



# 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)

February 2023

**Connect with DCPBK Online!**

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

## Special Event

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### High School Awards Program:

#### Your Chance to be Part of It!

Through the **DCPBK High School Awards program**, each year our members select four outstanding high school seniors in the District, and nearby Virginia and Maryland, to recognize their scholastic achievements and community service. This Program, which has become the centerpiece of the Association's commitment to our community, is made possible by generous financial contributions from our members and supporters.

In the past, the program has benefited greatly from the commitment of members like Mary Corinne Rosebrook, who served on the High School Awards committee until 1989, and was still tutoring young D.C. pupils upon her 100th birthday in 1993. Another important supporter was Ruth Knee, who dedicated significant time and energy to ensuring the success of the program until her death in 2008. More recently, a longstanding member of DCPBK has included a substantial legacy endowment to the

High School Awards Program in her will, in order to secure its future income. Each awardee will be recognized at a spring reception at PBK Headquarters, where, in addition to their \$1,000 award, each awardee will receive a book specially chosen by the Awards Committee.

To continue this vital tradition and contribute to the High School Awards Program, you may make a current donation online or by check, payable to the DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association, with "High School Awards" in the memo field, to:

Reyna Yang

DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association

PO Box 2412

Reston, VA 20195

Questions may be directed to [treasurer@dcpbk.org](mailto:treasurer@dcpbk.org).

Legacy donations and endowments are also welcome. Please contact the Treasurer about crafting an expression of your future gift.

## **Spring is just around the corner**

Spring is always a busy and exciting time, for DCPBK, as well as everyone else. We're working on a number of special events for you, including the popular Spring Fling. Look for more details on the website, and in the March newsletter.

In addition, we have several opportunities to attend **PBK induction ceremonies** at various local colleges, introducing these outstanding students to DCPBK. To find out more, please email Catherine Stallsmith, VIP of Chapter Relations, at [Catherine.stallsmith@gmail.com](mailto:Catherine.stallsmith@gmail.com).

## **Recent and Upcoming Events**

### **Coffee & Conversation with Mary Kadera**

**Wednesday, March 1, 6:30 PM via Zoom (new date)**

We're eagerly looking forward to an evening with **Mary Kadera**, director of TED Courses at TED, who was unable to join us on February 2. Mary will speak about the team she led at TED that recently designed and launched TED Courses, four-week virtual social learning experiences that bring together TED speakers and classmates from around the world, and about her prior leadership roles across several educational organizations, including as Vice President of Education at PBS, Interim Executive Director for the Center for Inspired Teaching, the National Commission for Teaching and America's Future, and the Consortium for School Networking, among others.

After her talk, there will be Q&A opportunities, as usual.

Look for the next Coffee & Conversation the early spring. Guests are always welcome, and encouraged to attend.

If you have any questions about this event, or future programs in the series, please contact Lindsay Osborne at [lindsayosborne929@gmail.com](mailto:lindsayosborne929@gmail.com).

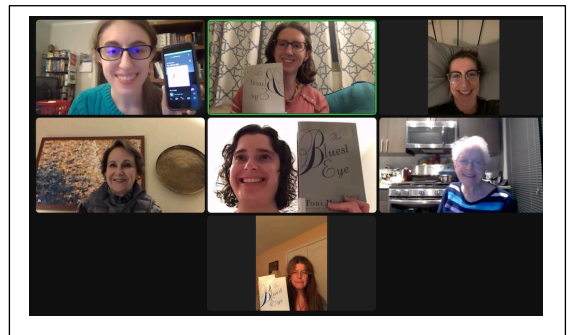
### **Holiday Party**

On the evening of **Friday, January 13, some 33 Phi Betes and friends gathered at the PBK Society Headquarters** on New Hampshire Avenue, for a festive holiday party. It was a special time of togetherness and fun, including the opportunity to reconnect with friends we don't see that often, and the unique feature of a wine-tasting station, hosted by a wine specialist. There was also a selection of beer, and plenty of tasty treats.

### **Book Club News and Reviews**

#### **January 2023 DC PBK Book Club Meeting Recap:**

On January 31st, despite some technical difficulties, seven members of the book club met to discuss Toni Morrison's ***The Bluest Eye***. We found this a thought-provoking novel with beautifully layered writing and complex characters that illuminated challenging themes. Our discussion ranged from the role of storytelling in the novel, especially the contrast between stories told about characters and those they tell about themselves, to beauty and beauty standards in America, to the reactions to the fact that this book is frequently found on "banned books" lists.



### **February Book Club Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 15, 6:30 PM via Zoom**

Please join us to discuss ***Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gifts of People who Think in Pictures, Patterns and Abstractions***, by Temple Grandin (Nonfiction, 352 pages).

All DCPBK members and guests are invited to attend.

