



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

January 2017

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Upcoming Events

The new year is getting off to a great start, with two exciting events scheduled to brighten up the bleak midwinter!

Tour of the East Wing of the National Gallery

What: A guided tour of the newly renovated and recently reopened East Building of the National Gallery of Art

Who: All art lovers of modern art and architecture

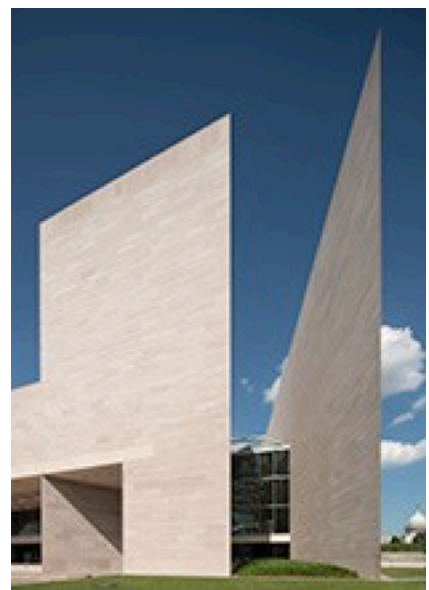
When: Saturday, February 4, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

Where: We will meet inside the front entrance to the museum, located at Constitution Avenue and 6th Street, NW, not far from several Metro stations.

How: Free admission; please sign up at our website, <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/341>.

Because of lack of availability, our January event has been moved to the beginning of February, when we usually need a little relief from the gloomy weather.

The **East Building** houses the Gallery's growing collection of modern and contemporary art. The renovation adds 12,250 square feet of new exhibition space within the existing footprint of the building, including two soaring tower galleries and a rooftop terrace for outdoor sculpture. The number of works on view has increased from 350 to 500. In the galleries, a reimagined installation of the collection integrates new acquisitions from the **Corcoran Collection**, and recent gifts from the Collectors Committee and others. Several new media provide an expanded story of modern art, and there are many thought-provoking new arrangements of various works. There are also two new staircases, and an elevator that affords easier access to all levels of the building.



Visit to the new National Museum of African American History and Culture (a highly sought-after venue!)

What: Great News! **The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC)** has offered DCPBK a self-guided group visit, thanks to Deirdre Lapin.

Who: Local Phi Betes and friends, limited to 35 people (for whom we have advance tickets)

When: Saturday, February 25, 9:45 a.m. sharp

Where: We will meet at the security checkpoint at the corner of Constitution Avenue and 14th Street in front of the museum

How: Space is limited to 35 persons: members in good standing (paid membership) and one guest, if desired. Reserve at www.dcpbk.org no later than **February 18** (we expect strong interest in this event). We look forward to seeing you!

Opened in September 2016, the NMHAAC has already impressed thousands of visitors with its inspiring architecture, historical depth, and thoughtful displays of the African American experience over more than five centuries in America. You will quickly agree that one visit is not enough to absorb three floors of history from the slave trade through the Obama Presidency ... and two additional floors presenting African American contributions to US cultural, artistic, and civic life. For lunch, the highly-rated Sweet Home Café offers savory dishes illustrating regional African American cuisine (this is an optional addition to our tour).



Regular Events

Book Club Meetings

December Book Club Meeting Recap

To give people a bit more time over the holidays, our December 2016 book club meeting on *The Odyssey* by Homer was held on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2017. PBK showed up in force with 12 members in attendance, a testament to how beloved this epic poem is, especially for those with a liberal arts background. We discussed the times and values of Homer's characters, the differences in translations, and the role of women in *The Iliad* vs. *the Odyssey*. Several members also brought in books for our newly-instituted book swap; at each meeting, members looking to clean out their personal libraries are encouraged to bring in books to see if we can find them new homes.



Members of the Book Club at the December Meeting

January's meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 31st at Nagomi Izakaya at 7:00 p.m., as usual. We will discuss the nonfiction selection ***Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad***, by Eric Foner (320 pp.)

Selections for Spring 2017

Here are our next several 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:

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

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

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

Past Event

Ice Skating and Baked & Wired

In spite of the steady rain, several young professionals came out for the Ice and Sweets event on Saturday, January 14th. Originally, the plan was to ice skate in the beautiful Georgetown Waterfront's Washington Harbour for an hour and then visit Baked & Wired, one of Georgetown's prominent bakeries and coffee shops, for some delicious treats. Due to the rain, ice skating was skipped entirely, and the group spent two hours enjoying cupcakes and each other's company at Baked & Wired.



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. 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.

For more information on the trip (including an itinerary) and to contact the Chicago Association, please visit their website here: https://03f1a43.netsolhost.com/index.php/pbk_news/tour-peru-with-pbkaca/

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 volunteer@dcpbk.org.

Margaret 'Peggy' Bartlett—An Appreciation

As a long-time active member of Phi Beta Kappa, **Peggy Bartlett** will be fondly remembered by many of you, and we thought everyone would like to know a little more about her life.

Though born in Seattle, Peggy spent much of her youth in Salt Lake City, where all of her friends were Mormons, and she always spoke well of the Mormon Church, though she was never a member. After her father took a job as an official of the U.S. military government in Berlin and Frankfurt, Germany, where Peggy was in the first group of students, during the American occupation, to attend the American High School in Berlin and the American High School in Frankfurt. While there, her family traveled all over Europe for vacations, leaving Germany a few years later on the Berlin Air Lift.



With husband of 51 years, Fred, on cruise to Alaska

When they relocated to Washington, DC, Peggy attended Central High School (now Cardoza), and Roosevelt High School, where she graduated in 1951. She went on to receive a full scholarship to Stanford University, where she graduated with a B.A. in Psychology in 1955, and became a Phi Beta Kappa (like her father).

After college, she worked at Harvard University, where she met her husband, married, and moved back to Washington, where he attended law school. They had three children and would live variously in Georgetown and the Palisades.

Peggy worked in a number of places over the years, including the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (where she fondly remembered Jimmy Hoffa) DC public schools; the Peace Corps; and the Defense Department, where she spent the bulk of her working career, finally retiring in 2004 to care for her husband when he developed Alzheimer's.

Over the years, she was active in the local PTA, the DC school board, the Palisades Citizen's Association, and the Palisades Community Orchestra. She was a volunteer at the Clara Barton House for many years; in fact, the list of her interests—art, nature, music, history—is virtually endless. She belonged to many organizations, including the Oldest Inhabitants of Washington, the Revolutionary War Roundtable group, Central High Alumni, the alumni group from her schools in Germany, the local Stanford Society and the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

Throughout her life, Peggy Bartlett was a true and dedicated friend. She stayed in touch with friends from all the many chapters of her life, and she will be well remembered for her friendship, her compassion and her sense of humor.

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