

PHI BETA KAPPA

Alpha Association of Colorado

Summer 2024



Alpha Association Awards \$7,000 in Scholarships

The Alpha Association is pleased to announce the 2024 winners of our two scholarships for graduate studies.

Tyler Chang will receive the \$4,000 scholarship. He is a 2024 *summa cum laude* graduate of Colorado College and majored in Computer Science. He will begin his Master of Science in Computer Engineering at Columbia University this fall.

Man Wai Charlotte Kwong will receive the \$3,000 scholarship. She attended New York University, graduating *magna cum laude* in 2022 with a B.A. in Politics. She is in her second year of the MD program at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Thank you to all Alpha Association members who have made donations to support these awards. A special thank you to the Scholarship Committee for their continued dedication to this important initiative of the Alpha Association. All applicants were well-qualified and had excellent credentials, and the committee completed a thorough evaluation of all candidates and their submissions before choosing the two winners. The Alpha Association board approved the recommendations. The committee consisted of Chair Barbara Berryman, Tom Hall, Kate Silz-Carson, Julie DeWoody, and Amy Beth Rell.

Since 1994 the Alpha Association has awarded \$107,000 in scholarships!

Tyler Chang



Growing up in Orange County, California, Tyler has always enjoyed exploring the humanities, music, and engineering. Wanting to continue his interdisciplinary interests, he attended Colorado College, where graduated with distinction in Computer Science and a 4.0 GPA. Tyler was initiated into PBK Beta Chapter at CC in his junior year.

Throughout his summers, he interned as a software engineer at companies like Visa and Stryker, a leader in medical technology. These experiences helped him develop skills in engineering scalable,

secure, and efficient software systems. At Stryker he worked on sensor-packed hospital ICU beds and AI-controlled endoscopy equipment and found himself engrossed by the future of health-care made possible by computers. Tyler also studied abroad—spending two months in Taiwan to learn Mandarin and a semester in Hungary to study computational biology and European history.

These experiences complemented his internships, increasing his awareness of global problems that can benefit from technological solutions. He is particularly interested in researching computer architecture and engineering embedded hardware acceleration, especially when applied to health-care, security, and autonomous

Annual Meeting—Saturday, September 28, 2024, 11:30 A.M.

“JAZZ AND PUBLIC RADIO” BY CARLOS LANDO, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF KUVU

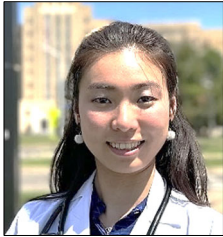


Carlos Lando’s involvement in radio dates back more than 50 years. While still in high school he began an internship maintaining the music library at the local radio station. His first night on the air was January 13, 1968, on the Armed Forces Caribbean Network in Puerto Rico. Carlos moved to Denver in 1980 where he spent five years as music and program director and midday host at the nationally recognized soul music station KDKO. After working a year for KBCO in Boulder, Carlos joined KUVU in 1987.

As program director, he helped establish KUVU as one of the most respected community-based jazz stations in the country. In 2005 and 2006 KUVU was named the major market “Jazz Station of the Year” by *Jazz Week* magazine. Carlos became the President and General Manager of KUVU in 2012. He remains committed to airing culturally diverse programs with significant appeal to people in the Latino and African American communities.

systems. In his free time Tyler played drums in a college jazz band as well as guitar in a campus band. He enjoys surfing in California and spending time in nature.

Charlotte Kwong



Charlotte graduated from New York University in 2022 with a passion for healthcare advocacy. She

was also a student-athlete, playing for NYU Women's Golf and becoming captain her senior year. She took a gap year working for a startup biotechnology company before starting medical school at the University of Colorado.

During her first year of medical school, Charlotte attended a national advocacy day in Washington, D.C, where more than 500 doctors from all 50 states went to Capitol Hill to advocate for healthcare policies that benefit both patients and providers. She wants to continue this advocacy work as a future physician, advancing holistic and preventative medicine while advocating on the public policy level.

Alpha Association's Mentorship Program

By Ben Palen

The Alpha Association of Colorado is pleased to offer opportunities to sign up to be a mentor or a mentee. The mentorship program was inaugurated in 2019 to help

mentees achieve or exceed their life goals and aspirations.

Being a mentor is a rewarding endeavor, providing a way to put life experiences to good use for mentees who are seeking advice on professional and personal pathways. Our current program includes mentors with backgrounds in medicine, law, business, finance, and the liberal arts. Within our local membership base, we can most certainly find the right mentor for specialized needs of mentees.

For mentees, the ability to connect with a mentor who has dealt with the inevitable twists and turns that are typical of early career paths can be invaluable. Speaking from personal experience, I have not forgotten how fortunate I was to connect with two mentors during my first year in college. To this day, I treasure the wisdom that they shared with me. I suspect that many of you would concur with that observation based on your own experiences early in your education or career.

If you have questions about being a mentor or mentee, please feel free to reach out to me at 720-626-7661, or via email at benpalen@yahoo.com. You can also fill out an application for either role by going to our website: www.pbkcolorado.org/Mentorship.

Annual Meeting, Lunch, and Speaker — Saturday, September 28, 2024, at Rock Bottom Brewery

The Alpha Association's annual meeting and lunch will be Saturday, September 28, 2024, at Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery, 1001 16th Street, Denver 80265.

A short business meeting to review the past year and to elect board members for the coming year will begin at 11:30 A.M. After lunch Carlos Lando will begin his talk. (Please see page 1 for more information.)

Members will be able to choose one of four entrées. The cost will be \$35. Parking for this event is available in the parking garage at Independence Plaza and is \$7 on weekends. As always, guests are welcome!

