

The Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Great Austin

The PBKAAGA Newsletter Winter 2013-14

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Professor Jeremy Suri Challenges the 2013 PBKAAGA Scholarship Recipients to be American Leaders for the Future

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUNDS KEPT IN AUSTIN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ACCOUNT TO GENERATE INCOME FOR FUTURE SCHOLARSHIPS

The mission of the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Austin is the promotion of academic excellence. The Alumni Association seeks to recognize outstanding academic achievement by awarding scholarships to deserving students from the Austin area. Since it was organized in 1998, the Association has awarded 58 scholarships. Most of these scholarships are currently funded by membership dues and donations.

Soon after it was founded, the Alumni Association established a fund at the Austin Community Foundation and designated this fund for scholarships. The goal is for this account to grow until annual income generated by it is sufficient to fund additional annual scholarships, keeping the corpus of the account intact. All Life Membership dues are placed into this Austin Community Foundation account earmarked for scholarships. Anyone interested in becoming a Life Member can send a check for \$1,000 to Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Austin, P.O. Box 5366, Austin, TX 78763-5366.

Spring 2013 General Meeting

The Spring General Meeting was held on May 5, 2013 at the Texas Union at the University of Texas. Our host was UT's Program in Comparative Literature. Dr. Jeremi Suri, Professor of History and Mack Brown Distinguished Chair for Leadership in Global Affairs, spoke to us on the topic "The Past and Future of American Leadership." His remarks were followed by the awarding of scholarships, a short business meeting, and a reception.

Fall 2013 General Meeting

The Fall General Meeting took place in Harris Bell Hall at the Westminster Manor on November 10, 2013. Our speaker was John Burnett from NPR. His presentation was followed by a short business meeting and a reception. *Read more about this event on page 3.*

Spring 2014 General Meeting

The Spring General Meeting will take place in Harris Bell Hall at the Westminster Manor on May 4, 2014 at 3 PM. Dr. Larry Faulkner, President Emeritus of the University of Texas, will hold a dialog on higher education with Dr. Thomas E. Cedel, President of Concordia University. Scholarships will be awarded.

2013 Spring Scholarship Awards

Phi Beta Kappa 2013 Scholarship Recipients

This past spring, the Scholarship Selection Committee of the PBK Alumni Association of Greater Austin had the daunting task of selecting our honorees. From among dozens of remarkable people, we ultimately chose four individuals who embody all of the qualities that the Phi Beta Kappa Society stands for as represented in our motto "Love of learning is the guide of life."

William Haynes, III received the Philip Patman Memorial Scholarship, Baccalaureate, while attending St. Edwards University. To read more about what this scholarship has enabled William to do, please turn to page 4.

Priya Veeraraghvan was awarded the PBKAAGA Scholarship for Academic Excellence. She attended the Liberal Arts and Sciences Academy. Priya was ranked first in her class with an impressive grade point average and a course load peppered with Physics, Calculus, and English. Her work was so impressive that one of her teachers said to her students "you Priya'd that project" when they did an exceptional job. Her leadership was shown in being elected Team Captain of her Varsity Rowing Team, and she excelled at US Rowing Youth Nationals, placing 11th in the nation in 2012. She is now in her first year at MIT and is looking into a possible major in bio-engineering.



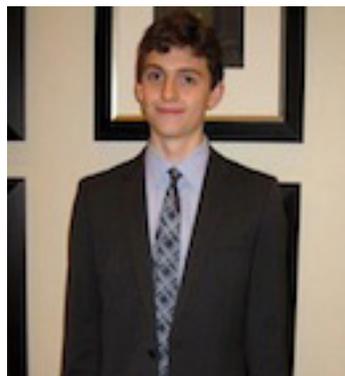
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Trevor Villwock received the Phi Beta Kappa Doctors Scholarship. He graduated from A. N. McCallum High School. Since moving to Austin from small town in Northern California in 2009, Trevor V has accomplished much academically as well as musically. Besides being a member of the National Honor Society since his Junior year, he has also received the McCallum Trustees' award for academic achievement three years in a row. In addition, he was named a "Commended Student" in the 2012-2013 National Merit Scholarship Program. Trevor's interests, however, extend far beyond the confines of school. As a trumpeter, pianist, and composer, he has participated in numerous competitions and other music-related events in Austin and elsewhere. In his four years as part of the Jazz Ensemble, Marching Band, and Wind Ensemble at the McCallum High School Fine Arts Academy,

