



March 2025 Newsletter

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I. [Events](#)

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

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

II. [Book Club](#)

Next Meeting

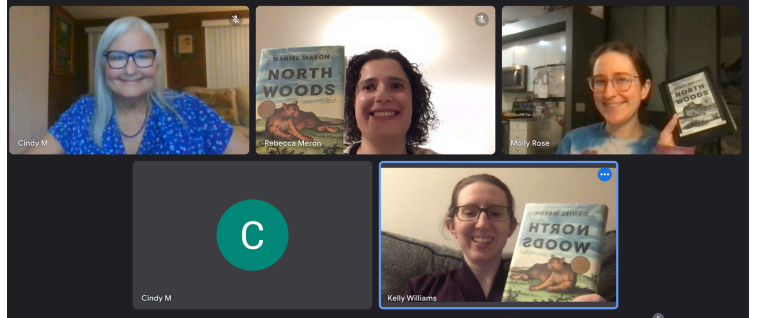
Our next meeting will be **Wednesday 3/26 at 6:30pm**. We will meet in-person (at Teaism in Penn Quarter) and/or virtually to discuss our March selection, *Dopesick*. [Register here.](#)

Upcoming Books in the Spring 2025 Series

- **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)

Seeking a New Book Club Chairperson!

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 February meeting discussing *North Woods*. The unique structure of this book gave us lots to talk about—some found it appealing, and some not so much, but everyone found chapters and characters that resonated with them.

III. Language Groups

Spanish

Únete a nosotros para la reunión del grupo de español **en el 20 de marzo a las 6:30pm ET a Bryant St Market - Alegria** (670 Rhode Island Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002). La reunión es para todos los niveles de hablar, pero hablamos en español por todo el tiempo, entonces le recomendamos un nivel básico de comprensión conversacional para participarse en el discusión. [More information and registration can be found here.](#)

French

Francophones, sachiez-vous que Mars, c'est **le mois de la Francophonie**? Il y a beaucoup d'événements pour le célébrer. [Voici le programme entier.](#) Dites-moi si vous voyez quelque chose qui vous intéresse. *Regardez le site web PBK pour les événements que nous avons choisis!*

Kelly Williams
French Group Chair
french@dcpbk.org



IV. [Young Professionals Network](#)

March Cherry Blossom Walk

Whether you're new to the DC area or have been around for a while, you most likely know about D.C.'s biggest spring tourist attraction, the cherry blossoms. Join the Young Professionals Network on Saturday, March 22 at 9:30am (WEATHER PERMITTING) to take a walk around the Tidal Basin (the portions not currently under construction) and enjoy the beginning of predicted peak bloom. We won't be able to complete the full tidal basin loop due to ongoing construction, but it will still be a good bit of walking, so please bring good walking shoes and water. **We'll meet at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial.** If you plan on joining us, please [register here](#).

April Afternoon Coffee

Additionally, looking ahead, join us on Sunday, April 13 at 2:00pm for afternoon coffee at Le Pain Quotidien in Capitol Hill. This is a great way to casually meet other young professionals in the DC area and hear about what others are up to both professionally and socially. Feel free to stay as briefly or as long as you'd like. If you plan to come, please [register here](#) so I know how many to expect.

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

Sarah Uhan
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:

- **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](#)

VIII. [Events & Programs Committee](#)

IX. [High School Awards Committee](#)

The 2025 High School Awards application is now available! Please share the application link [here](#) with local students and school officials who can help spread the word! The application is open until 11:59 PM on April 6, 2025. Look out for an invite to the Awards ceremony in May!

If you are interested in joining the committee, please reach out to awards@dcpbk.org. Committee members have the opportunity to contribute to the scholarship process through reviewing applicants and advocating for individual students.

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

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 Uhan (Georgetown University, 2024)

Membership & Outreach Chair / Webmaster: VACANT

Book Club Chair: 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)