



# THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

*Founded on December 6, 1913*

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

## NEWSLETTER

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

*October 2017*

### Connect with DC PBK Online!

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

As the seasons change, we welcome the crisp, colorful days of fall with a bevy of exciting events, ongoing Book Club meetings, and burgeoning plans for the winter.

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## Upcoming Events

**Salon at the McDonalds' Home, with Human  
Rights/Genocide Expert**

**Richard O'Brien**

**Saturday, November 4, 2017**

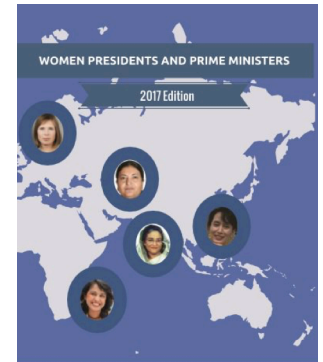
**3:00 to 5:15 p.m.**

Christel McDonald (Past President) will again host a traditional Salon at her charming apartment at:

3800 Fairfax Drive, Apt. 1001  
Arlington, VA 22203

Two short blocks from the Orange line

Metro at Virginia Square



### **Registration: Important!!**

The McDonalds' apartment can only accommodate 18 guests, so be sure to sign up for this highly relevant talk no later than November 1, 2017 by emailing Christel directly at [chrisjohnmcdon@aol.com](mailto:chrisjohnmcdon@aol.com), and I will give you a registration number (1 to 18).

We'll begin with snacks **and socializing at 3:00 p.m.**

**At 3:30 p.m., Richard O'Brien will begin his presentation.** He is a noted human rights activist and genocide prevention specialist with amazing stories from his work in this field. He will also introduce us to his recent book, about 107 women Prime Ministers and Presidents (1930s-2016), and discuss their challenges, supporters, or opponents. He'll then answer our questions, and we'll continue to enjoy the refreshments until 5:15 p.m.

**Cost: \$5 per person (please bring exact cash) and parking meters around our building need lots of quarters--unless you park in our commercial parking by entering the garage between Fairfax Drive and Oakland Street, closest to 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Then walk around to the Lobby entrance on 9<sup>th</sup> Street.**

**National Museum of African Art: Curator's Tour of  
"Visionary: Viewpoints on Africa's Arts"  
Saturday, November 18, 2017  
2:00-4:00 p.m.**

The **National Museum of African Art** is delighted to offer DC Phi Beta Kappa Association members a curator-led tour of **"Visionary: Viewpoints on Africa's Arts,"** a **major new exhibition** that opens at the museum on Nov. 4. The exhibition is the largest long-term presentation of the Museum's permanent collection in over a decade, and the first to offer broad thematic connections between works across the full spectrum of times, places, and media. "Visionary" aims to get visitors to see artworks—and each other—with new eyes.

Organized around seven viewpoints, the 300 works of art in "Visionary" serve to frame the experience of African art. The installation presents the Museum's collection from the perspective of collectors, scholars, artists, patrons, visitors, performers, and others. Interactive experiences within the gallery will connect visitors to the role such perspectives play in understanding an object.

The Museum's permanent collection contains a large number of exceptional works celebrated worldwide. Recently, it was the beneficiary of the famed Tishman-Disney collection through Michael and Jane Eisner. This acquisition has enhanced the many other excellent holdings.

We will meet at 1:45pm at the entrance of the museum at 950 Independence Ave., SW. The Museum is located behind the Castle by the Enid Haupt Garden and opposite the Sackler Gallery. The nearest metro stop is Smithsonian. A maximum of 40 members of DCPBK in good standing will be included. **Reserve your place on the DCPBK website.**

### **Annual Holiday Party**

This early December get-together is always an enjoyable time of socializing with fellow Phi Betes and friends. Look for more details next month, but mark your calendar *now* for Saturday, December 2, 2:00-5:00p.m. at Phi Beta Kappa headquarters.

### **A Unique Foray into Ancient History (a winter special!)**

For next year, we're exploring a presentation that should be highly intriguing: a speech by GWU Professor Joel Blecher on **Ancient Muslim Manuscripts Recently Unearthed**. This will probably be scheduled for February, 2018, and we'll know more later, but this looks like a "don't miss" event.

(Please note that these events are intended for DC PBK members in good standing, so be sure that your membership and dues are up to date.)

