

THE D.C. AREA

PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

May 2022

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High School Awards Program

A centerpiece of the DC Phi Beta Kappa Association's commitment to the community is the **High School Awards Program**, in which outstanding area students are assessed for their scholarship and community service. This year we received 130 applications from the District, Maryland, and Virginia, and all were so deserving that it was quite a challenge to choose the final four, each of whom will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, and a pertinent book. We unfortunately will not be able to hold an in-person ceremony now, but hope to do so next year.

Our 2022 winners are:

Shaina Adams attends Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, DC. Shaina has studied at the Kudan Institute of Language and Culture in Japan and leads an online Japanese learning

community. She is the co-founder and head of mentoring for her school's Minorities in Advanced Placement (MAP) committee, addressing the lack of diversity in advanced classes, as well as a harpist in both orchestra and jazz band. Shaina has worked as an intern with The World Bank Group and is her school's representative in the Citywide Student Voice Council. Shaina will be attending Harvard University, where she will study economics and East Asian Studies.



Dhruv Pai attends Montgomery Blair High School in Maryland. Dhruv is the cofounder and President of Teens Helping Seniors, an international non-profit with over 1000 volunteers that has made 3500+ grocery and medication deliveries to seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic. He is a Board Member for the Montgomery Blair Counseling Advisory Committee, working to improve his school's counseling services. At Montgomery Blair, he also captains the Math Modeling Club, Internet of Things



Club, and serves as President of the Math and Science Honors Societies. He is still deciding on a university, currently choosing between Yale, Harvard, Stanford, and MIT.

Vishnupriya Alavala attends Freedom High School/Academies of Loudoun in Virginia. Vishnupriya is President of her school's Medical Association Club that engages students with anatomy and physiology. She has interned with the Interdisciplinary Program in Neuroscience at George Mason University and worked as a medical volunteer with the Red Cross and the Virginia Volunteer Health System (VVHS) Medical Reserve Corps. She has tutored in various fields for the past 7 years and is the editor of the Women's Entrepreneurial Opportunity Project blog. She will



be attending Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), where she will study biology in the Guaranteed Admission Program for Medicine (B.S./M.D.).

Carina Guo attends Richard Montgomery High School in Maryland. Carina is the cofounder and captain of her school's Debate Team and is currently ranked 1st in the state by the National Speech & Debate Association. She has participated in the C-SPAN StudentCam Documentary Contest, with honorable mentions in 2019 and 2020, 3rd prize in 2021, and 2nd prize in 2018. Carina has worked as a research intern for professors at MIT and BU studying COVID vaccine development and with the non-profit Paper Bridges as President of their Maryland chapter. She will be attending the University of Pennsylvania, where she will study economics and computer science.



Recent and Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting

Calling all DCPBK members! The close of the academic year is also the opening of the new Association year, marked by our **Annual Meeting**, held virtually on **Saturday**, **June 11**, **at 12:30 PM**. This meeting will be a chance to hear about the exciting year DCPBK has had, even amidst the pandemic. You'll hear from our program leaders about the successes of the programs and where they are headed in the year to come! We will also install officers and Executive Committee members of the Association. Come meet your DCPBK board and learn more about our plans for the upcoming year! All members are invited and encouraged to attend. And look for our special guest speaker in the June newsletter and on the website.

Zoom info provided upon registration: $\frac{https://dcpbk.org/events/\#!event/2022/6/11/dcpbk-annual-meeting}{https://dcpbk.org/events/\#!event/2022/6/11/dcpbk-annual-meeting}$

May Spanish Language Group Meeting

The Spanish Language Group met on April 11th at La Cosecha and enjoyed some lively conversation. Join us for our next Spanish Language Group meeting on **May 16 at 6:30 PM at El Tamarindo.** These meetings are open to all skill levels, but note that they will be conducted in Spanish, so a basic conversational level is recommended to be able to participate in the discussion. Register Here:

https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2022/5/16/may-spanish-language-group Once registered, you will receive a confirmation message with details on the location. We look forward to seeing you then.

This group aims to be a reflection of its members, so we will remain flexible and attentive to your interests and capacity.

Please contact Hadley Ashford (hadley.ashford@alumni.unc.edu) if you have any questions about the group or have trouble registering.

