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 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION  
 THE GAMMA ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA  
 Association Chartered June 14, 1946



[www.pbknca.org](http://www.pbknca.org)

**December 2018**

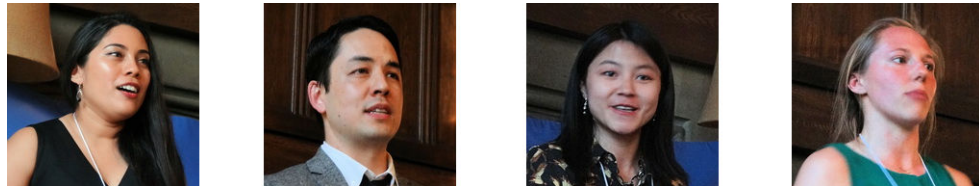
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If you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership, it is time to contribute now. Mail your check in the enclosed envelope or go to <https://www.pbknca.org/contribute/>

**W**e start soliciting for memberships for the next year in November because our scholarships are awarded in May and we need to know how much money is available. Last year we were able to fund 12 scholarships of \$7,500 each from the dues and donations we collected and the income from our endowed funds. Here are the award winners from 2018. Go to <https://www.pbknca.org/scholarship/> for more about these worthy students.



*William Callison, Yvanka de Soysa, Jordan Eizenga, Lelia Glass, Marie Paulina Hartono*



*Lisbet Ramirez-Chavez, Kerry Shannon, Shiran Victoria Shen, Kathryn Wilsterman*

*Adam Lichtenheld* - Not able to attend

*Kevin Moch* - Not able to attend

*Jeremy Nowak* - Not able to attend

In addition to scholarship awards, we honor faculty members nominated by their ΦBK students. In 2018, the following five received a certificate and an honorarium. Go to <http://www.pbknca.org/teaching/teaching.winners.phi.beta.kappa.pbk.php> for more about these distinguished teachers.

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*Ron E. Hassner, Kinch Hoekstra, Naomi Janowitz, Martha Olney, Jon D. Rossini*

**Upcoming Events – go to pages 3, 7, 8, 9 or click the links to go online**

Watch the website at <https://www.pbknca.org/> and your email for additional events

**[Cinnabar Theater, Petaluma. Sunday Matinee, December 16, 2018 \(page 8\)](#)**

Love, Linda: The Life Of Mrs. Cole Porter, with music by Cole Porter. Deadline November 28

**[The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Asilomar Conference is coming February 15 – 18, 2019 \(page 3\)](#)**

We are back to our normal Presidents' Day Weekend. Sign up before December 10!

**[ΦBK-NCA Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon. Sunday, May 5, 2019 \(page 8\)](#)**

**Bancroft Hotel, Berkeley**

**From the President**



As the holiday season again fills our lives with remembrances of the year past and hopes for the year to come, I wish each of you joy in your celebrations and happiness in 2019. ΦBK-NCA is fortunate to count you as a member of our organization.

November was the start of membership renewal season for ΦBK-NCA, so please remit your membership contribution *via* PayPal or credit card at this site: [contribute.pbknca.org](https://www.pbknca.org/contribute), and save a stamp and a few trees. Or you may use the enclosed remittance envelope. Our membership year is January-December, so if you paid at ANY time through September 2017, your renewal is due now.

If you are a 2018 inductee from one of the eight Northern California colleges which have a Phi Beta Kappa chapter – Mills College, Santa Clara University, San Francisco State University, Stanford University, the Universities of California at Berkeley, Davis, and Santa Cruz, and the University of the Pacific – you receive a free membership for three years and won't need to renew until November 2021. (see <https://www.pbknca.org/initiate/>)

Every membership contribution is totally tax-deductible. We do NOT receive any funds from the Phi Beta Kappa Society in Washington, D.C., and a donation to them does not confer membership in our Association. Your generosity enables us to fund Graduate Student scholarships and Teaching Excellence awards, to be presented at our Annual Dinner on May 5, 2019.

As an active (dues-paying or three-years-free) member, you'll be able to enjoy monthly activities in various sites around the Bay Area. First Vice President–Programs, Judy Hardardt, has a wonderful array of excursions, museums, and behind-the-scenes visits planned. You'll meet other ΦBK-NCA members and discover hidden treasures in our own backyard. **Join us over Presidents' Weekend (15-18 February 2019) at the beautiful Asilomar in Pacific Grove for our annual retreat weekend (see page 3).** Deirdre Frontczak has rounded up a remarkable panoply of speakers to educate and entertain us. Information about signing up for activities, and their costs, may be found in this newsletter and on our website: [www.pbknca.org/](http://www.pbknca.org/).