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## Recent Event

Did you know that Abraham Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, was either present or nearby for 3 presidential assassinations? On October 12, seven Phi Betes and two of their guests learned this and other spooky historical stories on the Ghosts of Georgetown walking tour. The cloudy, misty night was perfect for tales of the creepy, scandalous, and paranormal activities associated with the houses, streets, and stairwells of the neighborhood. (Photo taken in front of Exorcist house)



## Regular Events

### Book Club Meetings and Choices for the Fall

On Wednesday, September 27, the Book Club met at Nagomi Izakaya to discuss our first nonfiction choice for the Fall series: ***Rising from the Rails: Pullman Porters and the Making of the Black Middle Class*** by Larry Tye. We all enjoyed learning more about this (unfortunately) little-known but pivotal aspect of black history, in which the Pullman porters played a critical role that eventually helped bring about the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s; the ever-changing landscape of popular transportation; and the unresolved question of who has a right to air a grievance in our country.

On October 25, the group will meet again at Nagomi Isakawa, to discuss ***A Taste for Death*** by P.D. James, a detective novel fitting for the spooky season.

The remaining selections for the fall are as follows:

**November--*Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*** by J.D. Vance, Nonfiction/Memoir, 273 pp.

**December--*Love in the Time of Cholera*** by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Classic, 368 pp.

At all meetings, attendees are encouraged to bring any books they're looking to clean out, to see if we can find them new homes with our members.

Please contact Kate Hannon at [bookclub@dcpbk.org](mailto:bookclub@dcpbk.org) if interested in this informal event.

## Announcements

### Mentorship Network Updates

A huge thank you to all those who attended the Mentor Mix event in July! The mentorship cycle is going strong and we look forward to hosting more events in the future! We are looking for a mentorship newsletter editor. Please contact Erica Hwang at [mentorship@dcpbk.org](mailto:mentorship@dcpbk.org) if you are interested.

### Open Volunteer Positions

#### Manager of the High School Merit Awards Program

The DC PBK Association is currently seeking applicants for **Manager of the High School Merit Awards Program**. This Program, created in 1974, recognizes the academic and civic achievements of

outstanding college-bound high school seniors in the greater Washington, DC area. It is the centerpiece of the Association's commitment to community service. In recent years DCPBK has offered up to three awards each year of \$1,000 each, and we would like to give even more.

As Manager, the incumbent will lead the High School Awards Committee, whose work begins in September with preparation of annual objectives, strategy, and work plan. From January through, April committee members actively pursue contact with high school staff and system administrators of private, public, and public charter schools and announce a call for applicants. In April/May the Manager oversees the recipient selection process and also organizes the annual High School Merit Awards Ceremony. More information on the Program can be found at: <http://www.dcpbk.org/programs/high-school-awards> and more information about the position can be found at: <http://www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions>.

### **Events & Communications Coordinator, DC PBK Mentorship Network**

The Mentorship Network team is seeking an **Events & Communications Coordinator**. The Coordinator is responsible for designing a monthly newsletter for program participants and planning up to four networking events per year. This position is perfect for someone who wants to gain experience in external communications (and it's a lot of fun!). To learn more or apply, please send your resume and a statement of interest to Erica Hwang ([kyuryung@gmail.com](mailto:kyuryung@gmail.com)).

### **Fundraising Committee Members**

The DC PBK Association seeks 1-2 **Fundraising Committee Members** to help the Fundraising Coordinator's efforts to organize a potential fundraising campaign. We are looking to raise money to help grow our revenue to further the goals of the Association, including fostering friendship, scholarship, cultural interests, and intellectual exchange among Phi Betes in the DC area, and increasing our scholarships to students who have demonstrated excellence in high school—the major focus of our current funding. The incumbent(s) will: support the Fundraising Coordinator by helping implement the fundraising campaign; regularly communicate with the coordinator; attend quarterly Board meetings if the Coordinator is unable to do so.

Applicants should be members of DC PBK in good standing, possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and be detail-oriented. If you are interested in one of these positions, please visit our website at <http://www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions> or send an email to [volunteer@dcpbk.org](mailto:volunteer@dcpbk.org).

### **Board Meetings**

The quarterly meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The winter meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 6, 2018 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](https://twitter.com/DCPhiBetaKappa)!

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

### **2017-2018 Officers**

**PRESIDENT: Nina Kuo** (Duke University, 2012)  
**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Lubliner** (University of Oregon, 2006)  
**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM COORDINATOR:**  
**Sallie Dehler** (University of Florida, 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  
**Erica Hwang** (University of Hawaii, 2009)—Mentorship Program Manager

### **Advisory Council**

**Deirdre LaPin** (Agnes Scott College, 1967)—Past Vice-President  
**Christel G. McDonald** (George Washington University, 1986)—Past President  
**Andy Steigman** (Princeton University, 1954)—Past President