



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

October 2018

Connect with DC PBK Online!

"Like" the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association page and follow us on Twitter at [@DCPhiBetaKappa](https://twitter.com/DCPhiBetaKappa)!

Upcoming Events

Table of Contents

Upcoming Events, pp. 1-4

- "Outbreak" at Natural History
- "Silhouette" Exhibit/Dance at National Portrait Gallery
- Annual Holiday Party
- Young Professionals (YP) Network

- Book Club Selections

Recent Events p. 4

- Book Club Meetings/Events

Announcements, p. 5

- In Memoriam Andy Steigman
- Open Volunteer Positions
- Board Meetings

DCPBK Board, p. 6

"Outbreak" at the Museum of Natural History

This event, scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2018 at 1:45 p.m., is fully subscribed, and there is a waitlist. There is a special lecture before the exhibit, but you can visit the exhibit itself on your own, as it will be going on until sometime in 2021. For more information, visit: <https://naturalhistory.si.edu/exhibits/outbreak>.

Silhouette: Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company at the National Portrait Gallery

Don't miss a unique opportunity on Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., where the evening will begin with a performance by the **Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company**, the first and only resident dance company at the National Portrait Gallery. Following the dance performance, we will enjoy a talk by **Portrait Gallery Curator Asma Naeem** about *"Black Out: Silhouettes Then and Now,"* an exhibition that explores the relatively unstudied art form of silhouettes—cut paper profiles—a hugely popular and democratic form of portraiture in the 19th century. Dana Tai Soon Burgess, the National Portrait Gallery Choreographer-in-Residence, and his company will respond to "Black Out" in a poignant modern dance work with video by designer Kelly Colburn. We will attend by special invitation of fellow Phi Beta and company dancer **Christin Arthur**. We encourage you to arrive early to see the exhibition prior to the scheduled event.



Silhouettes offered virtually instantaneous likenesses of everyone from presidents to those who were enslaved. The exhibition examines the rich historical roots of this artform and considers its forceful contemporary presence. The show features works from the Portrait Gallery's extensive collection of silhouettes, such as those by Auguste Edouart, who captured the likenesses of such notable figures as John Quincy Adams and Lydia Maria Child, and at the same time, the exhibition reveals how contemporary artists are reimagining silhouettes in bold and unforgettable ways.

Highlights of the historical objects include a double-silhouette portrait of a same-sex couple and a rarely seen life-size silhouette of a nineteen-year-old enslaved girl, along with the bill of her sale from 1796. The featured contemporary artists are Kara Walker, who makes panoramic silhouettes of plantation life and African American history; Canadian artist Kristi Malakoff, who cuts paper to make life-size sculptures depicting a children's Maypole dance; MacArthur-prize-winner Camille Utterback, who will present an interactive digital work that reacts to visitors' shadows and movements; and Kumi Yamashita, who "sculpts" light and shadow with objects to create mixed-media profiles of people who are not there. With both historical and contemporary explorations into the silhouette, "Black Out" reveals new pathways between our past and present, particularly with regard to how we can reassess notions of race, power, individualism, and even our digital selves.

For more information, please visit the following websites:

<http://npg.si.edu/whats-on/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D128707296>

<http://npg.si.edu/exhibition/black-out-silhouettes-then-and-now>

<http://dtsbdc.org/>

Registration: Attendance is free, but members must RSVP for themselves and guests on the DC PBK website: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/427>. Please use the **Eighth and F Street entrance** for the Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium of the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. Again, plan to arrive early and view the exhibition before the performance and talk.

PBK Society Visiting Scholar Natasha Trethewey at Howard University

Here's a unique opportunity to share the vision of poet and former Poet Laureate **Natasha Trethewey**, who will speak on Thursday, October 25 at 5:30 p.m. at Howard University (Browsing Room, Founders Library, 500 Howard Place, NW, #203, Washington, DC 20059). She will address the intriguing topic: **"You are Not Safe in Science, You are Not Safe in History": On Abiding Metaphors and Finding a Calling**. The program is free and open to the public.

Dr. Trethewey is Board of Trustees Professor of English at Northwestern University. She served two terms as the 19th Poet Laureate of the U.S. (2012-2014), and is the author of five collections of poetry, including *Native Guard*, for which she was awarded the 2007 Pulitzer Prize. In 2010 she published the non-fiction work *Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast*. The winner of numerous awards, in 2017 she received the Heinz Award in the Arts and Humanities.

Annual Holiday Party

Be sure to join DCPBK on Sunday, December 9, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. for our **Annual Holiday Party**, a festive afternoon of socializing with fellow Phi Betes and friends. This always-popular event is a grand opportunity to hang out with friends old and new, and guests are welcome. We ask each of you to bring a dish to share, as well as any needed serving utensils. Beverages will be provided. Also please bring \$5.00 cash to cover expenses. Happy holidays!

This gala event will take place at PBK Headquarters, 1606 New Hampshire Avenue, NW. Public transportation is strongly recommended, as the building is only 3 blocks from the Dupont Circle North Metro Station, and parking in this area is quite difficult.

Sign up on the website, <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2018/12/9/holiday-party>, on or before November 27.

Young Professionals (YP) Network

Burning Man Exhibit at the Renwick Gallery and Lunch

Join the Young Professionals Network for a tour of the **Renwick Gallery's** currently featured exhibit: ***No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man*** on Saturday, October 27 at 12:00 noon. The afternoon will begin with a short, 30-minute introduction to the exhibit and an overview of the Burning Man festival by one of the museum's docents, and then we'll walk around the museum on a self-guided tour.