We also are recruiting volunteers for various Board positions. If you are interested in giving of your time to our Association, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee or myself. Time commitments can be as little as one day (Audit Committee, being host at an activity) to as many hours as you are able to give. All positions are rewarding and all volunteers are appreciated. I look forward to meeting you at one of our activities, so I may thank you in person for supporting our Association. Our loyal members are what make ΦBK-NCA a superb organization. Thank you for your generosity.

*Mary Turner Gilliland, President, [Mtg@aol.com](mailto:Mtg@aol.com)*

## The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Asilomar Conference is coming Feb 15–18, 2019



**A**silomar once again beckons! This year's conference reminds us of the pleasures of dialogue in the liberal arts – a conversation that flows from history to literature, from biology to design, from neuroscience to music to foreign affairs.

We have a slate of extraordinary speakers representing a broad range of disciplines and pursuits. As always, we look forward not only to sharing a mental workout but also to the privilege of renewing old friendships and beginning new ones – all in a location of exceptional peace and beauty. Thank you for joining us in what promises to be a lively and exhilarating exchange.

More details will be posted online about this wonderful event at [www.pbknca.org/asilomar](http://www.pbknca.org/asilomar). It is not too early to sign up now! Registration is on page 9 and online registration is available at [pbknca.org/AsilomarRegistration/](http://pbknca.org/AsilomarRegistration/)

*Deirdre Frontczak, Asilomar Chair*

### **A preview of the 2019 speakers:**

*“All life is but a canvas for our imagination.” -- Thoreau*



*Friday Evening, 7:30 pm.*

**Shannon Vallor, Ph.D.**

*How to Cultivate Humane Machines – and People*

The spread of commercially viable artificial intelligence brings dizzying consequences for every sociotechnical system, from finance and transportation to healthcare and warfare. Less often discussed is the growing impact of AI on human practices of self-cultivation, those critical to the development of intellectual and moral virtues. Today, AI is weaponized in Trojan-horse attacks aimed at the root of our democratic virtues, designed to surreptitiously enter, mediate and gradually subvert the practices of public

discourse by which civic virtues of trust, solidarity, charity, honesty, and justice are built and sustained. Through games and social media, AI is also being weaponized against our persons, to stall from an early age the cultivation of the virtues of patience, self-control, and intellectual and moral discernment.

Yet while AI mediation can impede or denature self-cultivation practices, it also has the potential to amplify and sustain them. Humanizing AI design could provide reliable mirrors and feedback channels that foster more honest self-appraisals of our character. It could mediate newly creative practices of moral and intellectual modeling and imagination. It could reinforce more sustainable moral and intellectual habits. It could detect, signal, and perhaps even mediate fraying civic and personal relations. This talk poses the questions: is a world with humanizing machines possible? Desirable? If so, how can we build it?

*Shannon Vallor is the Regis and Dianne McKenna Professor of Philosophy at Santa Clara University, where she researches the ethics of emerging technologies. She is the author of *Technology and the Virtues: A Philosophical Guide to a Future Worth Wanting*, Oxford University Press (2016), and she is editor of the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Technology*. She serves on the executive leadership team of the non-profit *Foundation for Responsible Robotics*, and regularly advises technologists, legislators, and policymakers on ethical issues in technology practice.*



**Saturday Morning, 9:30 am.**  
**Frederick M. Lawrence, J.D.**  
***The Nature of the University***

Throughout the history of American higher education, the law has played a crucial role in defining the scope, mission and very nature of colleges and universities. Nearly 200 years ago, in *Dartmouth College v Woodward* (1819), Chief Justice John Marshall laid the legal foundation of institutions of higher learning in the new republic, addressing the question of “who is the college?” Is it the current Board of Trustees? Is it the founding Board? To this question, Marshall famously answered that the charter of Dartmouth

College had created an “artificial immortal being.” Unlike another abstract entity created by the law, the corporation whose duties are to its shareholders, the university owes its duties to all its constituencies – students, faculty, alumni, staff, and even beyond to the community, nation, and world – and its “ownership” transcends any specific group of individuals.

