



## **April 2025 Newsletter**

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## I. [Events](#)

## II. [Book Club](#)

### Next Meeting: April 28th

Our [next meeting will be Monday April 28th](#). We will meet in-person (at Teaism in Penn Quarter) and/or virtually to discuss our April selection, *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride.

### Upcoming Books in the Spring 2025 Series

- **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)

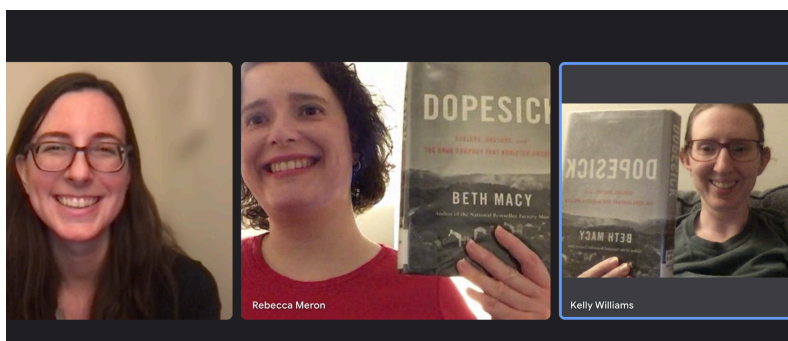
*Look out for information on recommending & voting on books for our next cycle starting in late April!*

### 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](mailto:kelly@dcpbk.org).

### March Recap

Below are photos from our March virtual and in-person meetings discussing *Dopesick* by Beth Macy. We found it an interesting chronicle that succeeded in bringing the opioid crisis to life, but noting that it was published in 2018 we were curious where things stood now. Turns out the same author has written one such update, *Raising Lazarus*, [reviewed by the NYT here](#). Perhaps you'll find us reading it in the future--**look out for information on recommending & voting on books for our next cycle starting in late April!**



### III. Language Groups

#### Spanish Group

Únete a nosotros para la reunión del grupo de español en el 17 de abril a las 6:30pm ET a Colada Shop - 14th St (1405 T St NW, Washington, DC 20009). 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 can be found here.](#)

#### French Group

Voici le groupe français et invités à des exhibitions culterelles:

*Regardant La Troupe Zetwal (danse Haïtien) et l'art Haïtien à la Galerie Nationale de l'Art*



*Au Musée National de l'Art Africain pour une visite guidée en Français*



**Save the Date:** French Language Group & YP will host a group to attend the annual [“Passport DC” Embassy Open Houses](#). Embassies from around the world open their doors on **Saturday May 3, 2025** and the EU embassies open on **Saturday May 10, 2025**. This event will be open to everyone interested, regardless of language(s) spoken. More information will be on the DC PBK website later in April.

*Pour parler en Français, joignez-nous à une réunion virtuelle en Avril ou Mai. Regardez le site web PBK pour les dates prochaines.*

Kelly Williams  
French Group Chair  
[french@dcpbk.org](mailto:french@dcpbk.org)

## IV. [Young Professionals Network](#)

### **Upcoming May Event: Passport DC**

Save the Date: French Language Group & YP will host a group to attend the annual [“Passport DC” Embassy Open Houses](#). Embassies from around the world open their doors on **Saturday May 3, 2025** and the EU embassies open on **Saturday May 10, 2025**. This event will be open to everyone interested, regardless of language(s) spoken. More information will be on the website later in April.

**As always, stay tuned for more meet-ups, and please don't hesitate to email me if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for future events!**

### **March & April Recap**

#### **March Cherry Blossom Walk**

Thanks to all who turned out for our walk around the Tidal Basin last month - although we were slightly early for peak bloom, we had great weather and a lovely stroll around the monuments.

#### **April Afternoon Coffee**

We had a great group of people come out to Le Pain Quotidien in Capitol Hill this past week for our coffee meet-up. It was great meeting so many young Phi Betes in the area and hearing about what they're all up to. We exchanged suggestions about weekend activities in the DMV and took a stroll around Eastern Market, and we made some professional connections as well! Thanks to all who attended!

Sarah Uhran  
Young Professionals Network Chair  
[yp@dcbpk.org](mailto: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](mailto:mentorship@dcpbk.org).

Christina Hughes  
Mentorship Network Chair  
[mentorship@dcpbk.org](mailto: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](#)

If you are interested in joining the committee, please reach out to [awards@dcpbk.org](mailto: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](mailto:volunteer@dcpbk.org)**. Volunteers must be members of DCPBK in good standing.

### [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](#).

### [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](#).

### [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](#).

### 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](#).



## XI. [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)