



EX LIBRIS

The Newsletter of the American Library in Paris

December 2017

2018 GALA DINNER

Salman Rushdie



Photo Beowulf Sheehan

The American Library in Paris is pleased to announce that renowned British-American author Salman Rushdie will headline the Library's Annual Gala. The Gala, the Library's primary fundraising event of the year, will take place 8 June 2018 at The Westin Paris Vendôme.

Salman Rushdie ranks among the most prominent contemporary authors in

English. His imaginative combination of magical realism and historical fiction is both critically acclaimed and immensely popular. His second novel *Midnight's Children*, set in partition-era India not only won the 1981 Booker Prize but also the prestigious Booker of Bookers Prize in 1993.

Continued on page 7

2018 SPRING VISITING FELLOW

Vanessa Manko

Vanessa Manko, a novelist, is the author of *The Invention of Exile*, named by *Kirkus Reviews* as one of the best books of 2014. She is presently at work on a novel called *A Question of Illumination*, inspired by the life of Loie Fuller, the late 19th century modern dancer in Paris who also pioneered the art of stage lighting. Manko has also taught writing at Wesleyan University, NYU, and SUNY Purchase.



Photo Beowulf Sheehan

THE NOVEL OF THE CENTURY WINS 5TH ANNUAL BOOK AWARD

Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* is one of the most popular novels of all time. Biographer David Bellos recounts the fascinating story of the decades-long creation of this masterwork in his just published book *The Novel of the Century: The Extraordinary Adventures of Les Misérables*. The screeners and jury of the 2017 American Library in Paris Book Award were unanimous. Bellos's account takes the prize.

Bellos accepted the Award, and the \$5000 monetary prize, at a glittering reception off Paris's Place de la Concorde on 3 November. The Library's Writers Council Chairman and Parisian literary fixture Diane Johnson presented the award.

In his remarks, Bellos stressed the immortal nature of this great work of literature, in continuous print for over 150 years and translated into dozens of languages. According to Bellos, Victor Hugo's underlying themes of redemption, love, and struggle against poverty remain every bit as relevant today as they were in the 1860s, perhaps more so.

The American Library in Paris Book Award recognizes a work in English that deepens and stimulates French-American understanding.



Photo Omer Faraj

David Bellos receiving the 2017 American Library in Paris Book Award from Diane Johnson, Chairman of the Library's Writers Council, at the Marshall Center. More photos of the event on page 11.



A message from the director

I've been a part of the American Library in Paris for about two months. It's a wonderful place to work. One of the many attractions of the place is the strong sense of community I've discovered. And it's not just one community, but a series of interlocking ones.

On one level, the Library is the quintessential hometown library. A place for Americans (and Anglophones more generally) to find a good read, peruse their favorite magazines, share a cup of coffee with a friend. We know our regulars, and they know us. There's something reassuring about that, a timeless, small-town feel in the midst of cosmopolitan Paris.

But the Library is much, much more than that. It's also an intellectual community, a sort of 21st century literary salon. Our speaker program exposes our members to some of the most prominent authors and thinkers of our day. Book groups, communities built around shared interest, bring sustained study and discourse. The American Library in Paris Book Award promotes Franco-American understanding at an international level.

Perhaps my favorite community is that built around families and children. My school-aged sons Max and Alex love the Library, and I'd say one of their favorite adults at the moment is Children's and Teens' Services Manager Celeste Rhoads. I love seeing the little ones tearing around the kids section, watching the youngsters listening with rapt attention at Story Hour. Our Halloween Extravaganza this year was a smash, with Library trick-or-treaters bringing French neighbors into our community. Overall, the children bring a charming

informality to the Library, keeping us from stuffiness, as the diaper-wearing two-year-old who peeked into my office the other day can attest.

Community is collectivity, and requires maintaining. Membership is a part of that. But we cannot sustain this shared endeavor on membership alone. This community is only viable with the generosity of our patrons. We are currently in the midst of our fall donation appeal. If you, and your children, value the Library, I urge you to give.