If you plan to attend, please return the enclosed reservation form along with a check for your lunch to the address on the enclosed form, or pay online through PayPal (treasurer@pbkcolorado.org). Reservations must be received by Monday, **September 23, 2024**. If you make a reservation but cannot attend, please notify us at board@pbkcolorado.org. After September 25 we will not be able to refund the lunch cost because we are guaranteeing the number of guests.

Proposed 2024–25 Board of Directors

The following members are running for the board of directors for the 2024–25 year:

President: Diane Palese

First Vice President: George Gramer Jr.

Second Vice President: Barbara Berryman

Secretary: Kristin Adcock

Treasurer: Greg Sorensen

Ex officio Members: Ben Palen, Alana Horwitz

Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

The 2024 PBK Triennial

By Kristin Adcock

I was honored to represent the Alpha Association at the 2024 PBK Triennial in Baltimore, Maryland, August 1–3, 2024. The triennial, as its name suggests, meets every three years to conduct the business of the National Society.

I met and discussed a variety of subjects with my fellow delegates, and these conversations were for me the highlight of the weekend.

A principal focus of the meeting was to underscore the society's support of liberal arts education, which is under threat from those who believe that education is "training" for a profession

In Memoriam

Marvin W. Buckels, a Colorado native and a long-time Alpha Association member, passed away at the age of 95 on March 19, 2024. He graduated from the University of Denver.

Norman F. Peterson, also a long-time Alpha Association member, died August 17, 2023, at age 85. Born in South Dakota, he graduated from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

The board has made donations to the Members' Endowment in their honor.

or vocation and that a liberal arts education is a luxury with little relevance. One of the discussion points was retaining a foreign language requirement as a stipulation for PBK membership.

We were treated to an address by PBK member Henry Louis Gates Jr., the celebrated scholar of African American history, who is the recipient of the National Society's 2024 Award for Distinguished Services to the Humanities.

After completing an arduous selection process, three chapters were chartered: Texas State University, San Marcos (which has been in the application process since 2012); the College of Charleston, South Carolina; and Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington. Mills College, which is being absorbed into Northeastern University will be disbanded.

I met with other association leaders, and my assessment is that our association is doing fairly well in terms of membership, activities, mentorship, and our support of liberal arts education. I also networked with other members of the Western District and hope that these contacts may lead to cooperative efforts in the future.

Ben Franklin and His Connection to Phi Beta Kappa

By Randy Altman

Ben Franklin had a soft spot in his heart for children. Not so with adults, especially the British. In the mid-1770s, the British replaced the Governor of Massachusetts with General Gage. Franklin wrote to Britain, "without delay introduce into North America a government absolutely and entirely military." He assured that would get the colonists to pay their taxes. Franklin continued, "When the colonists are drained of their last shilling, they should be sold to the highest bidder," such as Spain or France. In another article, he wrote that General Gage would feel confident that more rebels would not arise, if "all the males there be castrated." The "ringleaders" (such as John Hancock and Sam Adams) "should be shaved quite close." You would want a man who wrote this to be on your side, college student or not.

We all know the story of the five young men from William and Mary who met in a tavern and founded Phi Beta Kappa. Their intentions were presumably good, but what could a mere handful of young students do to establish an organization that would survive over centuries and attain national scope? Ben Franklin's father was a candle maker. This was a low prestige job that did pay the bills, but not much more. Franklin learned to keep an eye open for financial opportunities.

Franklin really did usually invest his money wisely, which sometimes meant taking on some risk. One of his lesser known financial specialties was real estate development. He noticed a small building, not well cared for, but

near a more prestigious area. He took it over. He realized that PBK needed a centralized, permanent place from which to grow. For almost half a century that small building became an intellectual hub in Philadelphia, including serving as a meeting spot for Phi Beta Kappa.

Franklin's flexibility contributed to his overall success. He might come across a small building needing some repair, and while a typical person would ignore it, he might realize he was looking at a good deal if bought now for the long term.

I do not know if PBK would have grown the way it did without the help of Franklin, but I doubt it. He was the epitome of the self-made man. He knew how to convert a simple asset, gained at low cost, and convert the acquisition for future generations.

I occasionally wonder about the activities of the five young men from William and Mary. A tavern is a tavern. Their choice of entertainment can only be guessed. Ben Franklin found success itself entertaining. He needed a humble building, to house his intellectual life and that of his peers. He combined intellectuality with good humor. Ben Franklin could make the most of almost any situation. PBK is fortunate a man with his skills believed a humble little organization could grow. The small building is proof he tended to act on his beliefs.

Alpha Life Member Randy Altman graduated from the University of Kansas with Highest Distinction and with Honors. He is a Senior Advisor to the Alpha Association of Colorado.

Upcoming Key Connections Event

The Alpha Association's Key Connections event will be Thursday, October 10, 2024, at Dazzle Jazz Club, 1080 14th Street, Denver. The event features a cabaret style jazz show by the group Kintsugi, which plays in the Neo Soul/R&B style. Registration includes ticket price, as well as minimum drink and/or beverage purchase. Register by September 26 at www.pbk.org/Key-Connections.



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Dues / Mail and Email Addresses

Please check your address label to see when your dues expire. Your membership can be renewed by using the meeting reservation / renewal form in this newsletter or through PayPal (send payment to treasurer@pbkcolorado.org). If you are no longer interested in being a member, please let us know.

Send new mail or email addresses to board@pbkcolorado.org. If you have not received any recent emails from us, we do not have your current email address.

PHI BETA KAPPA • ALPHA ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO ***Annual Meeting, Lunch, and Speaker***

Saturday, September 28, 2024

11:30 A.M.

Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery
1001 16th Street, Denver, CO 80265



Program: "Jazz and Public Radio"

by Carlos Lando, KUVO President and General Manager



**Paid reservations must be received by Monday,
September 23, 2024.**