



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

June/July 2020

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DCPBK Annual Luncheon Postponed

RESCHEDULED FOR SPRING 2021

We wanted to let you know that we're planning to hold our next **Annual Luncheon**, with an expert speaker, in the May-June period of next year. At that time we will very much look forward to your joining a celebration of two years of the Association's service to our members and the DC Area community. Please check for further guidance on location and date in future newsletters, emails, and social media. Meanwhile, we encourage you to enjoy our ongoing program

of virtual activities, and wish you a safe and enjoyable summer and autumn season.

We'd also like to introduce you to **our 2020-2021 Executive Board**, which you can find on page 4.

DCPBK Updates

Young Professionals (YP) Network

Playing Family Feud with DCPBK!

On June 9, ten Phi Betes came together for a gameshow night filled with fun and competition! Throughout the night, contestants had to answer various questions including, "What is the first thing you are going to do outside of quarantine?," "Where is the worst place to go on a first date,?" and "What touristy areas of DC should you avoid in the summer?" While the two teams were neck and neck throughout the competition, it was ultimately "The Dancing Donkeys" team that came out on top! Thanks to all who participated and we hope to see you at the next event!

At all our DCPBK events, guests are welcome and highly encouraged!

Please email Hunter Hamrick (hunterhamrick@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Book Club News and Reviews

On May 14, ten members met on Zoom to discuss ***Educated*** by Tara Westover as a bonus nonfiction selection of the Spring series. This buzzy book had been on our radar for a while and the heartfelt, affecting memoir was well regarded by the group, with all but one rating of 4 stars and above. Topics discussed included the role of imperfect memory, the impact of physical trauma on the outcome of Tara's story, and its impact to us as readers. The book has wide appeal in part because of the author's strength and self-reliance, and the internal and external factors that drove that success. Thanks to long-time Book Club member Kelly Williams for guest-hosting this bonus meeting!

On May 26, twelve members of the group gathered again on Zoom to discuss ***Agent Running in the Field*** by British author John le Carré. A searing indictment of modern-day British and American politics, as well as the glimpse into practical spycraft le Carre is known for, the group enjoyed this thriller and the chance to discuss its many characters. This was a novel centered around dialogue- who people are talking to, where, and to what end, and members opened by sharing the most compelling conversation scenes. We discussed Cold War era spy novels vs. the ways that technology has and hasn't impacted the human element in intelligence gathering.

Between the April and May 2020 meetings, our coordinator Kate Smith solicited recommendations from members who have participated in the last six months, compiled summaries, and circulated to the same group for voting. During the week of the meeting, members cast their votes in each category, and we're happy to announce the results below, comprising our Fall 2020 Series.

- July: ***Children of Blood and Bone*** by Tomi Adeyemi (Fiction, 544 pages)
- August: ***The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*** by Malcolm Gladwell (Nonfiction, 301 pages)
 - Mid-August Bonus: ***The City We Became*** by N. K. Jemisin (Fiction, 437 pages)
- September: ***Their Eyes Were Watching God*** by Zora Neale Hurston (Classic, 219 pages)
- October: ***A Fisherman of the Inland Sea*** by Ursula K LeGuin (Fiction, 207 pages)
 - Mid-October Bonus: ***The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present*** by David Treur (Nonfiction, 526 pages)
- November: ***Fictions*** by Jorge Luis Borges (International, 179 pages (Argentina))
- December: ***To Marry an English Lord*** by Gail MacColl and Carol McD. Wallace (Nonfiction, 403 pages)

Please join us for our June meeting on Zoom on June 29, to discuss ***Chocolate City: A History of Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital*** by Chris Myers Asch & George Derek Musgrove (Nonfiction, 624 pages).

All DCPBK members and guests are invited to attend.

A quick note on meetings for the foreseeable future: In light of global efforts to slow the spread of Covid-19, the DCPBK Book Club will continue meeting via Zoom, an online audio/video conferencing application, until we can meet again in our favorite spots. Members who RSVP Yes on the website will receive the meeting link and login information in their registration confirmation email.



Mentorship Network News

We're excited to launch the next cycle of our popular **Mentorship Program**! The program seeks to provide Association members with the opportunity to connect one-on-one, share professional and academic advice, and expand their connections within the DCPBK community.

The DC Mentorship Network will offer a six-month structured mentoring program with opportunities for peer mentoring and young professional-to-experienced professional relationships. Participants receive resources such as a handbook, mentorship agreement template, regular newsletters, and the opportunity to meet others in the program at a special MentorMix event.

Who are the DC PBK Mentorship Network participants?

Ideal mentee applicants are emerging professionals who are recent graduates, switching careers, exploring post-graduate education, or looking to grow more deeply in current endeavors. They are looking to meet like-minded individuals to discuss issues important to them. All career and education paths welcome!

Ideal mentor applicants are professionals with three to seven or more years of post-graduate experience who are interesting in sharing their experience and knowledge with young professionals in their career field.

Applications for both mentors and mentees is open from June 6, 2020 to June 26th at 11:59PM and is available on the DC PBK website here: <https://dcpbk.org/programs/mentorship/>. We expect this cycle to run from July to December 2020.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee and would like to learn more about the program, we'd love to hear from you. Questions can be sent to Program Manager Rebecca DeSantis at mentorship@dcpbk.org.

Mentors and Mentees in the current cycle of the Mentorship Network may continue to meet one-on-one, but we encourage matches to use virtual alternatives to meeting for the remainder of the month.

We wish you and your families health and safety in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing everyone at a DCPBK event in the future.

Announcements

Open Volunteer Opportunities

Our organization is growing and we are looking for more volunteers to help support our robust programming. If you are interested in getting more involved with DCPBK in either a leadership or committee member role, we have openings for the following:

- Membership Engagement and Communications Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Event Planning Committee

To learn more about how to get involved, please email **Breann Watt** at president@dcpbk.org. We'd love to hear from you!

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 **2020-2021 Officers**

PRESIDENT: Breann Watt (University of California Riverside, 2011)

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: Rebecca DeSantis (Washington College, 2015)

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT: Hunter Hamrick (Florida State University, 2015)

SECRETARY: Dan Rosenberg, (George Washington University, 2014)

TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR: Bailey DeSimone (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2017)

At-Large Executive Committee Members

Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)—Past President

Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)—Past President

Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)—Newsletter Editor

Liz Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)—Past President

Kate H. Smith (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