating Intuition, and Fulfillment Now!
Weekly Groups, Workshops or Individual Coaching



Are you:

- Bored?
- Looking for a new direction?
- Uncertain of God's plan for you?
- Frustrated you are not using your gifts?

- Discover Your Calling!
- Develop your Intuition!
- Unblock and Channel your Gifts and Creativity!
- Be Fulfilled! Cultivate



Informing and guiding all human activity, giving it purpose, meaning and beauty, this is a program for people of all backgrounds and any (or even no) artistic ability. It is a Christian formation based on that given to the great artists of the past.

- Commit to steps that enable you to discover and foster your personal creative vocation aligned with beauty.
- Practical guidance on how to turn creative ideas into reality. Implement daily practices to help overcome struggles with creative blocks, anxiety, boredom or a lack of direction and purpose.
- Stimulate the imagination through habits of prayer, meditation, and contemplation in the Christian tradition, daily journaling, sketch-noting, and the contemplation of beauty in nature and art.



Program offered through Scala Foundation and designed by
David Clayton, Artist-in-Residence, Scala Foundation
ScalaFoundation.org/contact



The Way of *Beauty*

Spirituality for Creatives and Creativity for those on a Spiritual Journey!

What is The Way of Beauty? It is a transformative journey rooted in traditional Catholic spirituality and an holistic artistic formation. It develops openness to divine inspiration, fosters a graced imagination and participation in the creative work of God. This holistic formation becomes a joyful lifetime practice, continuously deepening your relationship with God and with others, enriching your daily life through a graced imagination.

The *Way of Beauty* program has been developed through **The Scala Foundation**, founded in 2016 by Princeton Theological Seminary professor Margarita Mooney Clayton. The Scala Foundation aims to transform Western culture through liberal arts education, equipping culture creators and leaders, and mentoring personal spiritual growth. We engage in deep work in bringing together artists, students, teachers, and scholars for seminars, fellowship, mentorship, retreats, and public events. Scala produces resources such as books, blogs, articles and videos that reach tens of thousands of people annually.



David Clayton's Journey: David Clayton's journey began over 30 years ago when, as a Catholic convert, he was inspired by traditional spiritual exercises for discerning personal vocation to become an artist, and as described in his book, *The Vision for You*. Following his calling to serve the Church through his art, Clayton researched the traditional methods used to train Christian artists, discovering that authentic artistic training is a deeply spiritual and holistic process. It cultivates not just technical skills but an openness to divine inspiration through immersion in beauty. The Way of Beauty program combines the essential elements of spiritual exercises and artistic formation into a holistic formation of the graced imagination, applicable to any human activity.

Who is The Way of Beauty for? Everyone! Whether you're an artist, scientist, entrepreneur, or anyone seeking a greater purpose, The Way of Beauty will enrich your life. The program cultivates gratitude, creativity, and discernment, guiding you toward your ultimate calling. Your life will be transformed by:

- Adding creativity to your current pursuits;
- Helping you discover your life's calling;
- Bringing deeper meaning and purpose to all your present daily activities.



The Way of *Beauty*

What are the Habits that Stimulate Creativity? Through practical, easy-to-implement steps, you'll learn how to connect your own creative pursuits to daily habits that lead to God through the contemplation of beauty. These habits can easily be incorporated into the hustle and bustle of modern living, gradually transforming our lives through receptivity to grace and inspiration. These daily habits include:

- Appreciating beauty in everyday life and sharing beauty with others;
- Engaging in hands-on creativity (no artistic ability needed!);
- Practicing prayer and worship (including the praying of the psalms), and contemplation, shaped by Catholic tradition but open to all;
- Cultivating humility through regular acts of service to others;
- The habits are passed on through **one-day workshops**, **personal mentorship**, and **weekly group meetings**.

1. One-Day Workshops: An foundational introduction to the core habits and practices. This introduces people to the practice of the daily routine of prayer and meditation and explains how the rest of process works. For some this will be enough to get them going, but for many it gives people the information needed to allow them to commit to personal mentorship, the optimal way of going through the program.



Join us for a day of exploring The Way of Beauty, starting with a group Morning Prayer featuring psalms and sacred art. Discover how to tap into your personal vocation and supernatural creativity through real-life examples.

Learn daily and weekly prayer routines that emphasize the contemplation of beauty in nature, culture, and sacred art. Engage in activities designed to nurture your creativity and learn how these are integrated into the spiritual life. Commit to serving others as a habit of self-gift.

Receive guidance on daily self-examination, identifying God-given goals, and developing strategies to achieve your personal objectives. Explore how worship and prayer enable you to participate in God's creative work supernaturally.

Learn to pray the Psalms and the Liturgy of the Hours with sacred art, and create a home icon corner. Throughout the day, focus on spiritual growth, creative expression, and deepening your devotional practice.



The Way of Beauty

2. Personal Mentorship: For most personal mentorship is vital. Typically it involves eight personal sessions (the precise number depends on each person's personal situation) weekly or bi-weekly and thereafter, if required, quarterly or monthly, to provide continuous guidance. Personal mentorship will take this content of the workshops further, tailoring it to the personal situation of the person, with a particular focus on the personal calling of the individual, how to achieve it and how to integrate the supernatural creative impulse into its expression.

3. Weekly Group Meetings: To be effective, habits must become...well...habitual. Continual practice of these principles, leads to continuous enrichment of the spiritual life and ever deeper participation in the creative work of God. Everyone is encouraged to participate in weekly groups which foster continuous practice. Through the praying of the Liturgy of the Hours, and the sharing of experience and mutual encouragement with fellow pilgrims on the *via pulchritudinis*, the Way of Beauty, a strong bond of community is created. New people and enquirers are always welcome. Many people, when they go through this process find it so transformative that they want to become mentors themselves and the groups are the places they can give back. If there is a group near you we will connect you.

Endorsements

“As one who has experienced David Clayton's *Way of Beauty* under his personal mentorship, I can attest to its power to transform lives and direct us to a fuller contemplation of Divine Beauty. Rooted in the Catholic tradition, sound anthropology, and the human experience of the ages, Clayton's *Way of Beauty* is like a treasure map pointing the way to greater happiness. I have personally directed many people to David for guidance, and I heartily recommend it to all.” **Fr Brad Elliott, O.P.**, author of *The Shape of the Artistic Mind: A Search for the Metaphysical Link Between Art and Morals in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas*

“*The Way of Beauty* program allowed me to deepen my ability to find daily inspiration and be creative. David Clayton's mentorship introduced me to timeless truths with practical implications for my whole life. I am eager to share *The Way of Beauty* with others who lives will be transformed, so that they will bring creative inspiration to their workplaces and our shared culture.”

Ryan Kreager, Assistant Director of Entrepreneurship, The Idea Center, The University of Notre Dame