*Frederick M. Lawrence is the 10th Secretary and CEO of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation’s first and most prestigious honor society, founded in 1776. Lawrence is a Distinguished Lecturer at the Georgetown Law Center, and has previously served as president of Brandeis University, Dean of the George Washington University Law School, and Visiting Professor and Senior Research Scholar at Yale Law School. He was elected to the American Philosophical Society in 2018 and the American Law Institute in 1999.*

*Read more...*



**Saturday Afternoon, 1:30 pm.**  
**Lynn Cominsky, Ph.D. (Physics)**  
***Spacetime Symphony: Gravitational Waves from Merging Binaries***

In 1915, Albert Einstein published his General Theory of Relativity. In this theory, gravity is not a force, but a property of space and time in the presence of massive objects. A century later, on September 14, 2015, the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) received the first confirmed gravitational wave signals. Now known as GW150914, the event represents the coalescence of two distant black holes that were previously in mutual orbit. LIGO's exciting discovery provides direct evidence of what is arguably the last major unconfirmed prediction of Einstein's Theory and has launched the new field of gravitational-wave astronomy. The LIGO team Lynn Cominsky is on won a Nobel Prize for Physics in 2017. She will present an introduction to LIGO, gravitational waves and black holes. She will also discuss the most recent gravitational wave detection results from LIGO.

*Lynn Cominsky grew up in the snows of Buffalo NY, and studied Chemistry and Physics at Brandeis University, subsequently working at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. When she found out that she could get paid for studying black holes, she went to MIT to obtain her Ph.D. in physics, finally moving to California. Lynn has been on the faculty at Sonoma State University for over 30 years, where she is now Chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, and director and founder of SSU's Education and Public Outreach group.*

*She and her husband, also a physicist, live on a ranch in Sonoma County where they serve a variety of horses, chickens, cats, a goat and other country creatures.*



**Saturday Evening, 7:30 pm.**  
**Laura Marello, M.A. (Literature)**  
***Women of the Lighthouse***

In 1856, when Charles Layton was shot while working in a sheriff's posse, his wife Charlotte Layton took over his duties at Pt. Pinos Light in Monterey. When Charlotte retired from the lighthouse, Emily Fish took over the Pt. Pinos Lighthouse-keeping duties. Laura Hecox took over Santa Cruz Light from her father Adna, keeping the post until her death fifty years later. Fish saw the development of Monterey into a boom town, ran her own artists' salon, and leased much of the lighthouse land to developer David Jacks, to graze cattle. Hecox was a naturalist who amassed a sizeable collection of artifacts and corresponded with many of the marine scientists of her day.

Based on seventeen years' research, I created lives for these women in a novel, where I allow them to tell their own stories. This talk will narrate that research, and describe the story-telling process.

*Laura Marello is the author of several books. She has been awarded a National Endowment for the Arts grant, a Wallace E. Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University, and a Fine Arts Work Center Provincetown Fellowship, and she has enjoyed residencies at MacDowell, Yaddo, Millay, Montalvo and Djerassi. Her first novel, Claiming Kin, was a finalist for the Paterson Prize in fiction; another, The Gender of Inanimate Objects (2015) was shortlisted for the Saroyan Prize at Stanford University Library. Laura is Phi Beta Kappa 2006, U.C. Santa Cruz, and currently teaches creative writing at Lynchburg College in Virginia.*



**Sunday Morning, 10:00 am.**  
**Steve Hollingworth, M.A. Economics (Development) Grameen Foundation**  
***How can digital technology empower the world's poorest women?***

Of the global population of 7.6 billion people, over 5 billion subscribe to mobile services. These services are transformative, connecting people to information, education, entertainment, emergency services, financial services, and each other. But what about those who aren't connected? A recent report finds that 1.2 billion women in low- and middle-income countries do not use mobile internet, and nearly one billion women, compared to about 700,000 men, are unable to access formal financial services of any kind. Grameen Foundation works to close these gaps.

What is the journey of a woman in a rural village who moves from relative isolation to accessing growing networks of connection with formal financial, agricultural and health services? What role do big data—and data privacy—play in this transformation? And how can we and our partners ensure that the solutions developed are sustainable and scalable? We will probe these questions, delving into pilots and programs that drive forward new breakthroughs for the world's poor.

*Steve Hollingworth is President and CEO of Grameen Foundation, a global nonprofit organization whose mission is to enable the poor, especially women, to create a world without poverty and hunger. He has worked in international development for 30 years, with a focus on the delivery of financial services to benefit the world's poorest people. Previously, Steve served as President of Freedom from Hunger, and as Chief Operating Officer for CARE. He has an M.A. in Economics, Development Studies, from Victoria University of Manchester, and a B.A. from Augustana College, where he was inducted into ΦBK.*

### *Sunday afternoon, open*

Maybe a good time for a walk on the beach? There are lovely walks along the coast, or some shorter paths as described below:



**Asilomar State Beach** is a narrow, one-mile strip of sandy beach and rocky coves. A  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile coast walking trail is open to pedestrians. Dogs **ARE** permitted on the state beach and the coast trail, but must be leashed at all times and be in the immediate control of the handler. The trail is accessible and a beach wheelchair is available upon request at the Registration Desk.