Selections for the remainder of our Spring 2023 Series are listed below:

- **Mid-March Bonus:** *Letters to Camondo* by Edmund de Waal, Nonfiction, 192 pages
- **March:** *Signs Preceding the End of the World* by Yuri Herrera, International (Mexico), 114 pages
- **April:** *Babel, Or the Necessity of Violence: An Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution* by R.F. Kuang, International (China, Britain), 545 pages
- **Mid-May Bonus:** *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde, Classic, 254 pages
- **May:** *The Cartographers* by Peng Shepherd, Fiction, 392 pages
- **June:** *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean, Nonfiction, 317 pages

All DCPBK members and guests are invited to attend.

To RSVP: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/register/2023/2/22/february-2023-dc-pbk-book-club-meeting-visual-thinking-the-hidden-gifts-of-people-who-think-in-pictures-patterns-and-abstractions-by-temple-grandin>

**Members who RSVP Yes on the website will receive the meeting link and login information in their registration confirmation email.** We all start together, and break into smaller group chats, as needed, after introductions. Feel free to grab food and drink for the meeting, as we normally would. I hope to see many of you there!

Happy reading,  
Kate Smith  
Book Club Coordinator

### **February Spanish Language Group**

Join us for a Spanish Language Group meeting on **February 15th at 6:30 PM** at Boqueria in the Dupont Circle area (1837 M St NW). These meetings are open to all skill levels, but note that they will be conducted in Spanish, so a basic conversational level is recommended to be able to participate in the discussion.

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

Click below to register. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation message with additional details. We look forward to seeing you on **February 15 at 6:30 PM**.

To RSVP: <https://dcpbk.org/events/#!event/2023/2/15/february-spanish-language-group>

Please contact Hadley Ashford ([hadley.ashford@alumni.unc.edu](mailto:hadley.ashford@alumni.unc.edu)) if you have any questions about the group or have trouble registering.

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

### **Recent Event with the National Symphony Orchestra**

Starting the year off at the nation's cultural center, on January 20 the **YP Network** met at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to hear highly acclaimed Greek violinist Leonidas Kavakos play Shostakovich's First Violin Concerto, a challenging showpiece raging with raw fury and dark humor. Kavakos' invigorating performance accompanied by the National Symphony Orchestra and Italian conductor Gianandrea Noseda ended with a thundering standing ovation and rousing encore. Another incredible night inspired by art, music, and talent at DC PBK!



### **Upcoming Service Opportunity**

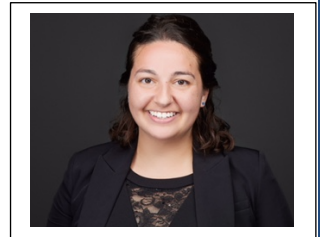
Join the YP Network for **Veterans Day of Service**, a community engagement opportunity with the George Washington University's Nashman Center on **March 25**. More details to come!

Please contact Reyna Yang, YP Network Coordinator ([reyna\\_yang@gwu.edu](mailto:reyna_yang@gwu.edu)), if you have any questions about future events.

## **Announcements**

### **Welcome Niku Neshati, New Membership and Outreach Coordinator**

We are delighted to have Niku joining our Board. She graduated from George Washington University in 2018 with a BA and MA in Global Affairs. Following in the footsteps of her grandmother and mother, Niku is the third generation of women in her family to be inducted into PBK, and has participated in numerous DCPBK events and programming since then. These include the Global Health and Development Salon, Spanish Language Group, Book Club, and the YP Network.



### **Mentorship Network News**

Be on the lookout for our quarterly **Mentorship Mixer** next month, where you'll get the chance to network with mentors and peers alike! In the meantime, please consider becoming a mentor through the DCPBK Mentor Directory, which is a 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](https://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!

If you're searching for a mentor, please visit the Mentor Directory and reach out to any mentor that looks like a match for your needs. If you need assistance in drafting outreach, don't hesitate to drop me a note.

To learn more about the Mentorship Network, please visit <https://dcpbk.org/programs/mentorship>.

Elena Helmers-Wegman  
DCPBK Mentorship Network Coordinator

### **DCPBK Winter Board Meeting**

Our quarterly board meetings are open to any DCPBK member in good standing. The Spring Board Meeting will be held in April; look for more details in the March and April newsletters.

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

### **2022-2023 Officers**

**PRESIDENT:** Lindsay Osborne (University of Hawaii, 2021)

**VICE PRESIDENT OF CHAPTER RELATIONS:** Catherine Stallsmith (Elon University, 2022)

**VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBER EXPERIENCE:** Lindsay Osborne (University of Hawaii, 2021)

**SECRETARY:** Daisy Yu (University of Maryland, College Park, 2022)

**TREASURER:** Reyna Yang (George Washington University, 2022)

### **At-Large Executive Committee Members**

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

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

**Liz Marshall** (Lawrence University, 2009)—Past President

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

**Niku Nashati** (George Washington University, 2018)— Membership and Outreach Coordinator

### **Advisory Council**

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

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

### **Additional Volunteers**

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COORDINATOR:** Reyna Yang (George Washington U., 2022)

**HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS COORDINATOR:** Sameer Jaywant (New York University, 2014)

**MENTORSHIP NETWORK COORDINATOR:** Elena Helmers-Wegman (Wofford College, 2019)



*Love of Learning is the Guide of Life*