Jeff Hawkins

Librarians among us

Assistant Children's and Teens' Services Librarian **Kirsty McCulloch Reid** received her Master of Science degree in Information and Library Studies from Robert Gordon University this autumn. Her dissertation focused on how libraries support bilingualism and multiculturalism, particularly within international schools, and her practicum involved research and study of the operations of the American Library. She completed her coursework in three years of part-time, online learning while working at the Library. Kirsty now joins six other Library staff members with advanced degrees in information and library science.



David Gonçalves joined the Member Services team in April of this year, one of many staff members who began their tenure at the Library as a volunteer in the Library's robust volunteer program. David is a Parisian-born, Portuguese national who studied librarianship and conservation at the University of Coimbra. Along with his interest and skill as a cataloger and archivist, David is also the founder of a blog focused on the role of libraries and the community and is also an accomplished musician with three recorded albums. David replaces **Valentin Lewandowski**, who obtained his certification as a philosophy teacher and left the Library after over two years of service to begin his teaching career at Lycée Jacques Brel, La Courneuve.

THIS SEASON AT THE LIBRARY

A Wordsmith on the Library



Libraries are places of discovery and learning, but also places of gathering and community. My small hometown's library was the place where I followed my curiosity about history and words, the place where I learned the pleasure of diving deep and getting lost in a book—or in a world of books. This is what a good library should do: make curiosity the first step in a long journey.

For me, that journey ultimately took me to Paris, and, years later, I discovered the American Library. I've always known that book people are word people, but I've never encountered a whole room of word lovers like I met at the American Library! I can't wait to return.

Peter Sokolowski
Lexicographer at
Merriam-Webster
Online Dictionary

GIFTS FOR BOOK LOVERS

At this time of year, keep in mind that nothing makes a better gift to a reader of books than a membership to the Library. Gift certificates are available at the Member Services desk, as are handsome Library tote bags to carry the news of your clever gift idea to the lucky recipient.

We would be remiss in failing to mention our current Fall Appeal, where a donation in honor of your favorite reader would be most welcome!

Present your gift by announcing it on one of our beautifully-designed postcards—available at the Member Services desk for only 1€.

Your generosity to the Library cannot be underestimated, as it allows us to continue to be a thriving part of the Anglophone community. Now, as ever, we are so thankful for your continued support!



A new website for a 21st century library

For the first time in five years, the Library unveils a brand-new website, with a redesigned look and feel, upgraded functionality, and a platform that is responsive across multiple devices, from desktops to tablets to smartphones. The renovation of the Library's physical space last summer called for an equal refurbishment to its virtual presence, which is now vital to the life of the Library. Increasingly, patrons are turning to the Library's website, not just to find information about the latest author event or children's program, but for their reading habits as well, from accessing full-color magazines like *The New Yorker* and *The Economist* on RBdigital to downloading bestsellers from OverDrive.

Users will now be able to subscribe or renew their Library memberships directly through the website, as well as make donations online. The Library's robust social media presence will also be highlighted (at present with 4,400 Facebook, 3,692 Twitter, and 1,472 Instagram followers). Information about the latest Library programs and events will still be front and center, and now users far and wide will be able to easily access video recordings of our popular Evenings with an Author speaker series.

The goal of the website, like that of the physical space, is to function as a hub for intellectual discourse and information sharing. The virtual spaces will be welcoming and user-friendly so that patrons continue to come back to the American Library in Paris again and again, from the comfort of their homes, whether that be across the city of Paris or farther afield.

The website will be in beta until 1 January, and the Library welcomes all feedback and suggestions about the redesign. Please send your comments to info@americanlibraryinparis.org

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Library will close for the holidays at 19h00 on **Saturday 23 December 2017** and will reopen at 10h00 on **Tuesday 2 January 2018**.