Afterward, you'll have the option to buy your lunch at one of the many restaurants near the Renwick Gallery, and we'll gather as a group to eat our lunch in **Lafayette Square**, the park just north of the White House. Those restaurants include:

- GCDC (Grilled Cheese DC)
- Potbelly
- Jimmy John's
- Zen Taco
- Taylor Gourmet
- Chopt
- Panera Bread
- McDonald's

Guests are welcome to join as well.

To RSVP, please go to <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2018/10/27/burning-man-exhibit-at-the-renwick-gallery-and-lunch>

We look forward to seeing you on the 27th!

Vintage Game Night at the Woodrow Wilson House

The YP Network is again gathering for an evening of fun at the **Woodrow Wilson House** on Wednesday, November 7 for ***Vintage Game Night***. The Woodrow Wilson House, which is set in Washington DC's historic Kalorama Neighborhood, is where Woodrow Wilson and his wife lived after they retired from the White House.

At Vintage Game Night, guests have the opportunity to play board games that were popular in the early 1900s, within a house that has been nearly entirely preserved in its 1920s form. Other games are available as well, such as croquet in the backyard. The cost of attendance is \$15, which includes two drinks and light snacks.

Guests are welcome to attend. We only have 15 spots available, so please go to: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2018/11/7/vintage-game-night-at-the-woodrow-wilson-house>

Coffee with YP Network Leadership

New to DC? Interested in learning more about the city, the events we host, or just looking to meet new people? Members of the **YP Network** leadership are available to meet with Young Professionals who are new to the Washington, DC area for coffee. Please email **Dan Rosenberg, YP Network Coordinator**, at dmborg8@gmail.com for more information or to schedule a coffee meeting.

Book Club

Books for October-December 2018:

Here are the selections for the remainder of this calendar year: listed below:

October: *The Dispossessed* by Ursula K. Le Guin, 400 pages

November: *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah, 304 pages

December: *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau, 352 pages

All DCPBK members are invited to attend, and to bring along any books you're looking to clean out, so that we can try to find new homes for them within the group.

To learn more about our events this month, please visit: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events>

Please contact **Kate Hannon** at bookclub@dcpbk.org with your comments or questions.

Recent Events

September Book Club Meetings

September: On Thursday, September 27, eight members of the book club met to discuss the timely memoir *The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border* by Francisco Cantú. A former officer at Customs and Border Patrol, Cantú affords readers a look at his experiences at the front lines of American immigration policy enforcement. His reflections, observations, personal history, and anecdotes provide crucial insight but eschew easy answers to the questions we as a country continue to grapple with around our Southern border—what it means, how it looks, and who is allowed to cross. Our group discussed the author's trajectory and motivation for sharing these snapshots from his life, and his reflections on feeling alternately powerless and adept at a job that caused him such internal discord.



September Bonus meeting: By popular demand, the book club met twice in September. On Thursday, September 20, six members gathered to discuss *The House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton. The group delighted in Wharton's quick wit, cultural observations, parallels with our modern age. We debated her characters' agency in the confines of their social circles, and remained divided on the moral compass and gradual downfall of Wharton's main character, Lily Bart.

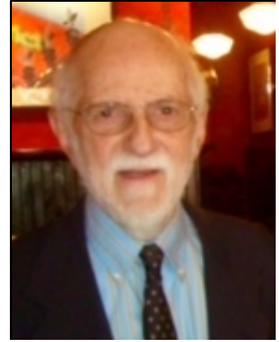
Announcements

In Memoriam

The Honorable Ambassador Andrew Steigman

1933-2018

On September 7, 2018 we lost a dear friend, colleague, and great supporter of our Association. **Andrew Steigman**, a career U.S. Foreign Service Officer in the State Department for 27 years, served as the U.S. Ambassador to Gabon and to São Tomé and Príncipe between 1975-1977, and other international Foreign Service postings in the Republic of Congo, Libya, France and Nigeria.



After his retirement from the Foreign Service in 1985, he joined Georgetown University as a professor and associate dean in the Walsh School of Foreign Service for more than two decades. As a member of Phi Beta Kappa (Princeton University, 1954), he served as Secretary of GU's PBK Chapter. In addition, he was an active participant and leader in the DC Area PBK Association, serving twice as its President.

Open Volunteer Positions

We are currently seeking applications for the following officer positions. Application materials should include a cover letter and a resume. Please send materials to volunteer@dcpbk.org.

Fundraising Committee Members

In order to implement a new fundraising strategy, the DCPBK Association is looking for the following four roles to be filled (one person may fill more than one role, as appropriate):

- Individual who reaches out to donating members and posts/sends out perks as part of “perk-based member showcase campaign”
- One who can identify which LinkedIn features to employ for building “member exchange and networking platform”
- One who can identify which is the best highly-visible platform for presenting “large” donors, be it on the LinkedIn group, a separate email outlet, or the website’s main page (or a combination)
- Web designer to implement web features needed for the above steps.

Applicants should be members of DCPBK in good standing, and should have experience in outreach to community members, community engagement, utilization of social media platforms for outreach, and web-designing skills. If you are interested in any of these positions, please visit our website at www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions or send an email to volunteer@dcpbk.org.

Executive Board Meetings

The quarterly meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The winter meeting will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019 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](https://twitter.com/DCPhiBetaKappa).

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2018-2019 Officers

PRESIDENT: Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)

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

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Breann Watt
(University of California, Riverside, 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

Advisory Council

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

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