



July 2026 Newsletter

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I. Announcements

Milo Chang
Vice President of External Relations
vper@dcpbk.org

Events & Announcements from Our Neighboring Chapters

II. [Events](#)

III. [Book Club](#)

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday July 28 at 6:30 pm**. We will meet in-person (at Teatism in Penn Quarter) and/or virtually to discuss *Paved Paradise* by Henry Grabar. [Register here!](#)

We've set our next sequence of books for July to Dec 2026. Check them out below and get ready to read with us :)

- **July:** *Taiwan Travelogue*, Yáng Shuāng-zǐ, Taiwanese, 320 pages (International)
 - **Mid-August Bonus:** *I Who Have Never Known Men*, Jacqueline Harpman, Belgian, 183 pages (Fiction)
- **August:** *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, Anonymous/Unknown, Ancient Mesopotamia, 128 pages (Classic)
- **September:** *The Secret Life of Groceries* Benjamin Lorr, American, 340 pages (Non-Fiction)
- **October:** *Dracula*, Bram Stoker, Irish, 418 pages (Classic)
- **November:** *An Immense World* Ed Yong, British, 449 pages (Non-Fiction)
- **December:** *The Windup Bird Chronicle*, Haruki Murakami, Japanese, 607 pages (Fiction)

Kelly Williams
Book Club Chair
bookclub@dcpbk.org

IV. [Language Groups](#)

Spanish Group

Check dcpbk.org and the Spanish group's WhatsApp thread for updates on our next meeting!

French Group

J'ai créé un "What's App" pour notre groupe. Dites-moi si vous voulez le rejoindre.

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

V. [Young Professionals Network](#)

Sarah Uhran
Young Professionals Network Chair
yp@dcpbk.org

VI. [High School Awards Committee](#)

Every year our members select deserving high school seniors in the District and nearby Virginia and Maryland to recognize their scholastic achievements and community service. This Program has become the centerpiece of the Association's commitment to our community, and in recent years DCPBK has offered up to four awards to college-bound seniors of \$1,000 each. Contributions to the High School Award Program from our members and supporters are gratefully received.

In addition to having an unweighted GPA of at least 3.5, the students receiving our award must show a commitment to the values and mission of Phi Beta Kappa, including academic achievement, community involvement, and a dedication to the liberal arts and sciences. Upon selection, D.C. PBK will ask each recipient for a letter of acceptance from their chosen college or university.

We received a record-breaking 197 applications for the scholarship this year! Our scholarship winners are:

- Vivien Birch from Benjamin Banneker Academic High School who will attend Temple University.
- Chelsea Zhu from Richard Montgomery High School who will attend Stanford University.

- Oorja Munot from Richard Montgomery High School who will attend Cornell University.
- Shaanvhi Jayaram from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology who will attend Stony Brook University.

Questions about the award can be sent to awards@dcpbk.org.

VII. [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.

Christina Hughes
Mentorship Network Chair
mentorship@dcpbk.org

VIII. 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!

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

IX. [Events & Programs 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.

[Webmaster](#)

DCPBK is seeking to recruit a Webmaster to administer the association's website and digital infrastructure. The Webmaster oversees the website, email, and assists with organization accounts under the purview of other volunteers as needed. Ideal for someone seeking to develop/demonstrate valued skills such as administration of Google Workspace, Cloudflare Business, Canva, and WordPress. 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 & Volunteers

2025-2026

Officers

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

Vice President of External Relations: Milo Chang (Williams College, 2024)

Vice President of Member Experience: Briggs Burton (Hampden-Sydney College, 2016)

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: Gracie Loeser (Loyola University Maryland, 2025)

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: Samuel Reed (Occidental College, 2023)

Webmaster: VACANT

Committees

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

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