EX LIBRIS

The newsletter of The American Library in Paris is published four times a year, in March, June, September, and December.

Technology, Tags, and Tidy Stacks

Since the 2016 renovation, all of the 100,000+ items in the Library were equipped with a very thin microchip called an RFID tag. These wafer-thin tags allow members to check books in and out at the self service machines one at a time or a small stack without worrying too much about whether the book is face up or face down. So what is this magic chip all about?

RFID, or Radio Frequency Identification, is a combination of radio frequency-based technology and microchip technology. Each tag holds not only the bibliographic information for each item (author, title, and item number) but also includes anti-theft features. The tags become part of an item tracking system for the Library.

As you check out a book, two things happen: the item and its due date are written to your account, and secondly, the item is desensitized so that you can exit the Library without setting off alarms. When books are returned the reverse happens, the item is removed from your account and the alarm is reset.

In a bygone era, conducting a physical inventory of the collection meant just that—physically removing each item from the shelf, looking for the barcode, recording it by hand on a clipboard or, for the more advanced libraries, scanning barcodes and uploading them to a worksheet, but in either case holding one's breath so that the dust from the lesser-used corners of the stacks did not throw one into a sneezing frenzy.

The inventory process in the RFID environment is an actual “walk in the park” by comparison. A unique advantage of RFID systems is that it allows us to scan books on the shelves without tipping them out or removing them, which also helps preserve the books. A portable scanner or inventory wand can be moved rapidly across a shelf of books to read the unique identifying information of each item. Using wireless technology, it is not only possible to update the inventory, but also to identify items which are out of proper shelf order and reset their alarms. The wand can also be loaded with a list of missing items or specific titles to locate, and in the same wave of the wand be alerted to their locations within the shelves.

That's why everyone is now volunteering to help with the never-ending physical inventory of our wonderful and unique collection.



*Ed Aguila
Deputy Director*

The Lost Generation



From 7 November to 15 January, in a series of events and exhibitions, including a talk at the Library on 17 January, the city of Paris will be celebrating the “Lost Generation” of American writers and artists who lived here between the wars.

An exhibit at L’Hôtel de Ville showcases photos from the era, including a photo of the American Library in Paris (shown at left), which are included in a book of previously unpublished images, edited by Vincent Bouvet. The Library’s own history is intimately bound with the history of post-war Paris, and artifacts from that time period are an important part of our archives. At a celebration at the U.S. Ambassador’s residence on 8 November to kick off the city-wide spate of activities, the Library displayed precious items from its archives, including an original letter to the Library from Henry Miller requesting specific book titles, and a book donated to the Library by Gertrude Stein.

IN MEMORIAM

John G. Morris



Photo Meredith Mullins

The Library lost its friend John G. Morris who died at the age of 100 this past 28 July. Morris, who spoke regularly at the Library over the last decade, is most famous for having edited Robert Capa's iconic D-Day photos that were printed in *LIFE* magazine in 1944. John was the first executive editor at the Magnum Photo agency, and picture editor of the *New York Times* from 1967 to 1973. He held many other notable positions, giving a front seat to the tumult and triumphs of the latter half of the 20th century. Born in Maple Shade, New Jersey on 7 December 1916, John grew up in Chicago and attended the University of Chicago before getting at job at *LIFE* magazine. He was working in the London bureau at the outbreak of WWII. His various jobs had him moving from Los Angeles to Washington to New York and to Paris, where he stayed for the remaining years of his life. He published his autobiography *Get the Picture: A Personal History of Photojournalism* in 1998.

Morris received the *Legion d'Honneur* in 2009, and spoke most recently at the Library in October 2015 about his book of his own stark, moving photos he took in Normandy in the week after D-Day, a work entitled *Quelque Part en France*. Library members knew him as an amiable and gentle presence over these last years. A man who spent a good deal of time with Hemingway, he was a bridge to a storied past, and that connection ends with his passing. In the last few years he was known by Library members as a gentle, kind man, always in the company of his partner, Patricia Trocmé. Morris was passionate, interested, and engaged with the world until the end of his long life. The Library—its staff, patrons, and program audience—will miss him.