Across the street from Asilomar State Beach is **Asilomar Dunes Natural Preserve**, where a landmark stile stands at the gateway to this preserve and the Asilomar Conference Grounds. A  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile boardwalk meanders through 25 acres of restored sand dune ecosystem where visitors can discover the native plant greenhouse where more than 450,000 plants, representing 25 species, have been grown and planted in the effort to preserve the dunes and coastal bluffs. Several boardwalk outlooks provide panoramic views of Asilomar State Beach and the blue Pacific Ocean.



***Sunday Evening, 7:30 pm.***  
**Robert Hartwell, Ph.D. Music**  
***Mozart and Mythology***

It has been 228 years since one of humanity's greatest geniuses was buried in an unmarked grave on the outskirts of Vienna. Since that time, few figures in history have been so surrounded by myths, half-truths, and sheer nonsense. How, for example, does one square the notion of Mozart's financial desperation with his \$200,000+ annual earnings? In the process of debunking those myths, we will look both at the truths that generated them and the culture that perpetuates them—this against a soundtrack of surpassing masterpieces.

*Robert Hartwell holds a doctorate in music education from Columbia University. As Professor of Music at Foothill College, he specializes in welcoming the uninitiated into the world of classical music, and he pioneered Foothill College's innovative course in popular culture. Dr. Hartwell has co-authored a three-volume series on the history of Western music, and was a contributory author to The Quarterly Journal of the Riemenschneider Bach Institute and to the New Pedagogies in Higher Education series. Hartwell is a regular guest lecturer at the Institute for the Study of Western Civilization, and is a pre-performance lecturer for the San Francisco Opera.*



***Monday Morning***  
**Lee Panich, Ph.D.**  
***New insights into the lives of Native Californians at Spanish missions***

Recent archaeological investigations at Spanish missions in the San Francisco Bay area provide new insights into the lives of Native Californians during the colonial period. While archival documents offer evidence of the overall impacts of the mission system on California's indigenous societies, few observers wrote about the daily lives of the thousands of men, women, and children who inhabited the missions. Through excavations within the native *rancherías* associated with Missions Santa Clara and San José, archaeologists are filling in the gaps in the documentary record to reveal the persistence of indigenous cultural

practices. The material evidence offers clues to clandestine activities within the mission estate, as well as previously undocumented connections to autonomous communities in the colonial hinterlands. These findings encourage us to rethink the scholarly and popular portrayal of so-called Mission Indians.

*Lee Panich is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Santa Clara University. His research focuses on the experiences of indigenous groups during the colonial period, with a particular focus on the Spanish mission system in California and Baja California. He is the co-editor of Indigenous Landscapes and Spanish Missions (2014) and the author of more than two dozen scholarly articles and book chapters on the archaeology of colonialism. Lee holds a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley and a bachelor's degree from Brown University, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in 2001.*

**Sign up before December 10! Use the coupon on page 9, or  
Register online at [pbknca.org/AsilomarRegistration/](http://pbknca.org/AsilomarRegistration/)**

*Asilomar Chair, Deirdre Frontczak*

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Send an email to [online@pbknca.org](mailto:online@pbknca.org)

Approximately two weeks before this hardcopy would reach you, you will receive a link to this newsletter in color, to read on your desktop or tablet (see an example at [pbknca.org/newsletter/current.newsletter.pdf](http://pbknca.org/newsletter/current.newsletter.pdf)), and a link to a mobile copy which can be read on your smartphone (see an example at [pbknca.org/newsletter/mobile/Current.Mobile.php](http://pbknca.org/newsletter/mobile/Current.Mobile.php)).

*Ray Hendess, Communications Officer*

**Nominations for the Teaching Excellence award for Spring 2019 are being accepted now**

**T**he nomination form is available on the web at [www.pbknca.org/teaching](http://www.pbknca.org/teaching). It can be filled out online (preferred) or a copy can be printed and mailed. You probably have had teachers who influenced your academic career; reward them with a nomination for our Teaching Excellence Award. Deadline Nov. 30.

*Narcinda Lerner, Teaching Excellence Chair*

**Events**

**Information about our enrollment, refund and cancellation policies**

**M**ost events can accommodate you and any friends or family you'd like to bring along. Occasionally an event will have a limited enrollment, in which case we may not be able to accommodate more than one member and one guest per enrollment. No refunds; fees will be donated to the scholarship fund program in lieu of a refund. You will not receive written confirmation of your reservation for the events unless you register online.

