



January 2025 Newsletter

Table of Contents

I. Events.....	2
II. Book Club.....	3
Announcing Our January - June 2025 Book List:.....	3
Help Wanted.....	3
III. Language Groups.....	4
French.....	4
IV. Young Professionals Network.....	5
V. Mentorship Network.....	5
VI. Social Media.....	6
VII. Membership & Outreach.....	7
VIII. Events & Programs Committee.....	7
X. Board & Committee Vacancies.....	7
X. DCPBK Board.....	9

I. [Events](#)

[DCPBK Holiday Party](#)



DCPBK's annual holiday party has been **postponed**. **We will announce the new date soon, so be on the lookout for updated details!** This year we will do a book (new or used) gift exchange. **Each member should bring a wrapped book of their choice**. All wrapped books will go on a table and members will select a wrapped book during the exchange. We will then provide time for conversation between the gift giver and the recipient to discuss why they chose to give a specific title.

Registration is open and you can do so [here](#)!

Kyle Coen
Vice President of Member Experience
vpmemberexperience@dcpbk.org

Ted Spear
Events & Programs Committee Chair
events@dcpbk.org

II. [Book Club](#)

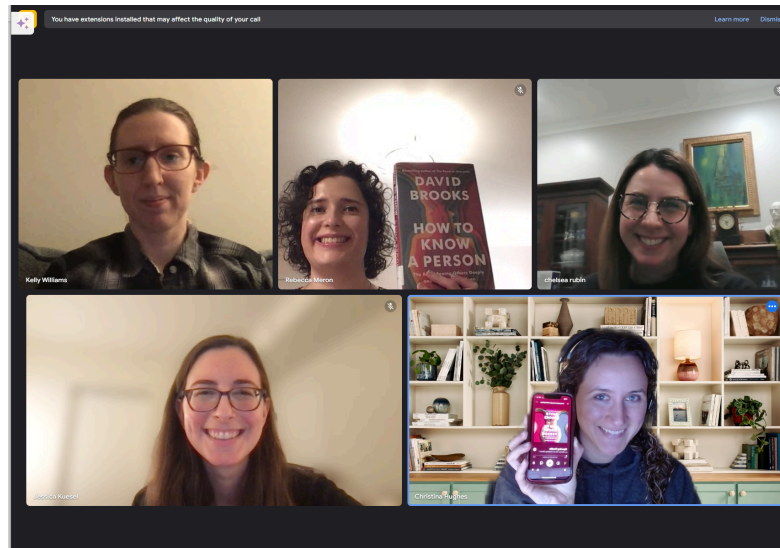
Our first meeting of this cycle will be **Wednesday, January 29th with in-person & virtual options**. We will meet at Teaism in Penn Quarter (with a virtual option, too!) at 6:30pm to discuss our January selection, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. [Register here](#).

Announcing Our January - June 2025 Book List:

- **Jan:** *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, L. Frank Baum, American, 259 pages (Classic)
- **Feb:** *North Woods*, Daniel Mason, American, 384 pages (Fiction)
- **March:** *Dopesick*, Beth Macy, American, 400 pages (Non-Fiction)
- **April:** *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store*, James McBride, American, 416 pages (Fiction) **Mid-May Bonus:** *Giovanni's Room*, James Baldwin, American, 159 pages (Classic)
- **May:** *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster*, Bill Gates, American, 272 pages (Non-Fiction)
- **June:** *The Book of Night Women*, Marlon James, Jamaican, 417 pages (International)

Help Wanted

We are still looking for a new Book Club Chair (see [Board & Committee Vacancies](#) below)! In the meantime, I could use members' help with **rotating “hosting” duties, particularly if your preference is to attend virtually**. “Hosting” is super easy--just read the book, log on (I'll have everything set up), start the introductions, and have a discussion question or two in your back pocket. If this sounds like something you could do, please let me know and tell me which month you might like to help with. You can reach me at kelly@dcpbk.org



Here's a photo from our "December" meeting (actually held in early January) discussing *How To Know A Person* by David Brooks. Attendees rated this book anywhere between 2.5 and 4.5 stars, with everybody finding some element of the book that resonated with them as meaningful, but many also finding other elements a bit frustrating—it was great for discussion!

III. Language Groups

French

Francophones, joignez-vous à parler en français et célébrer la culture francophone. Nos réunions mensuelles sont des conversations détendues (en français bien sûr) sur n'importe quel sujet. Tous sont bienvenues! De temps en temps, nous espérons assister aux événements culturels aussi.

Notre prochaine réunion aura lieu le **Mardi 21 Janvier de 18:30 heures à 20:00 heures sur Google Meet**. [S'inscrit ici](#).

We are also planning a visit to the National Gallery of Art to tour an [exhibit of Haitian Art](#). (This part is in English because so is the exhibition/tour—anyone interested is invited!) This will be Sunday, February 9th from 12:30-2:00pm. [Full details and registration can be found here](#).

Si vous avez des questions ou des idées pour notre groupe, n'hésitez pas à me contacter.

Kelly Williams
French Group Chair
french@dcpbk.org

IV. [Young Professionals Network](#)

The YP network has a number of great events coming up in the next month!

First, as a reminder, we'll be meeting up at the [National Portrait Gallery](#) on Saturday, January 18, 2025. We'll meet inside the museum's Courtyard Cafe at 11:45am. I anticipate spending between 1.5 - 2 hours in the gallery, but you're welcome to stay as briefly or as long as you like. Please [register here](#) if you plan to join.

