



August 2025 Newsletter

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I. [Events](#)

Be on the lookout for a forthcoming email with information about our Annual Business Meeting!

II. [Book Club](#)

Next Meeting: August 28th

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, August 28th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm**. We will meet in-person (at Teaism in Penn Quarter) and virtually to discuss our August selection, *100 Years of Solitude*, by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. [More information and sign up here](#).

Also upcoming: The [National Book Festival on Saturday Sept 6th](#) at the convention center. Look back at the website soon for information on a way to connect with other PBKers who want to attend and maybe a time to get lunch together during the event.

Here are the selections for the remainder of our July-December 2025 cycle:

- **September:** *Medicine River: A Story of Survival and the Legacy of Indian Boarding Schools*, Mary Annette Pember, 304 pg. (Non-Fiction)
 - **October Mid-Month Bonus:** *Tender is the Flesh*, Agustina Bazterrica, Argentinian 228 pg. (International)
- **October:** *The Stepford Wives*, Ira Levin, American, 145 pg (Classic)
- **November:** *The Ministry of Time*, Kaliane Bradley, British, 339 pg (Fiction)
- **December:** *Kaikeyi* by Vaishnavi Patel, American, 496 pg (International)

Logistical Notes

- Please **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.

July Book Club Meeting Recap



Book club members at Teatism in July, discussing *Eve Bites Back* by Anna Beer.

We enjoyed a lively discussion of the author's writing style and her choices for an alternative canon in English literature written by women. Regardless of our overall opinions of the book, we all agreed that we learned something and found something new to read—a winner!

Kelly Williams
Book Club Chair
bookclub@dcpbk.org

III. Language Groups

Spanish Group

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, 21 août* [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.

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](#)

Movie night! Join fellow YP Network members at Sunset Cinema on the Wharf on Thursday, August 28th for a free screening of La La Land. The movie will start at 7:30pm, and chairs are available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 7:00. Check out the Wharf website for more details. Please RSVP on the DCPBK event page so we know how many to expect!

Be sure to check the website and our next newsletter for additional upcoming 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@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. [Events & Programs Committee](#)

VIII. [High School Awards Committee](#)

IX. [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.](#)



X. 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 Uhran (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)