



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

February 2019

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Upcoming Events

Film Screening, Discussion, Sake Sampling

What: Film Screening: "*Kampai! For the Love of Sake*"

When: Tuesday, February 26, 2019, 6:15 p.m.

Where: Freer Gallery of Art (Meyer Auditorium)

1050 Independence Ave SW

Washington, DC 20560

Cost: Free

Experience multiple perspectives on Asia through the lens of classic and contemporary film. The [Freer Art Gallery](#) offers a world-class film series with opportunities to see films not widely available in the United States, as well as to meet directors, actors, and film scholars. On Tuesday, February 26, the Freer Gallery and the Embassy of Japan are co-hosting a screening of the award-winning

documentary *Kampai! For the Love of Sake*, and a free tasting of Japan's most prestigious sake brands. Meet up with fellow DCPBK members to discover the art of sake.

An age-old staple of Japanese culture and cuisine, the fermented rice wine has recently been winning fans all over the world. This unique film journeys from rice paddies in Japan to breweries around the globe as it chronicles three passionate exponents of the increasingly popular beverage: a British ex-pat who has become Japan's first foreign master brewer, an American journalist known as the "Sake Evangelist," and a fifth-generation Japanese brewer determined to shake up the industry. Together, their stories form a fascinating snapshot of how ancient traditions are adapting to the demands of a growing global market. To watch a trailer, visit <http://www.ifcfilms.com/films/kampai-for-the-love-of-sake>

Films are shown **free of charge** in the 300-seat Meyer Auditorium. Seating is first come, first served. Auditorium doors open approximately thirty minutes before show time. **The film begins at 7:00 p.m.** I will be standing outside the main entrance to the Freer Gallery with a DCPBK sign. Those who wish to group up and sit together (I am not able to reserve seats ahead of the event) **should meet me between 6:15 and 6:30 p.m.** At 6:30 I will take the group inside and try to get as many seats together as possible. For those who show up later, I will attempt to save more seats and sit on the edge with our sign. Please RSVP so I can communicate any last-minute updates via email.

Any questions may be directed to Breann at rsvp@dcpbk.org.

Annual Spring Fling preview

The **Annual Spring Fling** is one of our most popular and widely anticipated events, offering both an opportunity to mingle and munch with old and new friends around a festive board (mainly provided by you), and to enjoy an engaging presentation by a local expert. Details for this year's event are still being worked out, but you can find complete details in our next newsletter.

Young Professionals (YP) Network

Curling and Cocktails with the YP Network at the Wharf

On Monday, February 4th, the YP Network participated in the Wharf's weekly Curling and Cocktails event. **The Wharf** is DC's quasi-new waterfront area in SW, and the Wharf's weekly **Curling and Cocktails** event offers people the opportunity to try out Curling (the winter sport). The YP Network members paired up in teams of two and competed against each other, practicing and sharpening their curling skills! The group had a great time learning how to curl, and also grabbed dinner together at the Wharf.



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.

January Book Club Meeting and Tie-in Event

On Wednesday, January 30, fifteen members of the Book Club met to discuss Sarah Vowell's rollicking retelling of the American Revolution, ***Lafayette in the Somewhat United States***. This selection is perfect for anyone who appreciates a fresh look at traditional historical narratives. Vowell's art history background made for unique, entertaining reflections on France's crucial role in the Revolution; she challenges the notion that the outcome of the war was in any way inevitable. We agreed the book would have benefited from a sharper structure (it features no chapters); some of Vowell's hard-hitting points become buried in the prose. Overall, ***Lafayette*** is a clear recommendation for history and political science buffs, and sure to incite easy discussion on Lafayette's contributions and how we choose to frame our national history.



To supplement our reading of ***Lafayette***, we've decided to insert an additional tie-in trip to **George Washington's Mount Vernon** estate in Alexandria, VA. On Saturday, February 23 at 1:00 p.m., we will informally gather to explore this historic site together. Tickets can be purchased in advance on the Mount Vernon site or in person on the day at Mount Vernon. Please refer to the DCPBK website event page for further details.

