



LOWCOUNTRY PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 20374, CHARLESTON SC 29413

<http://www.pbklowcountry.org/>

22 August 2025

Dear Friends:

Greetings from the Lowcountry Phi Beta Kappa Association! We are happily planning our 2025-26 program season. In a few weeks, you will receive notice of our first event, part of the National Office "Key Connections" initiative, a gathering at [City Gallery](#). Details will be forthcoming. In addition, we will host our traditional holiday party, our regular winter meeting with a speaker, and a scholarship dinner in the spring. As always, you are welcome to bring guests to any of our functions.

At the heart of Phi Beta Kappa is promoting the traditional liberal arts and sciences, and our association does this in part through our scholarship program. This past year, we presented a \$2,500 scholarship to 4 rising seniors at the Citadel, the College of Charleston, Charleston Southern University, and the American College of the Building Arts. Our program is only possible through the generous support of our members and a modest income from an endowment provided by the late Cornelia Carrier. In the recap of last year's programs on the reverse side of this letter, you will find information about our awardees.

With this enthusiasm for our task as advocates for the liberal arts and sciences, now more important than ever, I invite you to renew your membership in our local association and submit your dues for 2025-26. I also invite you also to make a generous gift to our scholarship program so we may continue to recognize outstanding achievement in the liberal arts and sciences at our local colleges and universities.

Please fill out the form below if you would like to pay by mailed check. If you would prefer to pay electronically, please fill out the form on our website (linked below and provided via email). Persons inducted into Phi Beta Kappa in the last five years receive one year of membership free; for others, dues are just \$40. We are a 501(c)(3) organization; donations and dues are tax-deductible. Even if you cannot join us this year, please consider a donation to the scholarship fund.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 843-225-3224 or hillary.hutchinson@gmail.com. Our Annual Report appears on the second page. In addition, we invite you to visit our [website](http://www.pbklowcountry.org) (www.pbklowcountry.org) for the latest information about PBK events and the association.

Warmly,

Hillary Hutchinson, President
Lowcountry Phi Beta Kappa Association
lowcountrypbk@gmail.com

Electronic payment is available through [PayPal](#).

If you would prefer to pay by check, please detach the form below and mail to the address below:

Name _____ Elected at _____ Year _____

Address _____ City/ZIP _____

E-mail address _____ Phone _____

Annual dues @ \$40 _____ Scholarship donation _____ Total _____

I prefer to receive notifications by _____ email _____ US mail.

**Lowcountry Phi Beta Kappa Association
P.O. Box 20374, Charleston, SC 29413**

LOWCOUNTRY PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Annual Report 2025-2026

Board of Directors	
Ms. Hillary Hutchinson, <i>President</i> hillary.hutchinson@gmail.com	Cindy Boatwright, LPC
Dr. Karen Burnett, <i>Vice-President</i> kgburnett@gmail.com	Dr. Charles Lippy
Dr. Garrett Mitchener, <i>Treasurer</i> garrett.mitchener@gmail.com	Randie Rosen, Esq.
Ms. Emily Onufer, <i>Secretary</i> emilyonufer@gmail.com	David Zoellner, Esq.

LPBK 2024-25 Activities

IAAM Tour with LPBK (July 20, 2024)

Twenty members and friends enjoyed a personalized, guided tour of Charleston's International African American Museum (IAAM) led by Dr. Bernard Powers, Director of the Center for the Study of Slavery in Charleston and Professor Emeritus of History at the College of Charleston. Dr. Powers is a pivotal figure in the founding and opening of the IAAM.



Key Connections (October 14, 2024)

In the spirit of forging Key Connections and the Fall Holiday Season, thirty members and friends of Lowcountry Phi Beta Kappa staged a happy hour/networking session with pizza and beverages. Participants then were treated to a haunted history tour at the nearby Old City Jail hosted by Bulldog Tours.

Holiday Party (December 9, 2024)

The Association was pleased to return to Gage Hall for the annual Holiday Party. Participants included Association members, their guests, as well as alums from Ivy League and Seven Sisters schools. Attendees enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner, great conversation, and the holiday piano music of Tom Bailey.



Scholarship Banquet (March 31, 2025)

Members, faculty sponsors, and guests gathered at Ms. Rose's Restaurant for the annual dinner where scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each were presented to:

- Owen Alster, Timber Framing, American College of the Building Arts
- Elizabeth Clark, Political Science & English, College of Charleston
- Noah Miller, Political Science & English, The Citadel
- Olivia Thompson, Theology, Charleston Southern University

Pictured left to right: Owen Alster, Olivia Thompson, Noah Miller. Not pictured: Elizabeth Clark.

This event also served as the association's annual meeting, where members voted to elect our 2025-2027 board.

College of Charleston PBK Chapter Installation (April 29, 2025)

Members of the Lowcountry PBK Association were honored to attend the installation of the Phi Beta Kappa Epsilon Chapter at the College of Charleston, making it the fifth chapter recognized by National PBK in South Carolina. Beth Sundstrom, Professor, Communication and Public Health, will be the LPBK Association liaison. LPBK President Hillary Hutchinson was invited to speak a few words, and she invited new PBK inductees to join the Association.

