



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

January 2023

Connect with DCPBK Online!

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

Big Changes Coming to the DCPBK Board!

When some Board members move on to different pursuits, there always seem to be others who are ready to step up and fill their shoes. We're delighted to welcome two new officers. As Rebecca focuses on her growing family, **Lindsay Osborne** will be Acting President until the June elections. And, as Dan Rosenberg pursues other interests, **Niku Nashati** will take over as Member and Outreach Coordinator. You can learn more about both of them at "Announcements," page 4.

Upcoming and Recent Events

Coffee & Conversation with Mary Kadera, rescheduled (Wednesday, February 1 at 6:00 PM via Zoom)

On Thursday, January 12, our scheduled speaker was unable to join us, but she is rescheduled for Wednesday, February 1 (to be confirmed). While waiting, we enjoyed insightful remarks on viruses and related topics from Public Health expert Resha Putzrath.

We again look forward to hearing from **Mary Kadera**, director of TED Courses at TED. Mary will speak about the team she led at TED that recently designed and launched TED Courses, four-week virtual social learning experiences that bring together TED speakers and classmates from around the world, and about her prior leadership roles across several educational organizations, including as Vice President of Education at PBS, Interim Executive Director for the Center for Inspired Teaching, the National Commission for Teaching and America's Future, and the Consortium for School Networking, among others.

After her talk, there will be opportunities for Q&A, as usual.

Guests are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

If you have any questions about this event, or future programs in this series, please contact Dan Rosenberg at dmberg8@gmail.com.



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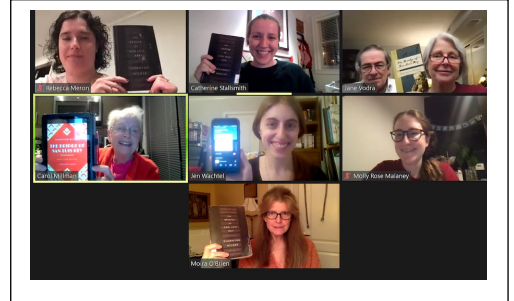
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Holiday Party! Friday, January 13, 7:00-10:00 PM, at the PBK Society Headquarters, 1606 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, which is just two blocks from the Dupont Circle North Metro station. It was a special time of togetherness and fun, featuring a wine-tasting station, hosted by a wine specialist, along with a selection of beer.

Book Club News and Reviews

December 2022 DCPBK Book Club Meeting:

On January 5th, eight members gathered to discuss the classic *The Bridge Over San Luis Rey* by Thornton Wilder. Much of the group shared a sense of confusion and disappointment, not quite "getting" the book for what it was acclaimed to be, but we had an important discussion about the historical context of works of literature and how that affects how we read it today. It is a classic grappling of "why do innocent people die" as a catholic friar works to justify why five folks in Lima, Peru were on the bridge when it fell. It gives a haunting insight of the Spanish Inquisition as well as detailed personal struggles of the characters. Overall it is a good piece of writing, but we recommend if you want to read Wilder, start with *Our Town*.



You may RSVP here: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/register/2023/1/31/january-2023-dc-pbk-book-club-meeting-the-bluest-eye-by-toni-morrison>

Upcoming Spring 2023 Series:

I'm very happy to confirm that the book club has concluded its biannual recommendation and voting cycle. The winners are below, comprising our Spring 2023 schedule. As always, if there are books you feel strongly about, feel free to email me with recommended meeting dates. We always meet around the 15th for a Bonus, and the last week of the month for a regular monthly pick. **January: *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison, Classic 216 pages. Tuesday, Jan. 31, 6:30-8:00 PM via Zoom**

- **February: *Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gifts of People who Think in Pictures, Patterns and Abstractions* by Temple Grandin, Nonfiction, 352 pages**
- **Mid-March Bonus: *Letters to Camondo* by Edmund de Waal, Nonfiction, 192 pages**
- **March: *Signs Preceding the End of the World* by Yuri Herrera, International (Mexico), 114 pages**
- **April: *Babel, Or the Necessity of Violence: An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution* by R.F. Kuang, International (China, Britain), 545 pages**
- **Mid-May Bonus: *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde, Classic, 254 pages**
- **May: *The Cartographers* by Peng Shepherd, Fiction, 392 pages**
- **June: *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean, Nonfiction, 317 pages.**

Members who RSVP Yes on the website will receive the meeting link and login information in their registration confirmation email. We all start together, and break into smaller group chats, as needed, after introductions. Feel free to grab food and drink for the meeting, as we normally would. I hope to see many of you there!