A German Happy Hour—Die Plauder-Stunde

As members of PBK, many of us have had the opportunity to learn different languages and immerse ourselves in other cultures. The "Plauder-Stunde" was designed to give PBK members who have learned German a chance to practice their language skills and discuss a wide range of topics. Due to the pandemic, we relied on Zoom for our meetings and held our most recent Happy Hour on Thursday, March 31. We now hope we will soon be able to see each other in person and are planning ways to host the German Happy Hour at different locations and to promote German culture opportunities in the Washington, DC area.

We plan an in-person get-together on **Wednesday**, **May 25 at 6:00 PM** at a member's home in Arlington, a few short blocks from the Virginia Square Metro stop (Orange Line). Weather permitting, the Happy Hour will take place at the poolside. This will again be an opportunity to practice our German language skills in an informal setting. If you wish to propose a topic for this evening, please let us know. *Es gibt viel Neues, ueber das wir "plaudern" koennen und dabei ein leichtes Abendbrot verzehren.*

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kenny Sobek (<u>jksobek@gmail.com</u>) and Christel McDonald (<u>ChrisJohnMcDon@aol.com</u>) so that we can send you details and confirmation a week before our May 25 gathering.

Young Professionals (YP) Network

It's really exciting that so many people are transitioning to in-person meetings, and YP wants to try that, too. We're working on plans for spring and summer events, so keep checking the website for updates. Also, if you are someone who has lots of good ideas for the DC YP Network? Or a cool event you think we would enjoy, please let us know!

If you are interested in getting involved with the DC YP Network, or if you have any other questions or ideas for the future, please Hunter Hamrick at hunterhamrick@gmail.com.

International Health and Development Salon: What is ESG?

Our next quarterly Salon will be held via **Zoom on Sunday, May 15 from 12:00-1:00 PM**. We will unpack the recent and highly consequential trend in public and private development known as **ESG**. Since 2019 this movement has stressed the **Environmental, Social, and Governance** dimensions of humanitarian projects and financial organizations. **ESG** redefines the purpose of public and private investments beyond mere profit-making or pursuit of national interests by stressing benefit for all stakeholders through such policies as mitigating global warming, supporting communities and labor, and assuring responsible and value-driven management.

We will discuss how **ESG** is driving the design of international development projects and investor preferences in the financial sector. A growing industry has emerged for monitoring and reporting on **ESG** impacts. What standards do we think are needed to ensure that we live in a world that is sustainable and just? What impact is **ESG** likely to have on improving human well-being worldwide? Please sign up at our website dcpbk.org for joining instructions. Also, note that you may invite a non-DCPBK guest to this Salon on the registration page. Meanwhile, feel free to email **Dr. Deirdre LaPin** at dlapin21@yahoo.com for topic suggestions, information or questions.

<u>Coffee & Conversation Series with Emily Skor, CEO of Growth Energy</u>

Please join us for our next installment of Coffee & Conversation on **Thursday**, **June 23rd at 6:00 PM** with **Emily Skor**, **CEO** of **Growth Energy**, the country's premier biofuel trade association, which represents over half of the nation's total ethanol production and tens of thousands of ethanol supporters

around the country. Emily will be speaking to us about her work in leading this trade association, including advocating for better policy around biofuels, launching public affairs campaigns to educate the public about ethanol and its impact on the environment, and Growth Energy's goal of repositioning ethanol as a critical tool in decarbonizing the transportation sector and reaching net-zero climate goals by 2050. Additionally, Emily will be speaking to us about the considerations involved in leading a large trade association and also about her prior professional experiences in crisis communications and branding/marketing.

Under Emily's leadership, Growth Energy membership has grown to include 89 plant producers and 94 innovative businesses that support biofuel production, including the largest ethanol producers in the country--POET, ADM, Marquis Energy and The

Anderson. Emily was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa at Wellesley College.



Emily Skor

Registration information will be sent in the coming weeks, so please be on the look-out. Guests are always very welcome and encouraged to attend!

Thanks!

Dan Rosenberg, J.D.

dmberg8@gmail.com

If you have any suggestions for possible speakers, please don't hesitate to reach out to Dan Rosenberg at dmberg8@gmail.com.

