



# 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)

November 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

--Steigman Award p. 1

**Upcoming Events p. 2**

--Annual Holiday Party

**Recent Events, pp. 2-5**

--"Outbreak" at Natural History

--"Silhouette" Exhibit/Dance at

National Portrait Gallery

--Young Professionals (YP)

Network

--Book Club Selections

--Book Club Meetings/Events

**Announcements, pp. 5-6**

--Donor Spotlight: Deirdre LaPin

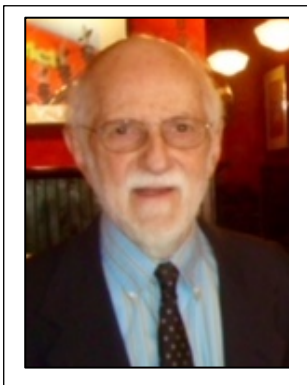
--Open Volunteer Positions

--Board Meetings

**DCPBK Board, p. 7**

## Dedication of High School Award to Andrew L. Steigman and Invitation to Contribute

The Board of the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association has chosen to honor our late colleague and Past President of our Association, Ambassador Andrew L. Steigman, by dedicating a special 2019 High School Award in his name. **The Ambassador Andrew L. Steigman Merit Award** will be presented at our next award ceremony in May 2019. Donors to the award of \$50 or more will be listed in our ceremony program.



We invite you to join us in honoring Ambassador Steigman's memory by making your contribution to this very special scholarship as part of our High School Awards Program. In this way,

we hope that his steadfast leadership and inspiring and dynamic encouragement to young scholars will always be remembered.

After his retirement from the Foreign Service, our colleague Andy served as a Professor and Assistant Dean of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. A community leader, avid traveler, and lecturer on land and on the high seas, he enriched us all, and especially our younger members, encouraging us to follow the PBK maxim: "The Love of Learning is the Guide of Life." We will be grateful to all members and friends who contribute to support this scholarship and remembrance. Our Past President Christel McDonald shared news of the Steigman Merit Award with Ambassador Steigman's family, colleagues, and friends at the Celebration of his Life on November 10, 2018.

For more information on the DCPBK High School Awards Program please visit: <https://dcpbk.org/programs/high-school-scholarships/>

**To make your contribution to the High School Awards to honor Amb. Steigman, please visit: <https://dcpbk.org/donate/#!/form/Donate>. Thank you!**

## Upcoming Events

With two exciting events in October, and all the holiday bustle coming up, we will not sponsor any events in November. Enjoy shopping, cooking, visiting, and spending time with family and friends. And be sure to mark your calendar for the **DCPBK Annual Holiday Party!**

### Annual Holiday Party

Be sure to join DCPBK on Sunday, December 9, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. for our **Annual Holiday Party**, a festive afternoon of socializing with fellow Phi Betes and guests. This always-popular get-together provides a grand opportunity to hang out with friends old and new, and guests are welcome. The event takes place in the headquarters of the PBK Society, displaying interesting historical things like models of PBK Keys throughout the decades and photos with histories of famous phi betes. You can expect a lively atmosphere, lots of good food, and some seasonal highlights.

We ask each of you to bring a dish to share, preferably “finger foods,” savory or sweet. Beverages will be provided. Also, please bring \$5.00 cash to cover expenses, or (see below), you can also sign up online and pay at that time. Happy Holidays!

**Location:** PBK Headquarters, 1606 New Hampshire Avenue, NW. Public transportation is strongly recommended, as the building is an easy walk (only 3 blocks) from the Dupont Circle North Metro Station, and parking in this area is quite difficult.

Sign up and pay on the website, <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2018/12/9/holiday-party>, on or before November 27.

## Recent Events

### “Outbreak” at Museum of Natural History

On Saturday, October 20, 2018, 25 DCPBK members and guests attended a special tour of the Natural History Museum’s latest exhibit “Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World.” Our excellent and informative guides were Dr. Sabrina Sholts, the Museum’s physical anthropologist, and Dr. Daniel Lucey, a practicing specialist and “chaser” of infectious diseases worldwide for over three decades. Both were principal curators of the exhibit, and they were briefly introduced by Dr. Deirdre LaPin, Advisor to the DCPBK Board. Dr. Sholts then provided unique insight into the development of the exhibit from inception to execution. With Dr. Lucey she answered individual questions as we toured the multi-media installations on the history of epidemiology; the origins and transmission of major outbreaks such as AIDS virus, influenza, MERS, and recently Ebola and Zika; and the tools scientists and communities can use to study and contain these diseases. A fascinating 20- minute Q & A ended the tour, during which Dr. Lucey shared firsthand accounts of being “on the ground” treating patients affected by pandemics. Breann Watt, Vice President for Programs, presented both curators with our Certificates of Appreciation. Pleased, they texted later, “We both really enjoyed it. What a great group!” This very popular event had a long waiting list, and we definitely recommend those unable to join to take



Curators with DCPBK  
certificates of appreciation

the time to visit the exhibit at their convenience. The installation will be on show for three years. Given the importance of the topic for both domestic and international audiences, we were happy to learn that an exhibition package and educational tools in several languages have also been designed online for students and general audiences worldwide. Like the diseases themselves, the exhibit has no national boundaries.

