



June 2025 Newsletter

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I. [Events](#)

Elections

The ballot for the DCPBK 2025 - 2026 Executive Committee closed on June 1, 2025 at midnight. Thank you very much to all who voted! This year's executive committee elect includes:

Officers:

1. Vice President of External Relations: [William Briggs Burton](#)
2. Treasurer: [Matthew Thomas](#)
3. Secretary: [Brynn Poppe](#)

At-Large Members:

4. [Niku Neshati](#) - Immediate Past President
5. [Elizabeth "Liz" Marshall Anderson](#) – PBK Liaison, Past President
6. [Paul B. Lubliner](#) – Newsletter Publisher, Past President
7. [Christina Hughes](#) – Mentorship Network Chair
8. [Dan Bernstein](#) – High School Awards Chair

The following positions were vacant when the ballot opened, so a separate by-election will be held after they've all been filled:

9. President – VACANT
10. Vice President of Member Relations – VACANT
11. Fundraising & Development Chair – VACANT

You are cordially invited to meet your newly-elected executive committee at our Annual Business Meeting (details to come)!

II. [Book Club](#)

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 25th

Our next meeting will be [Wednesday, June 25th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm](#). We will meet in-person (at Teaism in Penn Quarter) and/or virtually to discuss our June selection, *The Book of Night Women* by Marlon James.

Voting is currently open for our July to December 2025 book selections. Reach out to kelly@dcpbk.org if you want to participate and haven't already received the info.

Logistical Updates

- Starting with our June meeting, I will **request that everyone register 24 hours** before meetings so that I can communicate with hosts about attendance. The registration on the website will close after that point.
- Our virtual meetings have been smaller lately. With this and the preferences of my volunteer hosts in mind, we will continue to offer a virtual meeting each month, but it will not always have an official host. I will reach out to everyone registered by email the day before the meeting to let you know how many folks are signed up and provide a reminder of the format we often use for discussion if there is no host.

May Book Club Meeting Recap



Book club members at Teatism Penn-Quarter discussing *How to Avoid A Climate Disaster* by Bill Gates. We appreciated his matter-of-fact and solution forward approach to this enormous issue and agreed that even if every scientific fact wasn't described in detail the book was clear and accurate enough to suit the author's purpose without getting bogged down.

III. Language Groups

Spanish Group

Únete a nosotros para la reunión del grupo de español en el 17 de junio a las 6:30pm ET a Chaia Tacos Chinatown (615 I St NW, Washington, DC 20001). 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

Le groupe français organisent deux types d'événements:

Nos réunions mensuelles en ligne sont des conversations détendues (en français bien sûr) sur n'importe quel sujet. Toutes sont bienvenues, mais un niveau de compréhension courant est conseillé pour participer. *Ces réunions sont le troisième*

jeudi de chaque mois sur Google Meet. La prochaine réunion aura lieu: jeudi, 17 juillet. [Inscrivez-vous ici pour tous les détails.](#)

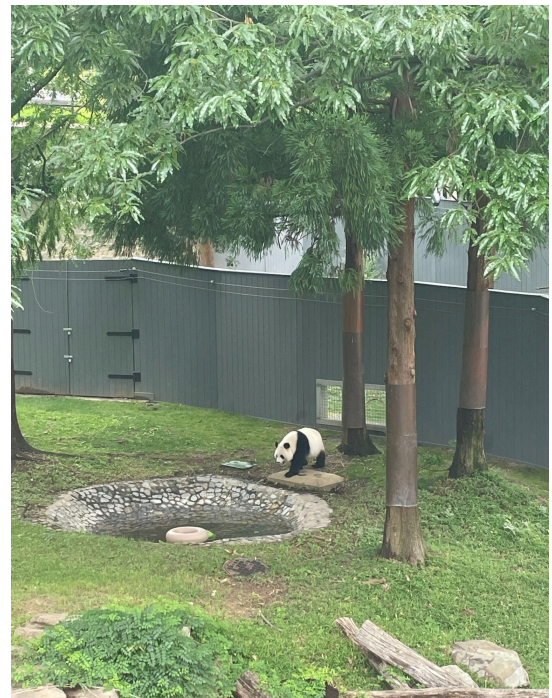
We also occasionally attend **cultural events** (musical performances, museum visits, and more) relating to France or the Francophone world, which do not necessarily require any proficiency in the language and are open to any DCPBK members who are interested. Each event will specify if it is in French, English, or both. **In June, join us at the Fête de la Musique sponsored by the French Embassy and Villa Albertine on Saturday June 21st at 5:00 pm. [Details & registration 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](#)

Thanks to everyone who joined the YP network at the National Zoo this weekend! It was particularly exciting to see the new pandas out and about.



Our next event will be another trivia night on **Monday, June 23**. Drop by Shaw's Tavern around 7:15pm to compete in their weekly trivia game. Space for this event is limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis by [registering here](#).

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@dcbpk.org.

Christina Hughes
Mentorship Network Chair
mentorship@dcbpk.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](#)

We had over 160 high school students apply for four scholarships in this year's application cycle. The Scholarship Committee reviewed all applications carefully, shortlisted applicants, and collectively selected finalists who demonstrate a commitment to PBK's values. This year's scholarship recipients are:

- Aneri Sanghani from Northwest High School will attend Brandeis University.
- Austin Moon from Winston Churchill High School will attend Johns Hopkins University.
- Ryan Nisay from Potomac Falls High School will attend Cornell University.
- Sophia Schell from School Without Walls High School will attend Wellesley College.

You can read bios for the winners on the PBK website [here](#). Congratulations to all recipients and thank you to all who applied!

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.



[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](#).

[Vice President of Member Experience](#)

DCPBK is seeking to recruit a Vice President of Member Experience to lead event planning and day-of event management for annual events and maintain strong relationships within PBK. [Click here for more information.](#)



XI. [DCPBK Board](#)

2025-2026

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: VACANT

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 and Book Club Chair: Kelly Williams (Allegheny College, 2014)

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

Membership & Outreach Chair / Webmaster: VACANT

Committees

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

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