



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

April 2018

Connect with DC PBK Online!

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

Table of Contents

Upcoming Events, pp. 1-2

- High School Award Ceremony and Committee Update
- DCPBK Annual Meeting
- YP Jazz in the Garden, and Network Coffee Invitation
- Book Club schedule

Recent Events pp. 3

- Spring Fling w/ Apollo 11 talk
- March Book Club meeting

Announcements, pp. 4-6

- Open Volunteer Positions
- Board Meetings

DCPBK Board, p. 7

Upcoming Events

High School Awards Ceremony

The annual **High School Awards Ceremony** will be held at the PBK Society National Headquarters on Saturday, May 12 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. To begin the event, we'll have a social time with refreshments, followed by the presentation of the awards.



Our featured speaker will be former U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, **Miriam K. Hughes**, who will share with our award winners her candid and pragmatic leadership principles, and highlights of her career achievements. As in the past, **Kate Hannon** will select books for our winners based on their application and interests.

To show support for these outstanding students and their families, and to indicate the importance of these awards, we urge all DCPBK members and their guests to join us for this special event. If you are able to attend, please register: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/404>

High School Awards Committee Update

Since February, the High School Awards Committee has been busy preparing the materials and soliciting applications for this year's awards. The group began by reviewing and updating last year's application materials, and began outreach to local high schools, school districts, and college counselors.

To date, we have received 35 applications: 18 from Virginia, nine from Maryland, and seven from the District of Columbia. This is on track with the number the committee had received at this point in past application cycles. Last year, a total of about 100 applications was received; they tend to come in during a last-minute rush right before the application period closes, which is May 6 this year. If you know a high-school senior who should be considered for this award, please have them submit an application right away.

DCPBK Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will take place on Sunday, June 10, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at City Tap House DuPont, 1250 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036

The close of the academic year is also the opening of the new Association year, and we mark the change with our **Annual Meeting**. We'll begin with a delightful luncheon featuring American food and craft beers, then proceed to a very short business meeting where we install officers and Executive Committee members of the Association, and then welcome our special speaker. Ambassador **John Campbell**, Council on Foreign Relations, will address the current status of U.S. relations with Africa, which has recently become a "hot topic."

For additional details and to RSVP please go to: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/408>.

Young Professionals (YP) Network

Join the YP Network for a beautiful summer evening at the first **Jazz in the Garden** concert on Friday, May 18th, 2018. Jazz in the Garden, one of Washington DC's signature summer events, takes place in the Sculpture Garden on the grounds of the National Gallery of Art from 5:00-8:30 p.m., and, as its name suggests, features live jazz music. The concert on May 18th is entitled "JoGo," which is meant to be a fusion of Jazz and Go-go (a blend of funk, hip-hop, and R&B that originated in Washington, DC).

Please feel free to arrive any time after 5:00, and to bring your own food/drinks (outside alcohol is prohibited, however).

More information will be sent prior to the event regarding where the group will be sitting. We look forward to seeing you soon! To attend, please RSVP via the event page on the DCPBK website by clicking [here](#).

Coffee with YP Network Leadership

New to DC? Interested in learning more about the city, the events we host, or just looking to meet new people? Members of the **YP Network** leadership are available to meet with Young Professionals who are new to the Washington, DC area for coffee. Please email Dan Rosenberg, YP Network Coordinator, at dmborg8@gmail.com for more information or to schedule a coffee meeting.

Upcoming Book Club Meetings

April

On Wednesday, April 25, the group will again meet at Nagomi Izakaya, to discuss ***The Autobiography of Malcolm X*** by Malcom X as told by Alex Haley (Classic, 466 pages).

All DCPBK members are invited to attend, and to bring along any books you're looking to clean out, so that we can try to find new homes for them within the group.

The remainder of the spring schedule is below:

May: ***Never Let Me Go*** by Kazuo Ishiguro (Fiction, 288 pages)

June: ***The Satanic Verses*** by Salman Rushdie (Classic, 561 pages)

Please contact **Kate Hannon** at bookclub@dcpbk.org with your comments or questions.

Recent Events

Spring Fling, with a presentation of the Apollo 11 Traveling Exhibition

On Saturday, April 7, 25 members and their guests gathered at Eddie and Rachel Eitches' beautiful home in McLean, Virginia for the annual **DCPBK Spring Fling**. We had a lovely time chatting with friends old and new before settling in for a talk given by **Kathrin Halpern**, the Project Director for the **Apollo 11 Traveling Exhibition**.

Kathrin led us through the logistical gymnastics of transporting and setting up the exhibition, which features the 1,300-lb. command module, *Columbia*, that carried astronauts Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, and Michael Collins to the moon in July 1969. The tour kicked off in Houston in October 2017 and will visit Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Seattle before it returns home to the National Air & Space Museum at Dulles in late 2019.



Association President Nina Kuo (left),
Treasurer Pat Cascio (Center) with husband

Preparations for this cross-country road trip were considerable, starting with the restoration of the command module. Q-tips were a valuable tool for conservators as they meticulously cleaned years of dust and built-up debris from the module. Did you know that blue jean fibers are one of the main sources of buildup on museum artifacts?

Restoration efforts also uncovered a few surprises. The inside of the module, where the four astronauts lived and operated during their mission, was only the size of a large sedan. Conservators were also thrilled to discover the astronauts' "graffiti" on the inside of the module while conducting 3D scans in 2016.

Overall, it was a Spring Fling for the books. We were very grateful to Eddie and Rachel for sharing their home, and to Kathrin for sharing her remarkable work with us this year.