Book Club News and Reviews

April Meeting Recap

On April 25, three members of the Book Club met on Zoom to discuss *Until the End of Time: Mind, Matter, and the Search for Meaning in an Evolving Universe* by Brian Greene. This was a true tome, which our group usually loves to dive into, but Greene's presentation, threading entropy, gravity, quantum calculations, with social-cultural observations, was a tough investment. Those who stick with each chapter are certainly rewarded with insights into the latest scientific theories about the formation and growth of the universe and our place within it.

Our remaining selections for the Spring 2002 Series:

May 19: *Fathers and Sons* by Ivan Turgenev (Classic, 244 pages)

May 31: *The Skin of the Sea* by Natasha Bowen (International, Nigeria/West Africa, 336 pages)

Both meetings will be held at **6:30 PM on Zoom**. I am considering an in-person outdoor patio seating event for our June meeting, featuring *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich, with backup on Zoom in case of bad weather or a COVID surge.

I will conduct our voting cycle for July-December between the May and June meetings, and I will soon send an email out to Book Club participants stating that.

I hope to see many of you there!

Sincerely, Kate Smith **Book Club Coordinator**

Announcements

Mentorship Network News

Please join us for a Mentorship Mixer on **Thursday, June 9 at 6:30 PM**. This will be the first mentorship event of the year, and we look forward to gathering interested mentors and mentees alike for an evening of conversation and connection around mentorship and professional development. This is a great way to make connections within the PBK community, as well as learning more about the benefits of the DCPBK Mentorship Network. More details to come.

We have new mentors joining our **Mentorship Directory**! If you are looking for career support, check out our lists of mentors by logging into the DCPBK website and reviewing our Mentorship Directory!

We are continuing to seek mentors! Currently, we have a need for mentors in political advocacy or non-profits, natural sciences (biology, chemistry, etc.), public policy, education, finance, and law. We are also looking for more mentors of all career stages and industries; young professionals who can support recent graduates, mid-career professionals who can help members become a supervisor for the first time, and retired members who can support members in seeing the big picture in their careers. Everyone has the ability to become a mentor! In addition, by signing up with the **DCPBK Mentorship Network** as a mentor, you will get access to resources and workshops that will help you develop your coaching skills and boost your mentor confidence!

Becoming a mentor for our Mentor Directory is a low-time commitment! Mentors and mentees, once connected, can meet together on their own terms—virtually, in-person, once a week, once every two months, whatever they decide! To join the Mentor Directory, simply log into your account on dcpbk.org, click on "Profile," and select "Check below if you would like to be a mentor." Answer a few questions, click "save," and you're all set! To learn more about the new Mentorship Network, please visit https://dcpbk.org/programs/mentorship.

Elena Helmers-Wegman DCPBK Mentorship Network Coordinator <u>elena.helmers.wegman@gmail.com</u>

Open Volunteer Positions

Are you looking to get more involved with DCPBK? Our Board is currently putting together numerous committees to help organize events and engage with our membership, as well as getting more members involved who may be interested in growing into leadership roles. We are currently seeking applications for the following positions.

1st Vice President

The 1st Vice President is an officer of the Executive Board and is expected to participate in the quarterly board meetings and to help guide the strategic direction and operations of the Association. The 1st Vice President may also occasionally assist the 2nd Vice President, who is responsible for coordinating the Association's programming. Other duties and responsibilities include:

- Lead or support at least one committee or be a supporting member of 2+ committees (e.g. HS Awards, Fundraising, etc.).
- Support Association communications, including email communications and newsletter contributions.

- Attending quarterly meetings of the DC Area PBK Board.
- Step in for the president if a need arises.
- Other duties may be assigned from time to time by the President.

Young Professionals Network Coordinator

The YP Network Coordinator is charged with making the member experience meaningful for young professionals. Specific duties and responsibilities include:

- Setting up and implementing the YP engagement strategy for the DC PBK Association, with an eye to converting as many recent graduates to contributing members as possible, and training new leadership for the Association.
- Managing the YP Network leadership team.
- Attending the DC PBK Association's board meetings to keep board members informed of the YP Network's activities and initiatives.
- Making clear through all branding, communications, and events that the YP Network is a program of the DC PBK Association.
- Maintaining the YP Network's master attendance tracker for events.

Applicants for these positions should be members of DCPBK in good standing. If you are interested in any of these positions, please visit our website at www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions or send an email to president@dcpbk.org.

