

The Key Connection

News and Events

Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa



Phi Beta Kappa: “Love of learning is the guide of life”

Phi Beta Kappa was founded on December 5, 1776, at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, and has championed education in the liberal arts and sciences for nearly a quarter of a millennium. The Phi Beta Kappa Society currently has 290 university chapters and nearly 50 alumni associations, including the Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa. PSA-PBK was founded in 1953 by Phi Beta Kappa members at the University of Washington and in the Seattle community. For over 65 years, we have been committed to recognizing academic excellence via our undergraduate and graduate scholarships and high school book awards. We also recognize community leaders through our Pathfinder Awards and our Humanities Achievement Awards.

We routinely offer cultural, educational, and social events for our members and their guests. We had anticipated having member events this spring, including our annual spring luncheon. However, due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic and the need for social distancing, we have had to postpone our events until later this year.

Several museums in the Seattle area are offering virtual tours of their exhibits that you can view at home on your electronic devices. You can access the virtual tours from the websites of the following museums: the Museum of Flight, the National Nordic Museum, the Pacific Science Center, the Seattle Art Museum, and the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture.

I look forward to seeing you at future events. I would enjoy hearing from you and appreciate your suggestions for future events. You can email me at lwillenberg@comcast.net or call me at 425-641-1606.

Linda Willenberg
President
Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa

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Lupton Scholarship

Myra Lupton, a long-time member of PSA-PBK, passed away on March 31, 2019. She was active in the leadership of several professional and community organizations, including the League of Women Voters, Youth and Family Services of Mercer Island, and Friends of Luther Burbank Park. She was on the board of trustees of PSA-PBK for over 40 years, including serving as president of our association.

Following her graduation from the University of Washington with a double major in zoology and English, she spent 31 years as an English teacher at Sammamish High School in Bellevue. Her support for education was evident in the decision she and her family made to commit \$50,000 of her estate to the scholarship program of PSA-PBK. This money, along with \$7,000 contributed over this past year by our PSA-PBK members, will permit us to establish an endowed undergraduate scholarship in her name.

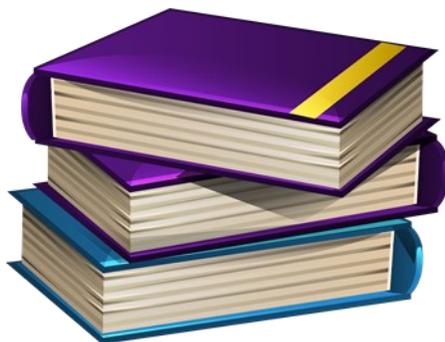
This Myra Lupton Undergraduate Scholarship will begin at the \$3,000 level. The scholarship amount is expected to increase with inflation over the years and will be used to support students who are the first generation in their family to attend college.

Emily Rathburn, a senior at the University of Puget Sound, is the first recipient of the Lupton Scholarship. Rathburn is a psychology major who plans a career in elementary education. In her application essay, she wrote "During my years at [UPS] I found a love for the challenge of the curriculum. Every day I arrive on campus, I feel greater motivation to accomplish this dream of receiving deep and enriching instruction." Congratulations to her for her accomplishments and commitment to education.

High School Book Awards

In early February we announced our 2020 High School Book Awards, and some schools have responded and selected a graduating senior to receive a book. This award recognizes academic excellence and introduces graduating seniors to Phi Beta Kappa's core values of knowledge, wisdom, intellectual honesty, broad interests, trust, integrity, and responsibility. An essential part of the initial planning for the Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa in 1952 was the awarding of book prizes to selected high school students to encourage a love of learning.

Your annual dues and contributions fund our high school book awards as well as our Pathfinder Awards, scholarships, and member events.



You are invited to join our new Facebook group

In 2019, we created a new Facebook group. The group enables PBK members to connect with one another more easily, especially those who have recently graduated or are new to the area. While the group's administrators will regularly post reminders about upcoming events hosted by the association, individual members are encouraged to actively participate in the group and create their own events as well. (Please note that this group is different from our Facebook *page*, [Facebook.com/PSAPhiBetaKappa](https://www.facebook.com/PSAPhiBetaKappa), and that following or being a member of one does not automatically sign you up for the other.)

If you are interested in joining the Facebook group, please go to tinyurl.com/psapbk-fb and request to join the group. In addition, any members who would like to contribute to maintaining the page and/or organizing future events may email Linda Willenberg at lwillenberg@comcast.net or call her at 425-641-1606.

