



THE D.C. AREA

PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

September 2018

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Upcoming Events

Table of Contents

Upcoming Events, pp. 1-4

- Visiting Scholar
- "Outbreak" Natural History Museum
- "Silhouette" Portrait Gallery
- Young Professionals (YP) Network
- New Book Club Selections

Recent Events pp. 4-5

- Triennial Council
- Book Club Meetings/Events

Announcements, pp. 5-6

- Open Volunteer Positions
- Donor Spotlight
- Board Meetings

DCPBK Board, p. 7

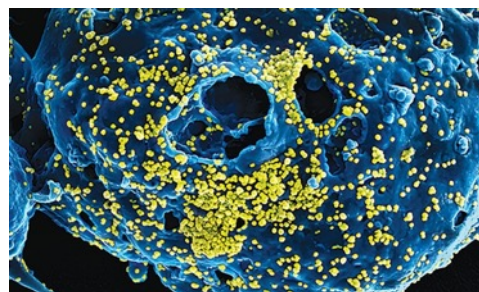
PBK Visiting Scholar Prof. William Chester Jordan at Catholic University

On Tuesday, September 11 Catholic University of America will host PBK Visiting Scholar William Chester Jordan, Dayton-Stockton Professor of History at Princeton University. Professor Jordan will speak on "The First Crusade and Jewish Martyrdom." Members of the association are invited to attend. This lecture is free and open to the public.

No Registration is required for this event. It will take place on ***Tuesday, September 11 at 5:15 pm*** in the ***Happel Room of Caldwell Hall, Catholic University.***

"Outbreak" at the Museum of Natural History

Please join us on Saturday, October 20, 2018 at 1:45 p.m. as Dr. Sabrina Sholts and Dr. Daniel Lucey lead us on a special tour through ***Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World***, the newest special exhibit on the 2nd floor of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. This event is limited to 25 members and their guests—see registration details below.



By exploring the scientific and cultural impacts of epidemics, we will learn how epidemiologists, veterinarians, public health workers, and citizens work together to identify and contain infectious disease outbreaks. Case studies of HIV/AIDS, Ebola virus, and influenza highlight the social and emotional fallout of outbreaks—for victims, their loved ones, and society overall. Objects from both the National Museums of Natural History and American History illustrate the impacts of epidemics.

DCPBK prides itself on welcoming curatorial support for its museum tours. For this event, lead curator Dr. Sabrina Sholts and Dr. Daniel A. Lucey have kindly offered to be our guides. Dr. Sholts is a curator of biological anthropology at Natural History. Her research has focused on physical anthropology and its biological context as a way of understanding aspects of human evolution and experience. Dr. Lucey, a principal creator of the “Outbreak” exhibition, has been a practicing specialist and “chaser” of infectious diseases worldwide for over three decades, including the early AIDS virus, anthrax, influenza, MERS, and most recently Ebola and Zika. He is currently affiliated with Georgetown University. Our two experts will begin the tour with brief remarks and welcome your questions.

For more information on the exhibit please visit: <https://naturalhistory.si.edu/exhibits/outbreak/>

Registration: All attendees must RSVP on the DCPBK website: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/426>. The *tour is limited to 25 members and guests*. Sign up **by October 13** and include the full names of all guests. **We will meet at 1:45 sharp on October 20 at the Staff Entrance** at the ground level on Constitution Avenue, where a review of names and a brief security check will precede our short walk to Floor 2. The exhibit will also be wheelchair accessible via an elevator.

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



Please join us on **Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** where we will begin the evening 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—which were 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 be in attendance by the special invitation of fellow Phi Bete and company dancer Christin Arthur. We encourage attendees to arrive early to take a look at 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>. The event will take place **Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.** at the Nan Tucker McEvoy Auditorium, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery (***Eighth and F streets N.W., Washington, D.C.***). Attendees are encouraged to arrive early and view the exhibition before the performance and talk.

Young Professionals (YP) Network

Intramural Basketball with the Young Professionals Network

The Young Professionals Network is organizing one, possibly two, PBK teams to participate in an intramural basketball league this fall! Please follow this link to the page where you can find information about the teams, fees, and when/how the games will be played: <https://www.zogsports.com/dc/sports/basketball/fall18/5-on-5-indoor-coed-basketball-dc-sunday.aspx>.