## **“Silhouette”: Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company at the National Portrait Gallery**

On Tuesday, October 30, 2018, about 16 DCPBK members gathered to watch a performance entitled "Silhouette" by the Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company (DTSBDC) at the National Portrait Gallery. We were grateful to have nearly an entire row of prime seating reserved solely for our group! Silhouette is a response to the current special exhibit "Black Out: Silhouettes Then and Now," which explores the relatively unstudied art form of cut paper profiles. Christin Arthur, professional dancer and fellow Phi Bete, graced the stage with a beautiful number as the woman carrying a parasol (keen viewers may notice similarities between her character and motifs found throughout the exhibition). Afterwards, Dana Tai Soon Burgess himself, in conversation with the museum's director Kim Sajet, discussed his artistic vision and his process in directing this poignant modern dance piece. He traced the symbolism used throughout the piece, including the main character's carrying of a suitcase to represent emotional baggage, and the message of hopefulness evoked by the release of silhouette birds. He also explained his collaboration with his costume designer and videographer to create a stunning visual aesthetic framed



almost entirely in high contrast black and white, with minimal but notable uses of color to punctuate the piece. When the entire event came to an end, DCPBK presented Certificates of Appreciation to both Dana and Christin, who were both just as enthusiastic about our organization attending as were about being invited. The National Portrait Gallery will continue to display "Black Out" until March 10, 2019, and we encourage members to go and see the exhibit. For those who missed the performance, but would like another chance to see DTSBDC perform, check out their upcoming piece "We Choose to Go to the Moon" on Dec 12, 15, or 18 at the National Portrait Gallery. For more information on those upcoming performances, go to <http://npg.si.edu/whatson/events?trumbaEmbed=date%3D20181215#/i=1>

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

### **Annual Holiday Party**

We'd love to see lots of YPs at the DCPBK Association **Annual Holiday Party** (detailed above). This gala event is always a very well-attended, and it gives you a great opportunity to meet Phi Betes of different professional backgrounds and ages.

### **Burning Man Exhibit at the Renwick Gallery, and Lunch**

On October 27, 2018, the YP Network explored the Renwick Gallery's featured exhibit entitled "**No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man.**" Burning Man is a week-long event that attracts 70,000 individuals, and takes place in northwestern Nevada. An entire town is built called Black Rock City, and the participants dedicate themselves to 10 principles that create a framework



for their interactions and experience. The museum generously arranged for two volunteers to provide our group with a brief overview of the history of the **Renwick Gallery**, the Burning Man Festival, and the exhibit. Afterward, the group went to Zen Taco for lunch, an Asian-Latin American fusion restaurant just west of the museum.

### **Vintage Game Night at the Woodrow Wilson House**



On November 7th, the YP Network spent an evening at the **Woodrow Wilson House for Vintage Game Night**. The Woodrow Wilson House, which is located in the Kalorama neighborhood of DC, was the residence of Woodrow Wilson and his wife after they retired from the White House. The house has been preserved nearly completely in its 1920s form, with its 1920s decor. Every month during the spring, summer, and fall, the staff at the Woodrow Wilson House hosts Vintage Game Night, which features light refreshments, board games, and other activities from the 1920s. The YP group spent the evening learning about and playing some of these old games, and enjoying the light refreshments the House provided.

### **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 [dumberg8@gmail.com](mailto:dumberg8@gmail.com) for more information or to schedule a coffee meeting.

### **Book Club**

#### **Books for November-December 2018:**

Here are the selections for the remainder of this calendar year:

**November:** Bonus Meeting: *Salt: A World History* by Mark Kurlansky

*Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah, 304 pages

**December:** *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau, 352 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.

To learn more about our events this month, please visit: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events>

Please contact **Kate Hannon** at [bookclub@dcpbk.org](mailto:bookclub@dcpbk.org) with your comments or questions.\

### **October Book Club Meeting**

On Monday, October 30, the Book Club met to discuss Ursula K Le Guin's beloved work of science fiction *The Dispossessed*. This novel kept appearing on our biannual recommendation lists, but only this year was voted into our series. DC PBK definitely adores the science fiction genre! *The Dispossessed*, though clearly a commentary at least in part on the political systems at odds during the Cold War, presents a rather timeless, fascinating depiction of the strengths and weaknesses of living in a non-authoritarian communistic society, as juxtaposed to an Earth-like capitalist society. Our group discussed the barriers and hierarchies, real and imagined, in each type of socio-cultural arrangement, the gender dynamics presented, and the importance of collective history.

## **November Book Club Meetings**

In November the Book Club will meet twice by popular demand. On November 13 we hosted a bonus meeting to discuss *Salt: A World History* by Mark Kurlansky, which several regulars routinely identify as sitting on their to-read list.

On November 27 we will have our regular meeting to discuss Trevor Noah's *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* at 6:30PM at Nagomi Izakaya. All DC PBK members are invited to attend and are welcome to bring one guest, with a max of 18 attendees due to restaurant capacity and ideal discussion group size.

## **Announcements**

### **Donor Spotlight**

#### **Deirdre LaPin, Agnes Scott College, 1967**

##### **Why I Donated:**

“ I have long supported the High School Awards Program, which DCPBK created in 1974 to encourage the diverse student population attending public and charter schools in our area. The Program provides scholarships for college-bound seniors who demonstrate excellence, creativity, and industry. After helping for quite a few years, I decided to establish a substantial legacy endowment fund in my Trust to help secure the Program’s future.

I encourage other members and friends of DCPBK to contribute to the Awards each year, and to consider creating their own legacy endowment for this important work of our Association.”



### **Open Volunteer Positions**

We are currently seeking applications for the following officer positions. Application materials should include a cover letter and a resume. Please send materials to: [volunteer@dcpbk.org](mailto:volunteer@dcpbk.org).

### **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](http://www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions) or send an email to [volunteer@dcpbk.org](mailto: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 will be held on Saturday, January 26, 2019 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**

### **2018-2019 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: Breann Watt**  
(University of California, Riverside, 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

### **Advisory Council**

**Deirdre LaPin** (Agnes Scott College, 1967)—Past Vice-President

**Christel G. McDonald** (George Washington University, 1986)—Past President