DCPBK Summer Board Meeting

Our quarterly board meetings are open to any DCPBK member in good standing. The Summer board meeting will be held on **Saturday**, **July 16**, **at 10:00**. Look for more details in the next two newsletters, including registration information.

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2021-2022 Officers

PRESIDENT: Rebecca DeSantis-Randell (Washington College, 2016)

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: OPEN 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT: OPEN

SECRETARY: Hadley Ashford (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2018)

TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

At-Large Executive Committee Members

Breann Watt (University of California, Riverside, 2011)—Past President
Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)—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
Dan Rosenberg (George Washington University, 2014)—Member Engagement Coordinator

Advisory Council

Deirdre LaPin (Agnes Scott College, 1967)—Past Vice-President Christel G. McDonald (George Washington University, 1986)—Past President Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)—Past President

Additional Volunteers

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COORDINATOR: Hunter Hamrick (Florida State University, 2015) HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS COORDINATOR: Mackenzie Fusco (George Washington University, MENTORSHIP NETWORK COORDINATOR: Elena Helmers-Wegman (Wofford College, 2019)



Love of Learning is the Guide of Life

Association Business

Constitution and By-Laws Changes

Approval of Amended and Restated Constitution

Dear Members of the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association,

We thought it in the best interests of the **DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association** to make two fairly minor changes to the **Constitution**. Our governing documents require that all changes to the Constitution and/or Bylaws be approved at the Annual Meeting, and that prior written notice of the changes be sent to members in advance of the meeting. For ease of review, here is a description of the changes, shown in Exhibit A:

- 1. <u>Changing the Titles of Both Vice President Positions</u>: We are changing the title of 1st Vice President to <u>Vice President of Chapter Relations</u> and 2nd Vice President to <u>Vice President of Member Experience</u>. We have done this to assist with our recruitment efforts of new leaders, as we believe that these titles make the positions more attractive and marketable to potential applicants.
- 2. Amendment Provisions to the Constitution: The Constitution as drafted only gives us the ability to amend our governing documents (i.e. the Constitution and Bylaws) one time per year: at the Annual Meeting. This is a fairly inflexible amendment provision and would not enable us to make necessary changes to the Constitution and/or Bylaws if needed at a time of the year not near the Annual Meeting. So, we have added two other options to amend the Constitution and Bylaws (without replacing the ability to amend the Constitution and Bylaws at the Annual Meeting): (1) at any meeting of the board with a majority of the members present, but only if there is a quorum, or (2) without a meeting if unanimous written consent is obtained (e.g. via email). These two options to amend the governing documents are in line with practices typical of other non-profits.

RESOLUTIONS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DC AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

June 11, 2022

WHEREAS, the members *("Members")* of the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association (the *"Association"*) deem it to be advisable and in the best interests of the Association to amend and restate the current constitution of the Association, dated June 7, 1992 (as amended from time to time) (the *"Constitution"*), substantially in the form attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A** (the *"Amended and Restated Constitution"*).

RESOLVED, that the Amended and Restated Constitution in the form attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A** be, and it hereby is, adopted and approved in all respects; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the officers of the Association (the "Officers") are authorized and directed to execute all documents and take all other actions necessary or advisable in order to carry out and perform the purposes of the foregoing resolutions.

General Authorization

RESOLVED, that the Members hereby authorize and direct each of the Officers, in the name and on behalf of the Association, to make all such arrangements, to do and perform all such acts and things, and to execute and deliver all such certificates, instruments, documents, and agreements as they may deem necessary or appropriate to effectuate fully the intent and purposes of the foregoing resolutions, and that any and all such actions that may have been taken to date are hereby authorized, ratified, approved and confirmed in all respects.

EXHIBIT A Amended and Restated Constitution

THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

Revision approved June 7, 1992 Second Revision approved April 25, 2004 Third Revision approved June 5, 2010 Fourth Revision approved June 8, 2013 Fifth Revision approved June 11, 2022

ARTICLE I: NAME

A constituent member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, this Association was organized on December 6, 1913, and chartered on December 14, 1938, as the Phi Beta Kappa Association in the District of Columbia. Since September 1916 it has been recognized as an active association in good standing of more than 25 members, and therefore authorized to send delegate(s) to the Society's Council meetings. In accordance with Article VIII of the Constitution, the name was changed at a business meeting on September 25, 1991, to The D.C. Area Phi Beta Kappa Association.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

