

# *ΦBK KEY NOTES*

## *The PBKAAGA Newsletter*

*October 24, 2022*



**Key Notes**, the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Austin newsletter highlights Association news, recent and upcoming events, and developments in the Association's continued evolution. Additional details about the organization can be found on the Association website: <http://pbkaaga.wildapricot.org/>

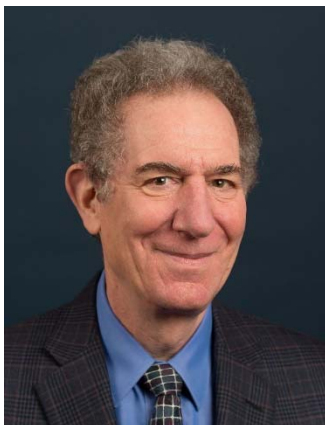
***Our mission:***

*Recognizing excellence in the liberal arts and sciences through college scholarships and teacher excellence awards, as well as fostering fellowship and lifelong learning among PBKAAGA members*

### **Fall General Meeting – Sunday, November 13**

At 3pm on November 13th, we'll gather at the Neill-Cochran House Museum to award our Teaching Excellence Award to a deserving and dynamic high school teacher.

We'll also hear from our keynote speaker, Dr. Daniel Jaffe, as he speaks to "First Galaxies, New Planets: The Revolution in Astronomy."



Daniel Jaffe is the Jane and Roland Blumberg Professor of Astronomy at the University of Texas. He studies how stars and their accompanying planetary systems form. He analyzes infrared light that allows his instruments to penetrate the dust clouds that surround these young systems.

As part of his work, Jaffe develops new instruments and devices. Currently, one of his instruments is on the Gemini South 8m telescope in Chile. A suite of his devices on the recently

launched James Webb Space Telescope helps scientists to discover galaxies in the early universe and study the atmospheres of planets around other stars. Dan currently serves as UT's Vice President for Research.

For those unable to attend in person, please register at this link to be able to attend via Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/PBKAAGA1113>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

### **Our House Concert on September 25th Was Great!**

Our Key Connections event this year was a house concert, with a jazz trio from the Butler School of Music. Thanks to PBKAAGA Board Member Don Flournoy for providing his home as the venue. We were able to meet several new Phi Beta Kappa members in the greater Austin area, as well as mingle with many long-standing members of our organization.



### **Mark Your Calendars: Giving Tuesday is November 29, 2022**



**#GIVINGTUESDAY**

Like many Phi Beta Kappans, you probably were helped and encouraged by family, friends, and teachers throughout your college years. On Giving Tuesday we ask your help to make academic success a possibility for first-generation college students in Central Texas.

The Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Austin (PBKAAGA) has long awarded scholarships to college-bound Austin area high school students. In 2020 we began to work with [Breakthrough Central Texas](#) to direct our Scholarship monies to first-generation college students. Breakthrough makes a 12-year commitment to students and their families to guide them through the process of preparing for, enrolling in and

completing college – from sixth grade through high school, and college and beyond to assure their success.

Over the last three years, with funds from our members and from the Luke Family Foundation, we offered 20 scholarships to seniors selected from the Breakthrough Central Texas program. These one-time award scholarships of \$2,500 made a real difference to these students in choosing their college, in determining their ability to live on campus, and in making a dream become reality.

In the days before and the day of Giving Tuesday, you'll be getting email from us asking you to join together with us to provide funds to make it possible to again award a significant number of scholarships in 2023. Thank you in advance for your support!

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## **Upcoming Events: Please Mark Your Calendars**

### **Sunday, November 13, 3 – 5 PM Fall General Meeting**

Join us at the Neill-Cochran House Museum to meet the winner of the 2022 Teaching Excellence Award and to hear from Dr. Daniel Jaffe on "First Galaxies, New Planets: the Revolution in Astronomy."

### **Tuesday, November 29 - Giving Tuesday**

Watch for email about the day, and please donate for our scholarships and teacher award.

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## **Stay in Touch**

Want to stay connected with Phi Beta Kappa news and updates in the Austin Area? Visit our web site, <https://pbkaaga.wildapricot.org/> and like and follow our Facebook page, Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of Greater Austin, or search **@PBKAAGA** and follow us on Instagram.

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**A Final Word: If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership for this year, and consider a generous extra donation for our scholarship and teacher awards.** Your donation supports the main endeavor of this organization – giving scholarships to worthy applicants and recognizing Teaching Excellence. With your help, we make a difference in the lives of deserving students and teachers.

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