February Book Club Meeting and Spring Selections

On Thursday, February 28, the Book Club will gather once more at Nagomi Izakaya to discuss the much-buzzed-about novel ***There There*** by Tommy Orange. All DCPBK attendees and up to one guest are invited to attend by RSVP'ing through the DCPBK website.

However, to quickly address the new meeting-attendee cap, Book Club meetings are now limited to 18 attendees. Any more and meaningful group discussion becomes more difficult, even when split into smaller groups, and the restaurant that hosts us so graciously has asked us to cap it there. Please be sure to register early, and update your RSVP if you are later unable to attend, to ensure that everyone has a chance to participate.

Selections for Spring 2019

March: *Pedro Páramo* by Juan Rulfo, Classic, 124 pages, *plus* Tie-In Tour of the Mexican Cultural Institute

Bonus March: *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E Frankl, Classic, 165 pages

April: *Chesapeake Requiem: A Year with the Watermen of Vanishing Tangier Island* by Earl Swift, Nonfiction, 448 pages

May: *Go Tell it on the Mountain* by James Baldwin, Classic, 272 pages

Bonus May: *Becoming* by Michelle Obama, Nonfiction, 426 pages

June: *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas, Fiction, 464 pages, *plus* Movie Viewing Tie-In

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, please visit: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events>

Also, please contact **Kate Hannon** at bookclub@dcpbk.org with your comments or questions.

Recent Events

Meet and Greet with Dr. Fred Lawrence

Despite the winter storm, and icy road conditions that forced a last-minute change of date, we still had a successful event the following evening. **Dr. Fred Lawrence**, Secretary of The Phi Beta Kappa Society, and his Deputy Director of Chapter and Association Relations **Laura Hartnett**, hosted 12 of our Association's members for a cozy night at PBK Headquarters. We learned the history of the house through a Scavenger Hunt game--including that the house was once owned by a doctor and was originally designed by an early Phi Bete. We gathered in what was once the doctor's living room to enjoy food and drink while getting to know one another. A Bingo game gave us the chance to learn which of our new friends had seen the most Oscar-nominated films, traveled to the most countries, and read the most newly published books.

Dr. Lawrence had a chance to have one-on-one conversations with members during this time. The event then moved upstairs to the conference room, where Dr. Lawrence spoke about the history of PBK, and how he sees the role of our Society in the present and future. He emphasized the successful advocacy around increasing federal support for the National Endowment of the Arts, and the ability of the organization to transcend partisan divides to promote higher education in the arts and sciences. He says that now more than ever is a time when we cannot take for granted that people believe education is key. As an educator himself, he sees the importance of strengthening our institutions to support students to

pursue education not only for specific vocational skills that may become obsolete in a few short years, but one that teaches students how to think critically and adapt in a rapidly changing world.

Dr. Lawrence also spoke about his work on free speech issues on campus: he fervently believes that the University must remain a place where a vast array of ideas can be presented and students are challenged to consider diverse perspectives.

Announcements

Contribute to the Ambassador Andrew L. Steigman Merit Award



The Board of the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association has chosen to honor our late colleague and Past President of our Association, Ambassador Andrew L. Steigman, by dedicating a special 2019 High School Award in his name. **The Ambassador Andrew L. Steigman Merit Award** will be presented at our next award ceremony in May 2019. Donors to the award of \$50 or more will be listed in our ceremony program. We invite you to join us in honoring Ambassador Steigman's memory by donating here: <https://dcpbk.org/donate/#!form/Donate>."

Mentorship Network

This program is really taking off! We had an overwhelming number of applicants for this cycle, with more than 60 people applying to be a part of our program. Our mentors have been matched with many of the mentees, and we're preparing to meet up at our first **Mentorship Mixer** in a few weeks; all participants will get full information prior to the event. If you have any questions about the Network, please contact Rebecca at rdesantis2@gmail.com.

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 Spring meeting will be held on April 6, 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.

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