



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org
suggestions@dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

October 2019

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)!

Upcoming Events for Fall and the Holidays!

With the crisp fall weather, we're reminded that the holidays are right around the corner. Check out the events below, and be sure to check out some of our fall-themed programming!

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Upcoming Events

October 26: Looking for something fun to do during the spooky season? If so, come hang with DC PBK **this Saturday (10/26) at 10:30 AM** and see some bones—dinosaur bones that is! DC PBK and the Smithsonian Natural History Museum are hosting a guided tour of their new Fossil Hall. Come learn from the experts about the fossils of old and what impact we, as humans, will have on the future! Can you dig it? [REGISTER HERE](#)



Young Professionals (YP) Network

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 dberg8@gmail.com for more information or to schedule a coffee meeting.

Recent Events

Puzzle Hunt

The Young Professionals Network has organized and fielded a team to participate in Labyrinth Games and Puzzle's annual Capitol Hill Puzzle Hunt. The Puzzle Hunt is a two-week contest, beginning on October 5th and ending on October 19th, that requires its participants to solve puzzles in the Capitol Hill neighborhood and through apps in multiple rounds. The contest culminates in a final round at Labyrinth Games on Saturday, October 19th. The Phi Beta Kappa team is currently in the middle of competing, and is having a great time participating!



Trivia Night

On Tuesday, September 24th, a group of young professional members returned to the Hawk 'n' Dove for another round of trivia. In May, the Phi Beta Kappa team won first place and a \$25 gift certificate at Hawk 'n' Dove's trivia night. This time, the team had another strong performance, earning second place overall. A great time was had by all, and the Young Professionals Network looks forward to returning for more trivia on [October 22!](#)

Book Club Reviews and News

September Meeting

On Tuesday, September 24th ten members of the group met downtown at our usual spot, Nagomi Izakaya to discuss the science fiction novel ***The Three-Body Problem*** by **Chinese author Cixin Liu**. A winner of the Hugo Award, this book was a resounding success with our group, touching on everything from China's history and politics, to climate change, philosophy, and how subatomic particle experimentation is key to our scientific progress. It's a remarkable blend of incredibly dense science and an accessible human tale, about the very real human debates we all recognize on climate change and preferred socio-cultural norms. With the story's powerful commentary on the negative impact of humans on the environment in the name of progress, our reading coincided remarkably with a series of climate change-related protests which popped up internationally the week of our meeting, adding urgency and weight to Liu's text. Lucky too that we had an East Asian Studies specialist in our midst for the discussion, to highlight for the group some hallmarks of theme and tone often found in Chinese writing, and two computer science majors, to elucidate some of the more nebulous programming language references. The meeting was truly one for the books in terms of the breadth and depth of discussion, an epitome of what the book club was created for; a meeting of bright and curious minds across all of PBK's disciplines.

October Meetings

We will meet twice in October 2019 to discuss two classics of literature; on Wednesday, October 23rd we will meet at 6:30PM at Cafe Deluxe in the West End for ***Mrs. Dalloway*** by Virginia Woolf, 194 pages, and on October 29th for the seasonally-appropriate ***The Haunting of Hill House*** by Shirley Jackson, 208 pages. Both meetings are posted for member RSVP on the DC PBK website.

Note on Book Club Meeting-Attendee Cap

In order to ensure quality discussions, Book Club meetings are now limited to 18 attendees. Any more and meaningful group interaction becomes more difficult, even when split into smaller groups, and the restaurant that hosts us so graciously has asked us to cap it there. Please be sure to register early, and update your RSVP if you are later unable to attend, to make sure that everyone has a chance to participate.

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, please visit: <http://www.dcpbk.org/Events>, and contact **Kate Hannon** at bookclub@dcpbk.org with your comments or questions.

Announcements

Mentorship Network

We're excited to launch the next cycle of our popular mentorship program, which seeks to provide Association members the opportunity to connect one-on-one, share professional and academic advice, and expand their connections within the DC PBK community. The **DC Mentorship Network** will offer a six-month structured mentoring program with opportunities for peer mentoring and young professional-to-experienced professional relationships. Participants receive resources such as a handbook, mentorship agreement template, regular newsletters, and the opportunity to meet others in the program at a special **MentorMix** event.

The application for mentees has closed, but we are in search of mentors!

We have a number of eager mentees waiting to be matched, so please consider signing up to be a mentor.

We are looking for mentors of all backgrounds and industries. If you are interesting in being a mentor, please email Rebecca DeSantis at mentorship@dcpbk.org and please include your job title and a little about your background.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee and would like to learn more about the program, we'd love to hear from you.

If you have any questions, please contact Program Coordinator **Rebecca DeSantis** at mentorship@dcpbk.org.

Open Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers Urgently Needed for 2019 Holiday Party Planning Committee

If you are interested in serving on the 2019 Holiday Party Volunteer Committee, please email Breann at president@dcpbk.org. We will need help with tasks such as shopping for supplies, checking-in attendees, and set-up/clean-up. This annual potluck is hosted at PBK Headquarters and is always a festive time! December date for Holiday Party TBD.

Other volunteering opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- **Newsletter Co-Editor**
- **Membership and Outreach Lead Coordinator**
- **Fundraising Coordinator**

For more information, please email **Breann Watt** at president@dcpbk.org. We are looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of the organization, so please reach out and we can find the right fit for you!

Executive Board Meetings

The quarterly meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The Board met most recently on Saturday, October 19 from 10:30 a.m-1:30 p.m. Our January 2020 meeting date is TBD. If you wish to be involved with the board or attend future meetings, please email Breann at president@dcpbk.org

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.

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2019-2020 Officers

PRESIDENT: Breann Watt (University of California Riverside, 2011)
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: Rebecca DeSantis (Washington College, 2015)
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Vacant
SECRETARY: Dan Rosenberg, (George Washington University, 2014)
TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

At-Large Executive Committee Members

Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)—Immediate Past President
Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)—Past President
Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)—Newsletter Editor
Elizabeth Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)—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