William Cagle

William Cagle, who served as a Distinguished Visiting Librarian at the American Library on several recent occasions, died in Paris on 19 September. He was 83.

Bill and his wife Terry, who moved to Paris soon after the turn of the century, were active in the life of the Library. This was natural enough, as Bill was an avid bibliophile and connoisseur of rare materials for the Lilly Library at Indiana University, which he headed for two decades before his retirement. A recent tribute took note of his pioneering acquisitions there in the areas of film and popular culture; cookbooks; children's books; miniature books; modern fine bindings; and manuscripts of Sylvia Plath, Nadine Gordimer, Ezra Pound, Orson Welles, and John Ford. From Paris, he and Terry regularly travelled to the London Book Fair and other antiquarian gatherings.

William Cagle was born in Hollywood, California in 1933. After studies at UCLA and Oxford, and military service in the U.S. Army (in France), he began his library career at the Huntington Library in California, but spent the rest of it, 30 years, at Indiana University.

Thanks to an anonymous gift to support professional services at the American Library, we were fortunate to be able to call on Bill's services in successive efforts to identify treasures in our collection—some of them now beautifully restored and bound and open for inspection—and to assess the value and utility of our vast periodical archives. The latter process led to the transfer of some titles to the CTLe repository that took place last year. He was serving on our Advisory Council at the time of his death.

The Library extends its condolences to Terry Cagle and the rest of Bill's family. He was a treasured member of ours.



Photo Krystal Kenney

LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

A conversation with Jim Gaffigan

On 14 January at 19h30, stand-up comedian Jim Gaffigan sits down with programs manager Grant Rosenberg to discuss his career, his comedy, and his creative process. Gaffigan is a Grammy-nominated actor, writer, producer, and two-time *New York Times* best-selling author of *Dad is Fat* and *Food: A Love Story*. He has also starred in many television comedies and dramas including *Portlandia* and *Law & Order*.

Due to demand, reservations are required and a donation of **20€ per person** is requested for this event.



Photo Eric Levin

The bilingual education revolution starts here



The Library was pleased to partner with AAWE to welcome Dr. Fabrice Jaumont for a special presentation on the importance of bilingual education on Monday 20 November. His book, *The Bilingual Revolution: The Future of Education is in Two Languages*, provided inspiring stories of how parents and educators created dual language programs in New York public schools.

Dr. Jaumont emphasized the grassroots nature of many of these efforts, spearheaded mostly by concerned parents who, like himself, wanted a bilingual education for their children. He told the story about how New York City never had a bilingual Italian program until a group of families held a community forum and an Italian-American principal of a school

said: If the French have bilingual schools in New York, then the Italians can do it too. He then went on to open the city's first bilingual Italian program in his school.

The participants who attended were rapt with attention. Many of them were administrators from bilingual schools in Paris or parents with children in bilingual schools or programs. They came with questions about how to transfer the experience of creating dual-language programs in New York, as described in *The Bilingual Revolution*, to the rigid and highly bureaucratic educational system in France. Much of the advice given centered on the hope that bilingual education will become a national initiative fueled by the demands of parents who want this for their children.



Spring 2018 book groups taking shape

From Shakespeare's plays to the French-American encounter of different historic eras to books from our evenings with an author series to French books read in French, there are new and returning book groups beginning late January. Please check the website for details to sign up for a group, or contact programs manager Grant Rosenberg for further information: rosenberg@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Home away from home: a volunteer's story

The American Library in Paris was my home away from home and a refuge that I looked forward to going to every week. I joined the Library family in December 2016 as a welcome desk volunteer, while also helping with evening events, and eventually became the Volunteer Coordinator some months later. Immediately upon joining, I felt welcomed by the wonderful staff who helped me not only feel integrated into the daily operations, but also took a personal interest in my well being and that of the other volunteers. There were so many takeaways from my experience at the Library, but what stood out to me most was that I felt empowered to take on projects and assignments as my own.