he has performed in numerous venues, ranging from the Alamodome in San Antonio to Carnegie Hall in New York City. In 2012, his piece "When I Woke Up in the Forest" was premiered by the Austin Symphony Orchestra as part of their 2nd Annual Young Composer's Concert. Later that same year, his piece "Movements in the Macrocosm," for piano and orchestra, was premiered by the McCallum High School Full Orchestra as part of the 2012 "Frozen Music" Project. Outside of music, Trevor also enjoys backpacking, camping, and recreational scientific inquiry. Trevor plans to attend music school next year as a composition major.



Roger Cain was honored with the Phi Beta Kappa Lawyers Scholarship. After graduating from the Liberal Arts and Sciences Academy, he traveled to the Dominican Republic this summer on a mission trip with his church youth group. He volunteered at the Makarios School there. He spent the rest of his summer in the Florida Keys on a conservation trip with the Boy Scouts. His project there was removing invasive species on islands, followed by an expedition aboard a 40-foot sailboat. Roger volunteered with Music Across Generations playing music with other youth musicians at assisted living homes around Austin. Roger currently attends Stanford University where he is taking humanities classes in history, classics, and literature. He hopes to play on the Stanford soccer team and the Stanford Quiz Bowl team. His ultimate plans involve attending graduate school.



The Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association feels truly honored to play a part in the budding careers of these worthy students. Our best wishes go out to them and to their families as they move forward in pursuit of their goals.

John Burnett Delights Audience at November Meeting

by Martha Jones

What do rockabilly guitar-strumming gospel-singing Pentecostal snake handlers in Appalachian Kentucky have in common with a Cincinnati Indian Community Choir dedicated to the interconnectedness of traditional South Indian classical music and the Western choral tradition, other-worldly Catholic nuns creating pure sounds in their Ann Arbor convent, and a 34-year-old Muslim reconciling his career as an actor often playing Islamic extremists with his exquisite calling of others to prayer from inside an L.A. mosque? They have the creative attention of John Burnett, award-winning NPR newsman based in Austin, and the guest speaker at the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Austin General Membership Meeting on Sunday afternoon, November 10, 2013.

What could be more diverse or more celebratory than the call and response of the “lined out” gospel of Old Regular Baptists in southeastern Kentucky, considered the oldest English-language religious music passed down orally, brought to America by British colonists, and the strident shout back and forth of nineteen trombones of the African American United House of Prayer in North Carolina as they give back to God music that comes from God?

Currently on a special one-year assignment as Religion Correspondent, Burnett revealed and celebrated the ways music enhances religious diversity across America, individually and collectively, inside and outside places of worship, with insights and sound bites from his series *Ecstatic Voices: Sacred Music in America*, which airs regularly on NPR’s Morning Edition.

This talk continues the honored tradition of presenting distinguished guest speakers at the twice-yearly Alumni Association meetings in May and November, open to members and their guests. If there is someone you would like to hear speak, please contact a member of the Board.



Farewells to PBKAAGA Members We Have Lost

David Braybrooke died at the age of 88 on August 7, 2013. Following service in the US Army during World War II, he received a BA from Harvard, an MA and PhD from Cornell and an honorary LLD from Dalhousie, Nova Scotia. He taught philosophy and political science at Dalhousie for 27 years. Following his retirement, he taught in UT’s Department of Government until his second retirement in 2005. He authored over 80 articles and several books. He is remembered for his love of family, intellectual discussions, good wine, and fine beers.

