



THE D.C. AREA PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

www.dcpbk.org

NEWSLETTER

suggestions@dcpbk.org

July 2021

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Upcoming Events

Coffee and Conversation with Edo Banach

Please join us for the next **Coffee & Conversation** with **Edo Banach, President & CEO of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization ("NHPCO")** at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, August 4! NHPCO is the nation's largest

membership organization for providers and professionals who care for people affected by serious and life-limiting illness. Edo will be speaking to us about NHPCO's critical work in expanding access to hospice and palliative care, the history and emergence of such care, the salient and pressing issues for providers of such care today and in the future, especially as our population ages, and



the role of a CEO within the context of a larger, membership-based non-profit. As the leading organization representing hospice and palliative care providers, NHPCO works to expand access to a proven person-centered model for healthcare—one that provides patients and their loved ones with comfort, peace, and dignity during life's most intimate and vulnerable experiences.

Edo Banach was previously the Senior Advisor and Deputy Director of the Medicare-Medicaid Coordination Office at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and Associate General Counsel at the Visiting Nurse Service of New York. He has also practiced health law at several firms, clerked for U.S. Judge John T. Nixon of the Federal District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, and worked for the New York City Department of Homeless Services and Mayor's Office of Operations. He holds a BA from Binghamton University and a JD from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

There will be ample time for questions from the audience, and guests are very welcome to attend.

Wednesday, August 4, 6:30-7:30 PM.

We look forward to seeing you soon! To RSVP: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2021/7/27/coffee-conversation-with-edo-banach>

Please note that, unless otherwise indicated, all meetings are held via Zoom; we hope to have some in-person meetings soon.

Coffee & Conversation with Christine Kelleher

Please join us for the second August session of **Coffee & Conversation** with **Christine Kelleher, CFO at the National Gallery of Art**, at **6:30 PM on Thursday, August 12!** Christine will be speaking to us about her role as chief of investments at the National Gallery of Art and the investment strategy that she oversees, how the goal of finance differs in the context of for-profit and non-profit organizations, the salient issues and trends in the field of finance for organizations like the National Gallery of Art, and how a liberal arts background can help with a career in finance.



As Chief of Investments at the National Gallery of Art, Christine is responsible for managing the Gallery's \$1.3 billion endowment. Earlier, she served as Senior Investment Officer for Georgetown University, where she helped found Georgetown's Investment Office in 2004, and served as Acting Chief Investment Officer in 2011. Since then, she has used her investment expertise at Avec Capital, a boutique investment advisory and placement firm.

Earlier in her career, Christine served on the executive team of the Central European University, founded by George Soros, in Budapest, Hungary. She is a member of the Board of Investment Trustees for the Montgomery County Employee Retirement Plans, and the Board of Trustees for the Consolidated Retiree Health Benefits Trust, the finance committee of the YWCA National Capital Area, the editorial board for The Academy for Institutional Investors, and the CAIA Allocator Council. She also works to mentor tomorrow's Black and Latino chief investment officers, and advise the Kayo Conference Series supporting women investors. She received a BA in Russian and international relations from Bucknell University, *cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, and MAs in Russian and East European studies and in Central European history from Georgetown University. She lives in Washington, DC with her husband and son.

There will be ample time for questions from the audience, and guests are very welcome to attend.

Thursday, August 12, 6:30-7:30 PM

We look forward to seeing you soon. To RSVP: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2021/8/12/coffee-and-conversation-with-christine-kelleher>

Young Professionals (YP) Network Virtual Happy Hour

Thursday, August 19, 5:00 PM

Come join the **DCPBK Young Professionals (YP)** for a fun night filled with drinks, conversation, and new friends. Best part about the event? It's absolutely free! So invite your friends and family, too.

Please email DCPBK YP Coordinator Hunter Hamrick (hunterhamrick@gmail.com) if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!