I finished volunteering in September 2017 for a business opportunity in Dakar, Senegal. I'm currently working for a new social enterprise called Grow, where I am a project manager. My role as project manager revolves around planning events, managing interns, and helping other organizations realize their projects. The Library has helped me develop skills not only for my current position but for life, and I feel so grateful to the staff for all that they have taught me. I look forward to visiting again, as my time in France is not at an end!

Lenisa Patterson



The American Library enjoys the volunteer service of more than a hundred of its members. They shelve books, greet visitors, set up and break down programming events, read at Story Hour, prepare books for circulation, lead book groups and workshops, organize archival materials, and assist a staff of fourteen in making the Library the thriving place it is. For more information about volunteering, members should email volunteer@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Mad for e-magazines



The Library's selection of e-magazines on the popular RBDigital platform is increasing! Starting in January, members will be able to check out new issues of **Bon Appetit**, **Esquire**, **Martha Stewart Living**, **O, the Oprah Magazine**, **Vogue**, and **Wired**.

Younger readers can opt for **Seventeen**, **Highlights for Children**, or **National Geographic Kids**. Of course, old favorites like **The Economist** and **The New Yorker** are still on offer, as are the Library's top ten most-read digital titles of 2017.

Members may access full-page, full-color digital editions on almost any device, and electronic issues often appear on the virtual newsstand before their print equivalents arrive on our shelves. Suggestions for new titles should be sent to info@americanlibraryinparis.org.

RUSHDIE

Continued from page 1

Rushdie is no stranger to controversy. His famous, or infamous, depending on perspective, *Satanic Verses* attracted widespread ire in the Muslim world. The book, which includes a fictionalized account of the prophet Muhammad's drafting of apocryphal verses in the Koran, was banned in a dozen countries.

Rushdie's latest novel, *The Golden House*, begins with Barack Obama's inauguration and tells a fantastic story of an enigmatic, and very wealthy, immigrant family in New York. The book includes plenty of timely political satire. *The New York Times* called it "equal parts *The Great Gatsby* and *The Bonfire of the Vanities*." Rushdie is an engaging, widely literate, and dryly entertaining speaker. He boldly takes on difficult issues and speaks authoritatively on literature and politics.

Salman Rushdie is the author of thirteen novels, a book of stories, *East, West*, and four works of non-fiction including his memoir *Joseph Anton*. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and a former president of American PEN, Rushdie is currently a Distinguished Writer in Residence at New York University. He was knighted in 2007 for his services to literature.

The Gala is the American Library's most important fundraising event over the course of the year. Gala-goers will not only enjoy an outstanding dinner and a fascinating conversation with one of the great modern writers, they will also provide essential support to the Library. If you love books, and want to support a great literary institution, don't miss this event.

Invitations will be mailed in the spring, but reservations may be made any time by contacting Development Manager Krista Faurie at gala@americanlibraryinparis.org.

TEENS

Teens rule at the American Library in Paris!

Painting pumpkins, decorating for Halloween, playing capture the flag on the Champ de Mars, and voting on books to be added to our collections for teens—these are just a few of the ways teens are involved at the Library. We had a busy fall, with our first ever Zombie Fashion Show (as part of the annual Halloween Extravaganza), a packed night of Friday evening programs for ages 12-18, including a second year of the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program, which aims to help teens improve their public speaking skills. We launched a new program called the Teen Advisory Group, which allows teens a first look at newly published books and a chance to share their views and recommendations for which books are added to our young adult collections.

Our 2018 calendar will kick off with a night of photography as we explore instant images on Friday 12 January. Limited space is available for this event, so sign up early! Regular clubs will continue in 2018, including our ever popular Master Shot Film Club and Teen Writing Group, as well as the Youth Leadership Program and Friday Teen Nights. Check the calendar online to see the full schedule!



