



# THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

[www.dcpbk.org](http://www.dcpbk.org)

NEWSLETTER  
August 2023

[suggestions@dcpbk.org](mailto:suggestions@dcpbk.org)

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

## Upcoming and Recent Events

### Table of Contents

#### Upcoming/ Recent Events:

Quarterly Board Meeting, p. 1

Spanish Language Group, p. 1

Book Club News & Reviews, pp. 1-2

Coffee and Conversation p. 2

Young Professionals p. 3

#### Announcements:

Mentorship News, p. 3

DCPBK Board Listing, p. 4

### August Quarterly Board Meeting

The summer quarterly board meeting will be held on Saturday, August 26, at 10:00–12:00 at the PBK headquarters. Thank you for participating in the election of officers for 2023-2024. Please return your ballot by Sunday, August 20; using the link: <https://forms.gle/SBqaTA5MHEscBFZn8>

### August Spanish Language Group

Join us for our Spanish Language Group meeting on **Friday, August 29 at 7:00 PM** at **Teaism Penn Quarter** (400 8th St NW, Washington, DC 20004).

The meeting is open to all skill levels, but note that it will be conducted in Spanish, so a basic conversational level is recommended to be able to participate in the discussion.

Click below to register. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation message with additional details. We look forward to seeing you on **August 29 at 7:00PM**.

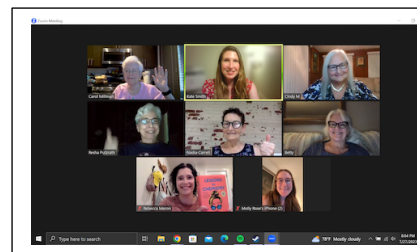
This group aims to be a reflection of its members, so we will remain flexible and attentive to your interests and capacity. If you have any questions about the group or have trouble registering, please contact our new group leader, **Molly Rose Malaney** ([mollyrose048@gmail.com](mailto:mollyrose048@gmail.com)).

To Register: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2023/8/29/august-spanish-language-group>

### Book Club News and Reviews

July Meeting Recap: (photo attached)

On July 27, eight members of the Book Club met to discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. This buzzy selection generated no shortage topics, and had us all sharing our stories as women in the workplace over the last few decades. Our perspectives on motherhood, with many navigating traditionally male job industries, were so welcome and helped us better reflect on the heroine of *Lessons*. It's easy to see why this book



was picked as Barnes and Noble's Book of the Year- sharp writing, excellent pacing, eminently relatable themes, and quick wit meant most of us rated the book highly.

For the next few months, the Book Club will be experimenting in a dual format every so often. We will always have a session on Zoom, and then on the same day at the same time, a separate in person discussion for a small group of 8 at Kramer's bookstore and cafe downtown. This location is very special to DC natives, and we'll be trying it out for in person meetings for the first time August 30. In person sessions are dependent on our volunteers' availability and will not happen every single meeting. Check each event listing for details.

August Book Club Meeting. Find out more at:<https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2023/8/30/dc-pbk-august-book-club-meeting-the-possibility-of-life-science-imagination-and-our-quest-for-kinship-in-the-cosmos-by-jaime-green>

Please see below for our remaining selections for the Fall 2023 series.

- **August: *The Possibility of Life: Science, Imagination, and our Quest for Kinship in the Cosmos*** by Jaime Green (Nonfiction) 288 pages
- **September: *The Secret Gate: A True Story of Courage and Sacrifice During the Collapse of Afghanistan*** by Mitchell Zuckoff (Nonfiction) 336 pages
- **Mid-October Bonus: *The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder*** by David Grann (Nonfiction) 352 pages
- **October: *Stolen*** by Ann-Helén Laestadius (International, Sweden), 400 pages
- **November: *Trust*** by Hernan Diaz (Fiction) 416 pages
- **December: *The Old Man and the Sea*** by Ernest Hemingway (Classic) 96 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!

Sincerely, Kate Smith  
Book Club Coordinator, DC PBK Association

### **Coffee & Conversation Series**

DCPBK held its second Coffee & Conversation of 2023 on Tuesday, August 1, 6:30-7:30 PM. Our speaker was **Amin Neshati**, a lifelong analyst on Iranian current events, society, and culture. We had seven attendees, all of whom asked very insightful questions. Topics covered ranged from pre-revolutionary Iran (the reign of the deposed late Shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi), pre-Islamic art, relations with Israel, Russia and Ukraine, and the Iranian Jewish community. We look forward to seeing you at the next C&C — stay tuned for details!

Sincerely,  
Niku Neshati  
Outreach & Membership Coordinator  
Contact: [membership@dcpbk.org](mailto:membership@dcpbk.org)

## **Young Professionals (YP) Network**

The YP Network is ending the summer and starting the fall with an exciting variety of fun programs. Find out all about them on our website, [dcpbk.org](http://dcpbk.org).

On Sunday, July 23, several Phi Betes came out to **The Board Room** on Sunday, July 23rd and had a wonderful time playing Diplomacy! We're hoping to do a similar event in the near future.

We have at least two appealing events coming up in the next month:

The following Saturday, August 26, we'll be **hiking in Rock Creek Park**, followed by a lunch excursion to **Paragon Thai in Cleveland Park**; feel free to join for both or just one.

Then, on September 9th, we'll be playing **mini-golf followed by drinks at The Perch** right next to the McLean Metro station. To sign up for any or all of these events: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event-list>

Contact Campbell Nilsen ([campbell.nilsen@gmail.com](mailto:campbell.nilsen@gmail.com)) if you want to know more, be added to the semi-official DCPBK Whatsapp group (not only for young professionals), or suggest a potential event.

Stay tuned for more opportunities with music, games, and fun!

## **Announcements**

### **Mentorship Network News**

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](http://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!

If you’re searching for a mentor, please visit the Mentor Directory and reach out to any mentor that looks like a match for your needs. If you need assistance in drafting outreach, don’t hesitate to drop me a note.

To learn more about the Mentorship Network, please visit <https://dcpbk.org/programs/mentorship>.

Elena Helmers-Wegman  
DCPBK Mentorship Network Coordinator

## **DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board**

### **2023-2024 Officers**

**PRESIDENT:** Lindsay Osborne (University of Hawaii, 2021)  
**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**

**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  
**Niku Neshati** (George Mason University, 2018)—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:** Campbell Nilsen (University of Oklahoma, 2017)  
**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*