March Book Club Meeting

On Tuesday, March 27, ten members of the Book Club met to discuss ***American Nations: A Cultural History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America*** by Colin Woodard. Our lively discussion was a testament to the book's power to challenge our historical and political understanding of the United States, from the Revolution to the Civil War, and through the 21st Century. We highly recommend this text for a book club setting, or to read alongside friends and family, as everyone will have their own perspective based on the portrayal of their home state. We discussed the trajectories of cities like New York, Woodard's insights into presidential policymaking, and the fundamentally opposed worldviews of Yankeedom and the Deep South, a rivalry that shaped our government's foundational principles, and informs its evolving role right up to this day.



Announcements

Open Volunteer Positions

We are currently seeking applications for the following officer positions, which will be opening up this summer. Qualified candidates will be nominated by the selection committee, and the Association membership will vote in an election for the officers in mid-to-late May. Application materials should include a cover letter and a resume and are due by midnight Sunday, May 6. Please send materials to volunteer@dcpbk.org.

1st Vice President

The **1st Vice President** is responsible for the general engagement of and outreach to membership, and to step in for the President if a need arises. The 1st Vice President is a member of the Executive Committee, and is expected to attend the quarterly meetings of the board for the DC PBK Association, as well as participating as a committee member (e.g., High School Awards Program, Fundraising), as needed. He or she may also occasionally assist the 2nd Vice President, who is responsible for coordinating the Association's programming.

2nd Vice President

The **2nd Vice President** is an officer of the DCPBK board, and is responsible for coordinating the Association's monthly programming for general membership, in collaboration with event sponsors. The 2nd Vice President is NOT responsible for overseeing the programming related to the Young Professionals Network, the Book Club, or the Mentorship Program. He or she is expected to attend the quarterly meetings of the board for the DC PBK Association. Other duties and responsibilities include;

- Coordinating monthly programs for general membership. Examples include tours of museums, lectures, and parties. In particular, the 2nd Vice President is responsible for helping to plan the two largest annual events for general membership: the Annual Holiday Party in December, and the Spring Fling.
- Marketing and promoting the monthly programs, which includes collaborating with the newsletter coordinator to populate the monthly newsletter with content, with the social media coordinator to publicize events on social media channels, and setting up RSVP portals for events through the website.
- Developing budgets and managing costs for program when necessary, and helping to arrange transportation/directions when necessary.
- Other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the President.

High School Awards Chair

As **High School Awards Chair**, this person is the manager for a Program that is the centerpiece of the Association's commitment to community service. Created in 1974, the **High School Merit Awards Program** recognizes the academic and civic achievements of outstanding college-bound high school seniors in the greater Washington, DC area. In recent years DCPBK has offered up to three awards of \$1,000 each, and we would like to give even more.

As Chair, 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-early May, the Chair oversees the applicant selection process, and also organizes the High School Merit Awards Ceremony, which takes place in May at the National PBK Society headquarters.

Membership and Outreach Coordinator

The **Membership and Outreach Coordinator** is responsible for keeping in touch with current members and reaching out to potential new one. Responsibilities of the position include:

- Drafting email communications for distributing the monthly newsletter, and informing members of upcoming events using Vertical Response.
- Collaborating with board members and other volunteers to strategically develop communications about Association events and programs.
- Assisting the Association in maintaining a strong member base by: (1) sending out monthly notifications to those with expiring memberships; (2) monitoring event RSVPs and communicating with event attendees; and (3) coordinating with the Treasurer to communicate with new members who need to pay dues.

Mentorship Network Manager

The DCPBK Mentorship Network program focuses on connecting DCPBK Association members with one another, to not only share professional advice, but also to foster the intellectual curiosity that brings the Phi Beta Kappa community together at its core. Through structured one-on-one relationships between newer members and more experienced ones, the Mentorship Network aims to catalyze learning relationships, strengthening the personal and professional lives of individuals, and their connections to the Association.

The Manager's duties and responsibilities include:

- Reviewing applications and matching mentors with mentees
- Recruiting mentors and mentees for the program
- Organizing networking events for program participants and its alumni
- Creating and distributing newsletters for program participants
- Attending the quarterly DCPBK Board meetings and updating board members on the status of the program.

Mentorship Network Events & Communications Coordinator

The Mentorship Network team is also 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 for either of these positions, please send your resume and a statement of interest to Erica Hwang (kyuryung@gmail.com).

Fundraising Committee Members

In order to implement a new fundraising strategy, the DCPBK Association is looking for the following four roles to be filled (one person may fill more than one role, as appropriate):

- Individual who reaches out to donating members and posts/sends out perks as part of "perk-based member showcase campaign"
- One who can identify which LinkedIn features to employ for building "member exchange and networking platform"
- One who can identify which is the best highly-visible platform for presenting "large" donors, be it on the LinkedIn group, a separate email outlet, or the website's main page (or a combination)
- Web designer to implement web features needed for the above steps.

Applicants should be members of DCPBK in good standing, and should have experience in outreach to community members, community engagement, utilization of social media platforms for outreach, and web-designing skills. If you are interested in any of these positions, please visit our website at www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions or send an email to volunteer@dcpbk.org.

Executive Board Meetings

The quarterly meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The winter meeting was held on Sunday, July 15, 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 [@DCPhiBetaKapp](https://twitter.com/DCPhiBetaKapp).

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2017-2018 Officers

PRESIDENT: Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)
2ND 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