Next, one of the best ways to get out and enjoy this wintery weather is to go ice skating! On Wednesday, January 29th, meet us at the National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden Ice Rink to skate the night away (for 90 minutes, at least). We'll meet at 6:45pm to check in and get skates for the 7:00pm session, which will last until 9:00. Admission is \$12 per person and skate rental is \$6. Please [register here by January 26](#) to let us know that you're coming, but everyone will buy their ticket individually when we arrive.

Finally, back by popular demand, trivia night! This time we'll hit up Shaw's Tavern at around 7:15pm on Monday, February 10th to compete in their weekly trivia game. Attendance at this event is limited, so [sign up now](#)! If you realize later that you can't make it, please let me know as soon as possible so that someone else can join.

As always, please don't hesitate to email me if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for future events!

Sarah Uhran
Young Professionals Network Chair
yp@dcbpk.org

V. [Mentorship Network](#)

The DC PBK Mentorship Network program focuses on connecting DC PBK Association members to share professional advice and foster the intellectual curiosity that brings our PBK community together at its core. Through connecting members of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences, the Mentorship Network aims to catalyze learning relationships among Association

members and strengthen the personal and professional lives of individuals and their connections to the Association. We invite all members of DC PBK to get involved by: signing up to become a mentor, browsing our online Mentor Directory and initiate contact with mentors at your own convenience, apply to participate in our annual Mentor Match Program, or attend one of our quarterly MentorMix events.

Calling all current [Mentor Directory](#) participants: We are working on refreshing the Mentor Directory. For questions or assistance, or to be added to the Mentor Directory, please contact mentorship@dcpbk.org.

Upcoming Events:

- Q1 2025 MentorMix Event: **TBA**
 - This event will be in-person. Stay tuned for more details!
- Mentor Match Program: **2025**

Update: the program start date has been delayed. In 2025 we will restart the pre-pandemic Mentor Match Program in which 10-15 applicants will be matched with 3-5 local mentors for a three-to-six month mentorship program (duration will be dependent upon needs). Mentorship topics are self-selected and can include a variety of topics including professional development, career growth, navigating the DC Metro area, volunteering/activism, etc. The six-month series applications will open in the fall of this year. Stay tuned for more information about how to apply as a mentor or mentee!

Christina Hughes
Mentorship Network Chair
mentorship@dcpbk.org

VI. Social Media

Be sure to like and subscribe to our social media to keep up with the latest announcements and association updates. See you online!

- [Facebook](#) - DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association
- [Instagram](#) - @dc.pbk
- [LinkedIn](#) - DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association
- [Twitter/X](#) - @DCPhiBetaKappa

VII. [Membership & Outreach](#)

How are we doing? Let us know with this anonymous [member feedback survey](#).

VIII. [Events & Programs Committee](#)

IX. [High School Awards Committee](#)

X. [Board & Committee Vacancies](#)

Are you looking to get more involved with DCPBK? Help us take our association to the next level! Take a peek at the following opportunities to serve our members while gaining valuable leadership skills that will take you far in the professional world. To apply for any of the following vacancies, **please email your resume and a brief paragraph of interest to volunteer@dcpbk.org**. Volunteers must be members of DCPBK in good standing.

1. [Book Club Chair](#)



DCPBK is seeking to recruit a Book Club Chair to organize and lead monthly book club meetings over Zoom. Click here to see the [Full Position Description](#).

2. [Membership & Outreach Chair](#)



DCPBK is seeking to recruit a Membership & Outreach Chair to oversee membership payments, renewals, and member-driven programming for the association. The Membership & Outreach Chair hosts DCPBK's popular hour-long Coffee & Conversation series each quarter over Zoom, and helps to incubate new programming ideas pursuant to member input. Click here to see the [Full Position Description](#).



3. [Fundraising & Development Chair](#)

DCPBK is seeking to recruit a Fundraising & Development Chair to help us maintain our operating budget, assist with fundraising for the High School Awards Program, and keep the website's fundraising pages up to date. Click here to see the [Full Position Description](#).

4. [Events & Programs Committee](#)



DCPBK is seeking to recruit **3-4 members** to sit on the Events & Programs Committee, co-chaired by our Vice President of Member Experience and Membership & Outreach Coordinator. Committee members will assist the VPME with planning annual events, and Membership with planning and incubating new programs for DCPBK. Click here to see the [Full Position Description](#).

X. DCPBK Board

2024-2025

Officers

President (acting): Briggs Burton (Hampden-Sydney College, 2016)

Vice President of External Relations: Briggs Burton (Hampden-Sydney College, 2016)

Vice President of Member Experience: Kyle Coen (Colorado State University, 2000)

Treasurer: Matthew Thomas (Williams College, 2017)

Secretary: Brynn Poppe (Gettysburg College, 2019)

At-Large Executive Committee Members

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

Past President: Elizabeth “Liz” Marshall Anderson (Lawrence University, 2009)

Past President: Niku Neshati (George Mason University, 2018)

Mentorship Network Chair: Christina Hughes (Rice University, 2013)

High School Awards Chair: Dan Bernstein (George Washington University, 2017)

Fundraising & Development Chair: VACANT

Book Club Chair: VACANT

Advisory Council

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

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

Past President: Lindsay Parco (University of Hawai’i, 2021)

Appointed Volunteers

Newsletter Editor & Social Media Chair: Rose Burberry-Martin (Clark University, 2014)

Spanish Group Chair: Molly Rose Malaney (University of Florida, 2020)

French Group Chair: Kelly Williams (Allegheny College, 2014)

Young Professionals Network Chair: Sarah Uhran (Georgetown University, 2024)

Membership & Outreach Chair / Webmaster: VACANT

Committees

High School Awards Committee: Dan Bernstein (George Washington University, 2017), Sameer Jaywant (Yale Law School, 2018)

Events & Programs Committee: Ted Spear (University of Maryland, 2024)