William Samuel (Bill) Livingston died on August 15, 2013, at the age of 93. Bill served on the PBK AAGA Board of Directors (2001-2006). He earned a BA and MA from Ohio State and PhD from Yale. He was awarded the Bronze Star in Belgium as a field artillery officer during the Battle of the Bulge. Bill was as a professor of Government for 58 years at UT. During that time, he wrote or edited 6 books and many articles. He received many teaching awards and served as Vice President and Dean of Graduate Studies, Acting President and Senior Vice President. His strong intellect and gentle spirit will be missed.

Anna Buchanan Miller died at the age of 89 on August 13, 2012. She spent her childhood in Dallas, Weatherford, and New Orleans. Graduating from Plan II at the University of Texas, she joined Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board, and Orange Jackets. She was the first female acting president of the UT student body. Supportive of her husband Robert Lambie Miller’s Miller Blueprint endeavors, she was involved in the Texas State Historical Assoc., Austin Shakespeare Club, The Open Forum, Austin Woman’s Club, and “Sewing Club.” She was an active member of Central Presbyterian Church and of the Westminster Manor Choir. She will be remembered for her terrific sense of humor and her unique outlook on life.

Dean Towner died on November 5, 2013; he was preceded by his wife “Bert.” Beloved by students, he taught Latin at St. Stephen’s for more than 30 years. He was also the college counselor, the alumni director, and Senior Master. Some years later, Velberta Millerick came to teach music and play the organ in chapel. The campus romance blossomed. The Towners married in 1963, living on campus until retiring in 1985.

Interested in Helping Start a PBK Alumni Association of Greater Austin Book Club?

Pam Autrey, PBK AAGA

Since many PBK alumni members read a lot, we are wondering if there might be enough interest to form a PBK Alumni Association of Greater Austin book club? This book club could take any format the group of interested participants might like. The initial group would hold an organizational forum to determine the details. Please email pbkaaga@gmail.com if this idea appeals to you (and any friend to invite). If you would be willing to help organize this new venture, please indicate your willingness by sending an email to our address. We look forward to hearing from you!!!

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2013 Patman Scholarship Recipient: William Miller Haynes, III

During my time at the American University of Sharjah, I focused on business and international relations classes. Several of these classes were extremely memorable: Middle East Meets West, Business Intelligence, and Economic History of the Middle East. The Middle East Meets West course provided an opportunity to participate in the Soliya Connect Program, a United Nation's Alliance of Civilization initiative. The purpose of the program was to foster dialogue, cooperation, and understanding between students from the East and West through the use of technology and media.

Additionally, I was able to gain a volunteer position at the university's Bridge Program. I practiced reading, speaking, and writing conventions with native Arabic speakers to prepare them for the TOEFL test. I loved this position because it gave me a chance to understand language nuances through our interactions, and ultimately make friends that were willing to help me with my Arabic studies.

I was awarded the Boren Scholarship to study in Morocco where I will study intermediate and advanced Arabic, as well as colloquial Darija to help strengthen my ability to communicate with locals in their native dialect. Besides Arabic, I will be taking international relations courses that focus on the geopolitical importance of North Africa, media representation of the region, and peace and conflict studies. I have received two internships in Morocco, with the group Youth Development, where I help at a juvenile detention center, and with the Association for the Protection of the Moroccan Family, where I educate and train women for the workforce.

The Boren Scholarship stipulates that I work in national security for a year upon graduation. I plan to attend the Monterey Institute of International Studies for their Peace Corps Master's International MBA, which combines a traditional MBA with two years in the Peace Corps. My goal in the Peace Corps is to work with microcredit institutions and other small businesses throughout North Africa and the Middle East. The skills I gain in an MBA will allow me to directly impact the community I serve, and raise the standard of living for those trying to better themselves, especially women in single parent households.