This Association is under the general supervision and control of the Phi Beta Society. The purpose of this Association shall be to uphold and promote the Society's ideals of scholarship and character by providing an opportunity for members residing in the District of Columbia or its suburbs and environs for congenial, social, intellectual, and cultural activities, and by recognizing and promoting excellence in scholarship in the area.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERS

Only persons duly elected to Phi Beta Kappa who reside, or resided at the time of joining this Association, in the District of Columbia or its suburbs and environs are eligible for membership. Payment of annual dues, as applicable, is required for membership in good standing and conveys the privilege of one vote on business matters presented to all members of the Association.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES
The officers of this Association shall consist of a
President, First Vice President, Second Vice
President, Secretary, and Treasurer, whose
duties are as follows:

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, and shall perform other duties necessary for the proper administration of the Association's affairs.

Section 2. The <u>Vice President of Chapter Relations</u> shall perform duties specifically assigned to this office by the President. In the absence of the President, the Vice President of Chapter Relations shall perform the duties and assume the responsibilities of the President.

Section 3. The <u>Vice President of Member Experience</u>, in addition to acting as President in the absence of both the President and the Vice President of Chapter Relations and performing duties specifically assigned to this office by the President, shall act generally as Program Coordinator.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall receive, dispense, and have custody of the funds of the Association, maintain adequate fiscal records, and perform

other relevant duties prescribed by the President or Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall make regular reports to the Executive Committee on the status of the Association's funds, and a year-end financial report at the Annual Business Meeting.

Section 5. The Secretary shall keep all official records of the Association other than those maintained by the Treasurer; be responsible for maintaining a current listing of Executive Committee members; and perform other secretarial duties prescribed by the President or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE The Executive Committee, chaired by the President, shall be composed of the officers of the Association and up to six additional elected members including, if possible, the immediate past President. Its duties shall be to assure the effective administration of the Association's affairs. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the President, or upon the request of at least three other members of the Committee.

ARTICLE VI: FISCAL YEAR The fiscal year shall begin on January 1 and close on December 31 of the same year.

ARTICLE VII: NONPROFIT STATUS The Association is organized and is to be operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code §501(c)(3) (references herein to the Internal Revenue Code, hereinafter "IRC," including the corresponding section (s) of any future United States tax code). No part of the net earnings of this Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its directors. officers, members, trustees, or other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth herein. No substantial part of the activities of the Association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the

Association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision herein, the Association shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under IRC §501(c)(3), or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under IRC $\S\S170(c)(2)$, 2055(a)(2) or 2522(a)(2). Upon the dissolution of this Association, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the lawful debts and liabilities of the Association, the assets shall be distributed to one or more of the following categories of recipients, as the Association shall determine:

- 1. A nonprofit organization or organizations which may have been created to succeed the Association, as long as such organization or any such organization shall qualify as an organization described in IRC §501(c)(3), and/or
- 2. The Phi Beta Kappa Society, provided that it shall qualify at the time of distribution as an organization described in IRC §501(c)(3), and/or
- 3. A nonprofit organization or organizations having similar aims and objectives as the Association and which may be selected as an appropriate recipient of such assets, as long as such organization or each such organization shall qualify as an organization described in IRC §501(c)(3), and/or
- 4. The Federal government, or to a State or local government, but only if such assets will be used for a public purpose.

ARTICLE VIII: BY-LAWS Provisions shall be made in By-Laws for the election of officers, notification of members, conduct of meetings, dues, and other matters deemed proper for this Association (or required by the Society), provided such By-Laws shall contain nothing inconsistent with this Constitution, or with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS This Constitution and the By-Laws may be amended by:

- 1. a majority of the members of the Executive Committee at any meeting of the Executive committee at which a quorum is present;
- 2. a two-thirds vote of members present at the Annual Meeting, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment, together with a notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting, shall have been given to every member in good standing via the newsletter or other individual communication at least 30 days prior to the meeting; or
- 3. the unanimous written consent of the Executive Committee without a meeting if the consent is thereafter delivered to the Secretary of the Association.

Ballot for tl	he Flection	of Officers	and Fyed	utive Cor	nmittee fo	r 2021.	2022

Please submit your responses through this online ballot (https://forms.gle/xhnbrF4YHs8npHoA6) or email your responses to president@dcpbk, no later than June 5, 2022.