To Register: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2021/8/19/dc-pbk-happy-hour>

Recent Events

Coffee & Conversation with Dr. Jeffrey Richter

On **June 17**, an enthusiastic group joined together for **Coffee & Conversation** with **Dr. Jeffrey Richter**, who specializes in the history of Germany, the Holocaust, and genocide, and is a professorial lecturer in the Department of History at the George Washington University.

Dr. Richter spoke about several high-profile cases he teaches involving the prosecution of Nazis and human rights violators, and also discussed the evolution of international criminal law. The event concluded with a lively and engaged discussion among members who had several questions for Dr. Richter.

International Health and Development Salon

After a lively meeting in May, we eagerly anticipate our autumn gathering. Look for an announcement inviting all interested members from DCPBK to the next quarterly Salon in early September. Meanwhile, feel free to email Dr. Deirdre LaPin at dlapin21@yahoo.com for more information, questions, or suggested topics for our next agenda.

Book Club News and Reviews

June 2021 Meeting Recap:

On Monday, June 28, the Book Club met to discuss the latest nonfiction release from popular author Erik Larson, ***The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz***. Most enjoyed this unique view into Churchill's daily life during his first year as Prime Minister, documenting his eccentricities, vulnerability, and legendary grit and determination as seen through the diaries and recollections of his inner circle. Larson does not seek to replicate the many political and military strategy biographies already in circulation, but rather to look at Churchill and other key players as fathers, mothers, children, all trying to survive nightly impossibly brutal bombing raids by the German Luftwaffe over densely populated British cities. The group discussed some misgivings with Larson's depiction of the women in Churchill's life, censorship on both sides of the war, and the physical experience of living in an urban setting under siege. Of note too was our reflection on the uniquely singular voice that Churchill and Roosevelt were afforded, to speak via the radio to a universally rapt audience, compared to the diffuse media leaders have at their disposal today.



Upcoming Meetings & Selections:

All Book Club meetings can be found on the DCPBK Events page here: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event-list>. Members may sign in and RSVP to events on that site. For now, the Book Club continues to meet online, but is paying close attention alongside the Association to local guidelines and member feedback regarding resumption of in-person gatherings.

- **July 26, 6:30 PM: *The House of the Spirits*** by Isabel Allende, International (Chilean American novelist), 448 pages
- **Mid-Month Bonus, August 17, 6:30 PM: *Anxious People*** by Fredrik Backman, International (Sweden), 341 pages
- **August 26, 6:30 PM: *The Birds*** by Aristophanes, Classic, 104 pages

- **September, Date TBD: *The Code Breaker: Jennifer Doudna, Gene Editing, and the Future of the Human Race*** by Walter Isaacson, Nonfiction, 536 pages
- **October, Date TBD: *Mexican Gothic*** by Silvia Moreno-Garcia, International (Mexico), 301 pages
- **November, Date TBD: *The Half-Life of Facts: Why Everything We Know Has an Expiration Date*** by Samuel Arbesman, Nonfiction, 256 pages
- **Mid-November Bonus, Date TBD: *To the Lighthouse*** by Virginia Woolf, Classic, 209 pages
- **December, Date TBD: *The Poppy War*** by R.F. Kuang, Fiction, 531 pages

I hope to see many of you there!

Sincerely, Kate Smith

Book Club Coordinator, DCPBKAssociationbookclub@dcpbk.org

July Spanish Language Group Meeting

The DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association (DCPBK) will host its next **Spanish Language Group** meeting on **Monday, July 19 at 6:00 PM**, and it continues to be open to all skill levels. The meetings will be conducted in Spanish, so a basic conversational level is recommended in order to be able to participate in the discussion.

At this meeting we will discuss travel and food (local or otherwise). Come prepared to get hungry and itching to travel!

Click below to register. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation message with details on how to join the event. Note that registration is limited to 20, so claim your spot quickly! We look forward to speaking with you then.

This group aims to be a reflection of its members, so we will remain flexible and attentive to your interests and capacity.