Happy reading,
Kate Smith,
DCPBK Book Club Coordinator

January Spanish Language Group

Join us for a Spanish Language Group meeting on **January 18 at 6:30 PM** at Alero on U Street (1301 U Street, NW). 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.

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

Click below to register. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation message with additional details. We look forward to seeing you on **January 18 at 6:30 PM**.

To Register: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/register/2022/12/14/november-spanish-language-group>

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

Young Professionals (YP) Network

Recent Events

Trivia Night Is a Winner!

Trivia Night with the YP Network is back! The group met last month for a happy hour at Crimson DC, to enjoy food and drinks and another round of trivia. The team worked together to answer a host of trivia questions from a mix of categories including history, science, movies, arts, sports, and pop culture—and ultimately finished in first place! DCPBK for the win!

We've also got some exciting plans for the spring; check the website and the next newsletter to learn more.

Please contact Reyna Yang, YP Network Coordinator (reyna.yang@gwu.edu) if you have any questions about future events.

Announcements

New Officers on the DCPBK Board

Lindsay Osborne, Acting President

We are delighted to report that our current VP of Member Experience, **Lindsay Osborne**, will be stepping up to fill the role of President until the June election. Lindsay has been a great addition to the board this past year, and we are very confident that she will be able to succeed in this role, especially with the support of the whole board! She will officially take over on January 21st.

Niku Neshati, Membership and Outreach Coordinator

Dan is transitioning his role to Niku Neshati, who graduated from George Mason University in 2018, and has participated in numerous DCPBK events and programming since then. We are excited to have Niku on board!

On a final note, I hope many of you will attend the Holiday Party scheduled for January 13! Lindsay has a great event planned!

High School Awards Program

The High School Awards Program seeks 1-2 Committee Members to assist with outreach and selection of awardees for the 2022-2023 academic year. The committee selects high school seniors in the DMV based on their academic achievements and community service. In recent years DCPBK has offered up to four awards to college-bound seniors of \$1,000 each, which are awarded in the spring.

Volunteers must be members of DC PBK in good standing.

Position Description:

- Conduct outreach to DMV-area high schools to inform school counselors about scholarship opportunity
- Evaluate applications and participate in selection process of 2023 awardees
- Assist in planning the annual Awards ceremony.

To Apply:

- Please email the High School Awards Committee at awards@dcpbk.org with a resume and a brief statement of your interest in joining the Committee.

Mentorship Network News

We look forward to sharing our 2023 Mentorship Programming soon. In the meantime, please consider becoming a mentor through the DCPBK Mentor Directory, which 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 Mentorship Network, please visit <https://dcpbk.org/programs/mentorship>.

Elena Helmers-Wegman,

DCPBK Mentorship Network Coordinator: elena.helmerts.wegman@gmail.com

DCPBK Winter Board Meeting

Our quarterly board meetings are open to any DCPBK member in good standing. The Winter board meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 21, from 10:00-12:00 AM via Zoom.**

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2022-2023 Officers

PRESIDENT: Rebecca DeSantis-Randall (Washington College, 2016)
VICE PRESIDENT OF CHAPTER RELATIONS: Catherine Stallsmith (Elon University, 2022)
VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBER EXPERIENCE: Lindsay Osborne (University of Hawaii, 2021)
SECRETARY: Daisy Yu (University of Maryland, College Park, 2022)
TREASURER: Reyna Yang (George Washington University, 2022)

At-Large Executive Committee Members

Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)—Past President
Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)—Newsletter Editor
Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)—Past President
Liz Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)—Past President
Kate H. Smith (Boston University, 2010)—Book Club Coordinator
Dan Rosenberg (George Washington University, 2014)—Membership and Outreach Coordinator

Advisory Council

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

Additional Volunteers

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COORDINATOR: Reyna Yang (George Washington U., 2022)
HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS COORDINATOR: Sameer Jaywant (New York University, 2014)
MENTORSHIP NETWORK COORDINATOR: Elena Helmers-Wegman (Wofford College, 2019)



Love of Learning is the Guide of Life