



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

September 2017

Connect with DC PBK Online!

"Like" the new DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association page and follow us on Twitter at @DCPhiBetaKappa!

Summer is a relatively quiet time for the Association (DCP BK), except for the ongoing meetings of the Book Club (see below). However, a lot of exciting possibilities are in the pipeline for the fall, including a nationwide PBK Society-sponsored event, and others briefly noted below.

Recent Event

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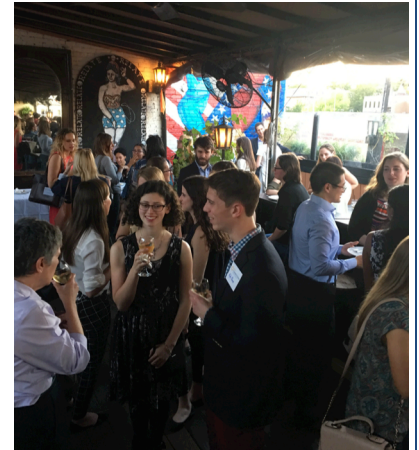
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Key Connections Happy Hour

The Key Connections Happy Hour, designed to welcome recent grads and invite them into PBK membership, was a great success. On Thursday, September 7, about 100 Phi Betes, many new to the DC area, met on the rooftop at Local 16, for drinks, food, and great conversation. The weather was perfect for an outdoor happy hour, and there should be several new members as a result.



Upcoming Events

(Please note that these events are intended for DC PBK members in good standing, so be sure that your membership and dues are up to date).

Ghosts of Georgetown Walking Tour

Who: Anyone who enjoys a fun informative and fun prelude to Hallowe'en

What: A guided tour of the legendary "haunts" of the old port of Georgetown

When: Thursday, October 12, 8:00-9:30 p.m.

Where: We will meet our tour guide at the Old Stone House at 3051 M Street, NW and end up near Georgetown University and the infamous "Exorcist" stairs at 36th and Prospect Streets, NW.

Cost: \$20 per adult

How: The tour entails about a mile of walking, and the cobblestone streets and winding ways are not accessible for wheelchairs or other mobility aids.

Join DCPBK for a chilling look at the deeper, darker history of Georgetown. Once an old port town, it is said by some to still host the ghosts and spirits from long ago. The tour will take us through the brick-lined and gas-lit streets of Georgetown at night, where our guide will regale us with tales of murder, mystery, and mayhem. There are a number of ways to get to the starting point, including the 31 bus from the Foggy Bottom Metro Station, the 38B bus from the Rosslyn Metro, and the G2 bus.

Salon at the McDonalds' Home, with Human Rights/Genocide Expert

Richard O'Brien

Saturday, November 4, 2017

3:00 to 5:15 p.m.

Christel McDonald (Past President) will again host a traditional Salon at her charming apartment at:

3800 Fairfax Drive, Apt. 1001

Arlington, VA 22203

Two short blocks from the Orange line to Vienna at Virginia Square

We'll begin with snacks **and socializing at 3:00 p.m.**

At 3:30 p.m., Richard O'Brien will begin his presentation. He is a noted human rights activist and genocide prevention specialist with amazing stories from his work in this field. He will also introduce us to his recent book, about 107 women Prime Ministers and Presidents (1930s-2016), and discuss their challenges, supporters, or opponents. He'll then answer our questions, and we'll continue to enjoy the refreshments until 5:15 p.m.

Cost: \$5 per person (please bring exact cash) and parking meters around our building need lots of quarters--unless you park in our commercial parking by entering the garage between Fairfax Drive and Oakland Street, closest to 9th Street. Then walk around to the Lobby entrance on 9th Street.

Registration: Important!!

The McDonalds' apartment can only accommodate 18 guests, so be sure to sign up for this highly relevant talk **no later than November 1, 2017** by calling Christel directly at **703-525-9755**, or leave a message where I can call you back to give you a registration number (1 to 18).

National Museum of African Art: Curator's Tour of

"Visionary: Viewpoints on Africa's Arts"

Saturday, November 18, 2017

2:00-4:00 p.m.

The **National Museum of African Art** is delighted to offer DC Phi Beta Kappa Association members a curator-led tour of **"Visionary: Viewpoints on Africa's Arts," a major new exhibition** that opens at the museum on Nov. 4. The exhibition is the largest long-term presentation of the Museum's permanent collection in over a decade, and the first to offer broad thematic connections between works across the full spectrum of times, places, and media. "Visionary" aims to get visitors to see artworks—and each other—with new eyes.

Organized around seven viewpoints, the 300 works of art in “Visionary” serve to frame the experience of African art. The installation presents the Museum’s collection from the perspective of collectors, scholars, artists, patrons, visitors, performers, and others. Interactive experiences within the gallery will connect visitors to the role such perspectives play in understanding an object.

The Museum’s permanent collection contains a large number of exceptional works celebrated worldwide. Recently, it was the beneficiary of the famed Tishman-Disney collection through Michael and Jane Eisner. This acquisition has enhanced the many other excellent holdings.

We will meet at 1:45pm at the entrance of the museum at 950 Independence Ave., SW. The Museum is located behind the Castle by the Enid Haupt Garden and opposite the Sackler Gallery. The nearest metro stop is Smithsonian. A maximum of 40 members of DCPBK in good standing will be included. **Reserve your place on the DCPBK website.**

A Unique Foray into Ancient History

For next year, we’re exploring a presentation that should be highly intriguing: a speech by GWU Professor Joel Blecher on **Ancient Muslim Manuscripts Recently Unearthed**. This will probably be scheduled for February, 2018, and we’ll know more later, but this looks like a “don’t miss” event.