Our new website has launched!

If you've visited our website, PSA-PBK.org, recently, you'll have noticed it looks considerably different from the way it did at the end of 2019. The old website, whose design and technology dated to 2003, served us well for many years, but had increasingly become difficult to update. In addition, it was nearly unreadable on phones and tablets, which overtook desktop computers a number of years ago as the preferred method of viewing websites. Now, with the help of the national Phi Beta Kappa Association and a number of our board members, PSA-PBK.org is running on the Wix platform, a user-friendly website builder that a number of other local associations use. The website itself has been streamlined as well, resulting in what we hope is a much better experience for all of you. It — like any website — is still a work in progress though, so please let us know at PSA-PBK.org/contact if you have any questions or suggestions. We are also always looking for people to help with our electronic communications, including the website and our social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Please let us know at PSA-PBK.org/contact if you have the skills and time to help. Thank you!

Your PSA-PBK board and committee members

Linda Willenberg, president; Benjamin Lukoff, vice president and electronic communications coordinator; Terry Jankowski, secretary and archivist; Howard Johnson, treasurer; Aleen Caplan Yamasaki, assistant treasurer.

Other board members include Karrin Klotz, Harrison Owens, Margaret Palmquest, Louise Richards, Amy Ryken, Doris Stiefel, Moira Tamayo, and Dennis Yamashita.

Non-board committee members include Leslie Holmes, Joan Peterson, Marcie Stone, and Barbee Tucker-Pigott.

Pathfinder Awards

Each spring we honor individuals, organizations, or institutions with our Pathfinder Award. The award reflects the imagery on the Phi Beta Kappa key — a hand pointing to the stars. It honors those who encourage others to seek new worlds to discover, pathways to explore, and untouched destinations to reach. This year we will be honoring three organizations with our Pathfinder Awards.

Hopelink, for its education services. This includes two programs: English for Work (which helps immigrants and refugees improve their English skills and prepare for employment in the U.S.) and GED/High School+ classes (which help prepare students to earn their GED or high school diploma).

Path with Art. This organization works with people recovering from homelessness, addiction, and other traumas by “harnessing the power of creative engagement as a bridge to community and a path to stability.” This includes such things as art classes, playing music at a jam session, visiting the Seattle Symphony, and other similar creative events.

AAUW, for its Tech Trek Program. In this program girls in middle school (the age when girls’ participation in these fields statistically drops) spend a week in a summer camp experiencing hands-on problem solving and encounters with women role models in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The goal is to “help girls see their future while having nonstop fun.” The program is “backed by AAUW’s research and designed to make STEM fields exciting and accessible to girls in middle school.”



From the Path with Art online gallery

Thank you to our donors

The Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa gratefully acknowledges the following individuals for their generosity. Their contributions support our undergraduate and graduate scholarships, our High School Book Awards, our Humanities Achievement Awards, our Pathfinder Awards, and speakers and events throughout the year.

The following donations were made from April 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020.

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Donations in memory of Ernie Stiefel

Jane Stiefel
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**A special thank-you to everyone who donated
to our new Lupton Scholarship Fund.**

Increasing your involvement in PSA-PBK

Are you interested in getting more involved with the Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa? We are looking for PSA-PBK members who would like to serve on our board of trustees and on our committees. We could use assistance with the following:

- Electronic communications — including website and social media management
- Membership — helping to recruit new members and board members
- Activities — planning events, recommending events and venues

If you are interested in being considered for a position on our board of trustees or would like to serve on one of our committees, please email Linda Willenberg at lwillenberg@comcast.net or call her at 425-641-1606.

Thank you to Dorsey and Whitney, LLP

The board of trustees of the Puget Sound Association of Phi Beta Kappa would like to thank Dorsey and Whitney, LLP, for graciously hosting our monthly board meetings. We appreciate your generosity and hospitality.



COUPON

DUES (Please contact us by email at pugetsoundpbk@gmail.com if you are unsure whether your dues have expired.)

_____ \$40 Regular

_____ \$75 Sustaining

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\$ _____ **Lupton Scholarship**

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Please keep in touch

Please let us know if you have recently moved or changed your email address or telephone number. You can send your updated information to membership@psa-pbk.org or call Linda Willenberg at (425) 641-1606. Please also notify Doris Lawrence at the national Phi Beta Kappa Society office at dlawrence@pbk.org or call (202) 265-3808.



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