Zombie Fashion Show contestants (part of our Halloween Extravaganza 2017)



Pumpkin painting at our Halloween Decorating Party

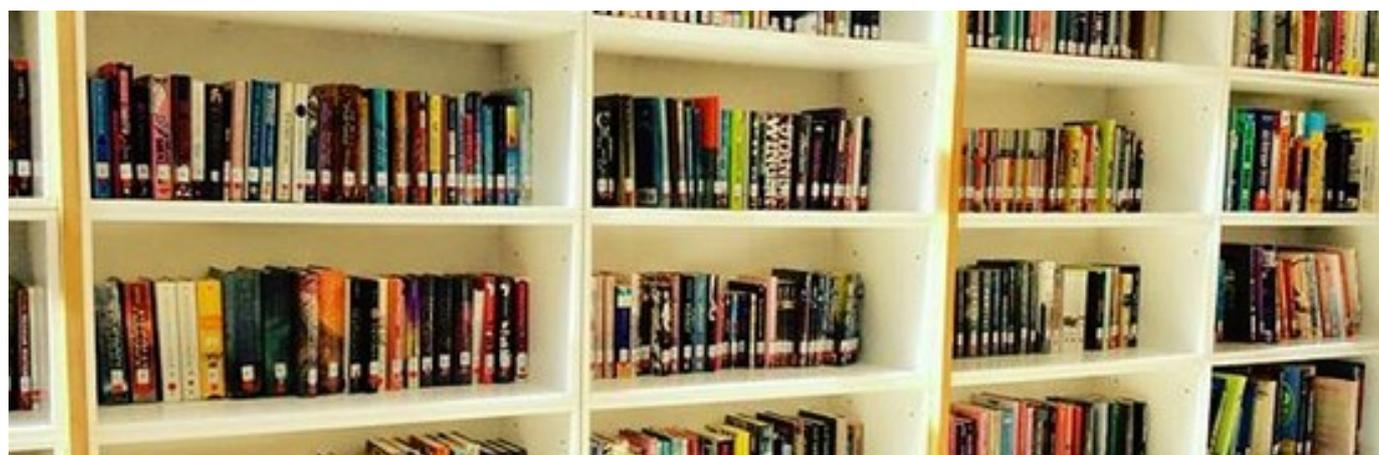
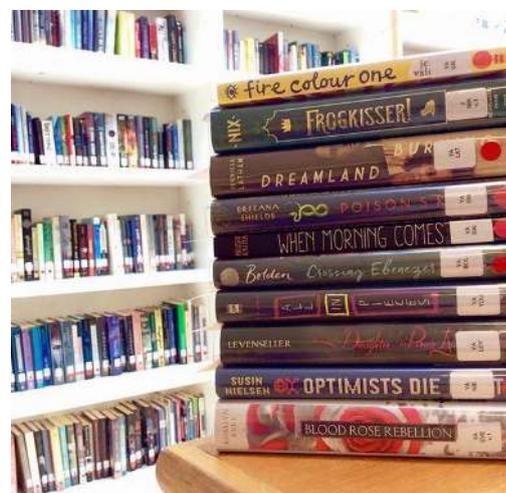


The first book selections for our Teen Advisory Group

Books galore!

Looking for a great mystery, a new science fiction novel, a great nonfiction book or a classic graphic novel? There's a wide selection of material available on our Teen Mezzanine, including fiction, graphic novels, nonfiction and magazines. We even have college guides to help you get ready for the next step.

We have resources available online that you can use from home too, including magazines available via the online platform RBDigital. Stop by the Teen Mezzanine anytime during our open hours and check out our collections for teens, or get help logging into your account online. If there's anything you'd like that you don't see on the shelves, let us know by filling out the online suggestion form, or send an email to our children's and teens' services manager, Celeste: celeste@americanlibraryinparis.org.



CHILDREN

It's a Thank-O-Rama!