Regular Events

Book Club Meetings and Choices for the Fall

On August 29th the Book Club met to discuss the beloved classic ***Dune*** by Frank Herbert. Thirteen members attended, a turnout exceeded only by April’s discussion of *The Martian Chronicles*, demonstrating the popularity of science fiction within DC PBK. The group debated the text’s depiction of futuristic technology and gender roles, its parallels to history and its clear impact on later works of science fiction. Most intriguing were comparisons among attendees who first read *Dune* at a young age, versus those reading the novel for the first time in 2017. With its themes of ecology and preservation, religious/philosophical destiny, and political intrigue, the novel proved a stark reminder that our interaction with books does not occur in a vacuum; our experience of even the most fantastical storytelling is inextricably tied to our reality.

In keeping with our desire to interlace informal social tie-in events with our regular meetings, the Book Club met on September 2nd for a trip to the **National Book Festival**. The author of our November 2017 selection, J.D. Vance (*Hillbilly Elegy*) spoke at the event, and the group was able to gain some initial contextual information about his life and worldview prior to our meeting. We were incredibly heartened to see such high turnout at the event, and we plan to make it a yearly Book Club outing. (See photo from the event below)

On Wednesday, September 27, the Book Club will meet at Nagomi Izakaya to discuss our first nonfiction choice for the Fall series: ***Rising from the Rails: Pullman Porters and the Making of the Black Middle Class*** by Larry Tye (Nonfiction, 352 pgs).

The remaining selections for the fall are as follows:

October--*A Taste for Death* by P.D. James, Fiction, 480 pp.

November--*Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* by J.D. Vance, Nonfiction/Memoir, 273 pp.

December--*Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Classic, 368 pp.

At all meetings, attendees are encouraged to bring any books they're looking to clean out, to see if we can find them new homes with our members.

Please contact Kate Hannon at bookclub@dcpbk.org if interested in this informal event.

Young Professionals Happy Hour

The next YP Happy Hour will take place on Thursday, October 19, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at The Big Hunt in Dupont Circle, 1345 Connecticut Ave., NW. Come for a lively evening of good food and drink, connect with old friends and meet new ones, and enjoy the lovely fall weather. You can learn more at our website, www.dcpbk.org/events.

Announcements

Mentorship Network Updates

A huge thank you to all those who attended the Mentor Mix event in July! The mentorship cycle is going strong and we look forward to hosting more events in the future! We are looking for a mentorship newsletter editor. Please contact Erica Hwang at mentorship@dcpbk.org if you are interested.

Open Volunteer Positions

Manager of the High School Merit Awards Program

The DC PBK Association is currently seeking applicants for **Manager of the High School Merit Awards Program**. This Program, created in 1974, recognizes the academic and civic achievements of outstanding college-bound high school seniors in the greater Washington, DC area. It is the centerpiece of the Association's commitment to community service. In recent years DCPBK has offered up to three awards each year of \$1,000 each, and we would like to give even more.

As Manager, the incumbent will lead the High School Awards Committee, whose work begins in September with preparation of annual objectives, strategy, and work plan. From January through, April committee members actively pursue contact with high school staff and system administrators of private, public, and public charter schools and announce a call for applicants. In April/May the Manager oversees the recipient selection process and also organizes the annual High School Merit Awards Ceremony. More information on the Program can be found at: <http://www.dcpbk.org/programs/high-school-awards> and more information about the position can be found at: <http://www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions>.

Events & Communications Coordinator, DC PBK Mentorship Network

The Mentorship Network team is seeking an **Events & Communications Coordinator**. The Coordinator is responsible for designing a monthly newsletter for program participants and planning up to four networking events per year. This position is perfect for someone who wants to gain experience in external communications (and it's a lot of fun!). To learn more or apply, please send your resume and a statement of interest to Erica Hwang (kyuryung@gmail.com).

Fundraising Committee Members

The DC PBK Association seeks 1-2 **Fundraising Committee Members** to help the Fundraising Coordinator's efforts to organize a potential fundraising campaign. We are looking to raise money to help grow our revenue to further the goals of the Association, including fostering friendship, scholarship, cultural interests, and intellectual exchange among Phi Betes in the DC area, and increasing our

scholarships to students who have demonstrated excellence in high school—the major focus of our current funding. The incumbent(s) will: support the Fundraising Coordinator by helping implement the fundraising campaign; regularly communicate with the coordinator; attend quarterly Board meetings if the Coordinator is unable to do so.

Applicants should be members of DC PBK in good standing, possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and be detail-oriented. If you are interested in one of these positions, please visit our website at <http://www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions> or send an email to volunteer@dcpbk.org.

Board Meetings

The quarterly meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The fall meeting is scheduled for **October 7**, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the PBK Society headquarters, 1606 New Hampshire Avenue. All PBK members are welcome to attend.

Find Us on Social Media!

Please be sure to “Like” the [DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association](#) page on Facebook to follow our updates! You can also find us on LinkedIn, and follow us on our Twitter page at [@DCPhiBetaKappa!](#)

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2017-2018 Officers

PRESIDENT: Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

Sallie Dehler (University of Florida, 2011)

SECRETARY: Dan Rosenberg, (George Washington University, 2014)

TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

Executive Committee Members

Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)—Newsletter Editor

David MacDonald (University of Chicago, 2009)—Past President

Elizabeth Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)—Immediate Past President

Kate Hannon (Boston University, 2010)—Book Club Coordinator

Erica Hwang (University of Hawaii, 2009)—Mentorship Program Manager

Advisory Council

Deirdre LaPin (Agnes Scott College, 1967)—Past Vice-President

Christel G. McDonald (George Washington University, 1986)—Past President

Andy Steigman (Princeton University, 1954)—Past President