The D.C. Area

Phi Beta Kappa Association

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

Newsletter

suggestions@dcpbk.org

December 2016

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

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Upcoming Events

For January, with its uncertain weather, we always choose an indoor event. Currently we're planning a tour of the recently renovated and reopened **East Wing of the National Gallery of Art**. This event is a work in progress, but you'll find full details in the January newsletter, and on the website.

Ice Skating and Baked & Wired with the Young Professionals Network

Come join the young professionals network on Saturday, January 14th at 2:00 p.m. for a fun afternoon of ice-skating at the Georgetown Waterfront's Washington Harbour. After ice-skating, we'll walk to Baked & Wired, one of the premier bakery and coffeehouses in Georgetown, to enjoy some delicious treats. The cost for admission is $10, and skate rentals are $6 in addition to the admission fee. Please RSVP at http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/333. We'll gather at 2 p.m. outside of the entrance to the skate rental shop. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Recent Events

DC PBK Annual Holiday Party

On Saturday, December 4, some 30+ Phi Betes and friends gathered at PBK Headquarters to usher in the holiday season. The lively crowd enjoyed a large variety of treats, both savory and sweet, as well as choice beverages.

A festive event as always, the gathering included folks of all ages and backgrounds, resulting in a wealth of interesting conversations, and opportunities for meeting new people as well as catching up with old friends. Plus, we noted Phi Beta Kappa's 240th anniversary, and DC PBK's 103rd anniversary!

Regular Events

Book Club Meetings and New Selections

November Book Club Meeting Recap

The Book Club gathered on Wednesday, November 30th to discuss ***Goat Song: A Seasonal Life, A Short History of Herding, and the Art of Making Cheese*** by Brad Kessler. Our members ruminated on the author's transition from urban to rural living, and whether the inclusion or exclusion of details about the lifestyle were important to the message. The book was rich in history and practical knowledge, including extensive details about the *goats'* lifestyle, making it a wonderfully unique addition to our Fall selections.

To give people a bit more time over the holiday season to finish the book, our December book club meeting will be held Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017 at 7:00pm at Nagomi Izakaya.

We'll be discussing ***The Odyssey*** by Homer. I've chosen the Robert Fagles translation after comparing several versions for readability, but of course feel free to use whichever version you prefer, if you already have a copy. All DCPBK members and guests are invited to attend.

At this meeting I'd also encourage everyone to bring in any books you may be looking to clean out. In the holiday spirit I thought we could do a book swap internally. If there are any left over, we have a member who recommended a DC non-profit called "Turning the Page," which will accept any donations we have.

New Selections for Spring 2017

I'm excited to announce our next 6 months' selections, chosen by vote from recent Book Club attendees, where I've tried to assign books to months based on alternating page lengths, per feedback from the group:

January 31: ***Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad*** by Eric Foner, 320 pp., Nonfiction

February: ***The Violent Bear it Away*** by Flannery O'Conner, 256 pp., Classic

March: ***A Gentleman in Moscow*** by Amor Towles, 480 pp., Fiction

April: ***The Martian Chronicles*** by Ray Bradbury, 256 ppp., Classic

May: ***The White Road: Journey Into an Obsession*** by Edmund de Waal, 401 pp., Nonfiction

June: ***Commonwealth*** by Ann Patchett, 336 pp., Fiction

Kate Hannon is our Book Club Coordinator; you can reach her at bookclub@dcpbk.org.

Announcements

Special Travel Invitation from PBKACA in Chicago

Our Association has just received an exciting-sounding travel opportunity from our friends in Chicago. **John Ashton**, their president, writes: "PBKACA has been planning an international trip to Peru (originally it was going to be to Turkey, but political events forced us to re-evaluate that)." Here's a brief outline of the trip, with more details to follow in our next newsletter, including a contact form.

Professionally designed to bring you the best of Peru, the tour focuses on Machu Picchu and the Amazon, with an optional extension to the Galapagos. The basic tour runs from June 15-26, 2017, at the very reasonable cost of $4290 per person. Highlights include a city tour and the Larco Museum in Lima, several days of exploration in the Amazon, an extensive visit to Machu Picchu, a city tour of Cusco, and more. Everything from tropical rain forests to vibrant cities to ancient civilizations to learning the local cuisines. A great opportunity for a unique collaboration between our two associations. So mark your calendar now, and look for complete information in our January issue, as well as a link to their website.

Open Volunteer Position

Fundraising Coordinator

The DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association seeks a Fundraising Coordinator to help focus and renew our fundraising goals, to organize a potential fundraising campaign, and to manage any fundraising campaigns with which we decide to move forward. A detailed description of the position can be found by visiting www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions. To apply, please send your resume and a statement of interest to mentorship@dcpbk.org.

Board Meetings

Meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The next meeting will take place on Saturday, January 28, 2017 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the PBK Society headquarters, 1606 New Hampshire Avenue, NW (just two blocks from the Dupont Circle Metro's Q Street exit).

Find Us on Social Media!

Please be sure to "Like" the new 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 Board

2016-2017 Officers

PRESIDENT: Elizabeth Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM COORDINATOR:
Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)
SECRETARY: Dan Rosenberg, (George Washington University, 2014)
TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

Executive Committee Members

Mary Fay (American University, 2012) – Past Second Vice President
Chelsea Rubin (Arizona State University, 2011)
Eleanor Hudson (Auburn University, 2015)
David MacDonald (University of Chicago, 2009)—Immediate Past President
Sarah A. Neely (Indiana University, 2009) – Mentorship Program Manager
Kathryn A. Sullivan (University of South Carolina, 2012)—High School Awards Chair

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