If you're interested, please email Kenny Sobek at jksobek@gmail.com me by **September 10th**. Once we receive your responses, we will determine how many teams we need to form, complete the registration, collect fees, and then we will be ready to play!

As a reminder, while the league is competitive, all are welcome to join.

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

Selections for September-December 2018:

Between our April and May meetings the Book Club completed our semi-annual voting process to choose the six selections that will comprise our Fall 2018 (July-December) Series. Recommendations are solicited from those who have attended in the last six months, then the same group votes for their favorites in the compiled list in Fiction, Nonfiction, and Classics. This gives us an opportunity to ensure a diversity of experiences and interests are represented with every six-month meeting Series. The winners are listed below:

September: *The Line Becomes a River: Dispatches from the Border* by Francisco Cantú (Nonfiction, 256 pages)

September Bonus meeting: (mid-September): *House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton

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

2018 PBK Triennial Council

The Triennial Council is Phi Beta Kappa's legislative body, which convenes every three years to conduct Society business. Phi Beta Kappa executives, senators, and representatives from the Society's chapters and associations meet to charter new chapters, elect new leadership for the following triennium, and discuss policies affecting the Society as a whole.

The 45th Triennial Council took place in Boston, Massachusetts from August 2-5, 2018. The President, Nina Kuo, and Executive Committee Member, Liz Marshall, attended on behalf of the DC Association. Best practices were exchanged in breakout sessions, and Nina had the chance to speak about the successes of our mentorship program and Young Professionals network. Delegates also voted to establish chapters at Chapman University, Loyola Marymount University, Mississippi State University, and The University of South Florida.

The DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association's efforts were also honored with an Outstanding Association Award. Thank you to our past and present volunteers for the tireless and incredible work you have provided the organization - congratulations!



August Book Club Meeting

On Tuesday, August 28, eighteen members of the book club met to discuss Naomi Alderman's *The Power*. This work of speculative fiction portrays a contemporary world where women are suddenly afforded the physical upper hand over men, via an ability to generate and wield electricity. The novel follows the trajectories of four women and one man over several years as this new gender power dynamic plays out in various cultural contexts across the globe. As a group we discussed the many questions raised by the text, including: what it means to be a woman, the effects of power on the psyche, and which characters, if any, reacted/adapted well to the new reality. Despite some issues with the novel's prose from a literary perspective, the portrayal is a fascinating and uncomfortable one, perfect for discussion.



National Book Festival Trip

On Saturday September 1, seven members of the book club met in downtown DC for breakfast followed by a trip to the National Book Festival at the Convention Center. Speakers included the author of our September selection *The Line Becomes a River*, Francisco Cantu, Madeline Albright, and Tara Westover, author of *Educated*, recommended by former President Obama as a summer 2018 pick. This coordinated trip to the Book Festival is a recurring annual informal event for the book club, as it easily allows everyone to tailor the experience to their own interests after a quick meet and greet beforehand.

Announcements

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.

Donor Spotlight

Paul Lubliner, University of Oregon 2006

Why I Donated:

“ I donated to help support our high school awards program. As a member of the awards committee, it feels good knowing that the high schoolers we choose embody the ethos of Phi Beta Kappa. This is just one way our association helps raise the profile of Phi Beta Kappa and what it advocates for—the importance of a strong liberal arts and science education.

The Association has provided me the opportunity to expand my leadership skills as an Association officer, make friends, help others through our mentorship program, and learn about fascinating topics through our events. ”



About Donor Spotlight

The Association's causes are almost exclusively funded by member donations. Donor spotlight is a way to recognize those who support us financially.

Are you interested in being featured in the donor spotlight? **If you donate \$50 or more**, you will have the opportunity to be featured in an upcoming issue of our newsletter.

To donate, please visit: <http://www.dcpbk.org/contribute>

Executive Board Meetings

The quarterly meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The fall meeting will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2018 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

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

Andy Steigman (Princeton University, 1954)—Past President