If you subsequently can't make an event, others may be waiting. Kindly notify Judy Hardardt, First Vice President – Programs, Davis, cell (707) 696-9498, [hardardtj@gmail.com](mailto:hardardtj@gmail.com)

## Reservations

Reservations can now be made online using Paypal or credit card. Quick and easy, no coupons to download and mail, and you get an instant receipt! **See the website at [www.pbknca.org/events/](http://www.pbknca.org/events/)**. Of course, coupons are still available if you want to send a check. **No acknowledgements will be sent for coupon reservations.**

**Make your reservation online, go to [www.pbknca.org/events/](http://www.pbknca.org/events/)**

### **Cinnabar Theater, Petaluma. Sunday Matinee, December 16, 2018**



Love, Linda: The Life Of Mrs. Cole Porter is a theatrical and musical adventure about the life of Linda Lee Thomas, the socialite wife of composer Cole Porter. Musical numbers include the hits *So In Love*, *I Love Paris*, *My Heart Belongs to Daddy*, *Night and Day*, *Wunderbar*, and many more.



The great songs of Cole Porter are ingeniously interwoven with captivating story-telling by his beautiful wife played by the acclaimed Maureen McVeery of San Francisco.

Though Cole Porter was gay, their companionship and love lasted through 35 years of marriage and together they lived a spectacular, glamour-filled life. Peek behind the glitter of her sensational life with her brilliant husband, to experience a unique, sometimes difficult but always love-filled marriage. As she tells us, "Just because a love between two people may be difficult to define, that doesn't mean it didn't exist."

**Date:** Sunday, December 16, 2018  
**Deadline:** November 28  
**Time:** 2:00 pm matinee (arrive by 1:30 pm)  
**Minimum:** 10, **Maximum:** 20  
**Cost:** \$40.00  
**Directions:** 3333 Petaluma Blvd N, Petaluma,  
[www.cinnabartheater.org/visit/](http://www.cinnabartheater.org/visit/)

### **ΦBKNCA Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon. Sunday, May 5, 2019 Bancroft Hotel, Berkeley**



We are in the planning stages of the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon. We have decided to go to a luncheon rather than dinner for several reasons, including cost and daytime travel. As you are aware, the annual meeting is the occasion when we celebrate ΦBKNCA's primary mission—the awarding of Scholarship awards to deserving scholars and Teaching Excellence awards to professors, fulfilling ΦBKNCA's objective to enhance scholars' educational and research activities and to honor those who are teaching our next generation.

**Date:** Sunday, May 5, 2019  
**Deadline:** April 19, 2019  
**Time:** 12:00 Noon (subject to change).  
**Cost:** \$40.00 (estimated, subject to change)  
**Location:** Bancroft Hotel, Berkeley

Reservation not yet open for the Annual Meeting. Complete information will be provided in next Newsletter.

**Block out the date on your calendars now & stay tuned!**

*Judy Hardardt, First Vice-President, Programs*



## Event Coupons

Please print legibly. **No acknowledgments will be sent.** If you subsequently can't make an event, others may be waiting Call Judy at (707) 696-9498

**Cinnabar – Love, Linda**  
**Sunday, December 16, 2018**  
**Deadline November 28, 2018**

# Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Check payable to PBK-NCA- Enter "Cinnabar" on check)  
Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail coupon and payment to: Judy Hardardt,  
PO Box 2038, Davis, CA 95617

### ΦBK Board July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Mary Turner Gilliland, President  
Menlo Park, (650) 321-9966, Mltg@aol.com  
Judy Hardardt, First Vice President – Programs  
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Narcinda Lerner, Teaching Excellence Chair  
Woodside, (650) 851-0137, nrlernern@netscape.net

Watch the website at <https://www.pbknca.org/> and your email for additional events

*Note – Please do not return this form if you have already paid a deposit.*

### ΦBK at Asilomar February 15-18, 2019

Deadline for Reservations: December 10, 2018

Registration fee: # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$125/person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to PBK-NCA

Mail to: Barry Haskell, 1190 Fairbrook Dr., Mountain View, CA 94040

Questions? Call Deirdre Frontczak at 707 546-4238

Member Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Member Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Phone #(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Member Email (essential!)** \_\_\_\_\_

Is this the first time you have attended our Asilomar Conference? \_\_\_\_\_

Where initiated to ΦBK (For your name tag) \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I thank Dr. Larry Lerner for proofing this newsletter. *Ray Hendess, Editor*



**PHI BETA KAPPA**  
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