Please contact Hadley Ashford (hadley.ashford@alumni.unc.edu) with any questions about the group.

Register here: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/register/2021/7/19/july-spanish-language-group-meeting>

Announcements

Mentorship Network News

The **DCPBK Mentorship Network** is seeking mentors! Currently, we have a need for mentors in political advocacy or non-profits, natural sciences (biology, chemistry, etc.), public policy, education, finance, and law. We are also looking for more mentors of all career stages and industries; young professionals who can support recent graduates, mid-career professionals who can help members become a supervisor for the first time, and retired members who can support members in seeing the big picture in their careers. Everyone has the ability to become a mentor! In addition, by signing up with the DCPBK Mentorship Network as a mentor, you will get access to resources and workshops that will help you develop your coaching skills and boost your mentor confidence!

Becoming a mentor for our Mentor Directory is a very 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, 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! To learn more about the new Mentorship Network, please visit <https://dcpbk.org/programs/mentorship>.

DCPBK Board Meeting

Our quarterly board meetings are open to any DCPBK member in good standing. The Summer meeting was held on **July 17 from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM**.

Open Volunteer Positions

Are you looking to get more involved with DCPBK? Our board is currently putting together numerous committees to help organize events, raise funds, and engage with our membership, as well as getting more members involved who may be interested in growing into leadership roles. We are currently seeking applications for the following officer positions: **1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President**. We are also seeking applications for the following Executive Committee volunteer position: **Mentorship Network Manager**.

1st Vice President

The **1st Vice President** is a member of the Executive Committee and is expected to participate in the quarterly board meetings and help guide the strategic direction and operations of the Association. The 1st Vice President may also occasionally assist the 2nd Vice President, who is responsible for coordinating the Association's programming. Other duties and responsibilities include:

- Leading or supporting at least one committee, or being a supporting member of 2+ committees (e.g., HS Awards, Fundraising, etc.).
- Supporting Association communications, including email communications and newsletter contributions.
- Attending quarterly meetings of the DC Area PBK Board.
- Stepping in for the President if a need arises.
- Other duties which may be assigned from time to time by the President.

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. 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 programs when necessary, and helping to arrange transportation/directions when necessary.
- Attending quarterly meetings of the DC Area PBK Board
- Other duties which may be assigned from time to time by the President.

Mentorship Network Manager

The **Mentorship Network Manager** oversees all programmatic aspects of the DCPBK Mentorship Network, which 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. Duties and responsibilities include:

- Recruiting mentors for the Mentorship Directory
- Organizing networking events, such as Mentorship Mixers and Mentorship Workshops
- Creating and distributing communications to encourage participation in the program
- Updating the DCPBK website and submitting social media copy
- Attending quarterly DC PBK board meetings and updating the board members on the status of the program.

Applicants for all positions should be members of DCPBK in good standing, and should have experience in outreach to community members and community engagement. Utilization of social media platforms for outreach and web-designing skills is a plus! Application materials should include a cover letter and a resume. Please send materials or any questions about these positions to president@dcpbk.org.

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association Board

2021-2022 Officers

PRESIDENT: Rebecca DeSantis (Washington College, 2016)

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: OPEN

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT: OPEN

SECRETARY: Hadley Ashford (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2018)

TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

At-Large Executive Committee Members

Breann Watt (University of California, Riverside, 2011)—Past President

Nina Kuo (Duke University, 2012)—Past President

Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)—Newsletter Editor

Liz Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)—Past President

Kate H. Smith (Boston University, 2010)—Book Club Coordinator

Dan Rosenberg (George Washington University, 2014)—Member Engagement Coordinator

Advisory Council

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

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

Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)—Past President

Additional Volunteers

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COORDINATOR: Hunter Hamrick (Florida State University, 2015)

HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS COORDINATOR: Mackenzie Fusco (George Washington University, 2017)

INTERIM MENTORSHIP NETWORK MANAGER:

(Megan Dixon, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2017)



Love of Learning is the Guide of Life