Our Thanksgiving Thank-O-Rama on Saturday 25 November was a resounding success, and children and their families left the Library full of holiday pies (baked and donated by volunteers Mary and Katherine, and staff member



Children's & teens' services manager, Celeste, at our Thanksgiving Thank-O-Rama.

Audrey). Children and teens learned about the many traditions surrounding Thanksgiving in America and told us about a few of the things they are grateful for. We're always heartened to learn how many children, teens, and parents are grateful for the Library. We are certainly thankful for our many members and the wonderful volunteers who donate their time and talents throughout the year to make events such as this one possible!

Winter magic, snowless snowmen

We're excited to welcome Eric the Magician for our annual Winter Wonderland on **Sunday 17 December at 15h00**. This special winter event brings together children, teens, families, and many volunteers for an afternoon of crafts, storytelling, and surprises. This year, once again, Frosty the Snowman will visit the Library during the event and distribute gifts to all children and teens present.

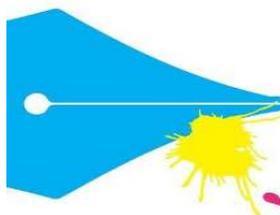
Have you noticed the beautiful snowman and other book sculptures used to promote our winter events on our social media and print materials? These book sculptures were created by one of our many talented volunteers, Pauline Charruyer. Do you have an idea for a book sculpture? Send us an email at kidsandteens@americanlibraryinparis.org!



This beautiful snowless snowperson is available in postcard form at the Library for 1€. Pick one up while supplies last if you'd like to send a special winter note to someone.

Unless otherwise stated, all programs are free for Library members and 10€ for non-members. Children attending Library programs must have their own membership card or be covered by a family membership. Please contact Celeste Rhoads for more information about our children's programs: celeste@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Calling young authors! Fiction Festival 2017



The Library is proud to be the organizer of the Young Authors Fiction Festival. YAFF is a city-wide writing initiative that aims to strengthen community among English-speakers through

storytelling. Writers ages 5-18 are invited to participate in our many writing workshops and/or submit an original story written in English. YAFF is free of charge and open to all students ages 5-18 in the greater Paris area who write in English. The deadline for submissions is **30 March at 22h00**. Check our website for details. Questions? Contact yaff@americanlibraryinparis.org!

Events for young children and their families

Ages 3-5: Wednesday Story Hour

Our weekly interactive Story Hours continue with two sessions each Wednesday from **10h30-11h30** and from **14h30-15h30**. Like all of our children's programs, Story Hours are entirely in English. They feature reading, singing, and hand rhymes, and we always wrap up with a simple craft project. Bring along your favorite grown-up and join us one Wednesday!

No reservation required!

Ages 1-3: Toddler Time!

The Library's popular Toddler Time program continues this winter with sessions from **10h30-11h00** and from **17h00-17h30** on **11 & 25 January, 1 & 15 February** and **1 & 15 March**.

Sign-up is required for this activity.

Each child must be accompanied by an adult and a reservation is required for this event. Click on the sign-up link on the event page online to register for this activity.

Ages 0-2: Baby Songs!

Parents and their babies are invited to join us for a half hour sing-along on Thursday 18 January at 11h where our children's and teens' services manager will teach you and your baby some classic songs to sing together.

Reservation is required for this event. Click on the sign up link on the event page online to register for this activity.

CALENDAR

Tuesday 5 December 19h30

An iconic French jeweler

Scholar Willa Z. Silverman presents the private diaries of the famed jeweler Henri Vever, a winner of Grand Prizes at the 1889 and 1900 World's Fairs. Like his colleague René Lalique, he figured prominently in the avant-garde of the *Art Nouveau* movement. An astute observer of daily and private life, society, and politics in *fin-de-siècle* Paris, Vever describes in rich detail the vogue of bicycling, scientific and technological innovations, Parisian leisure activities, and such newsworthy events as the Dreyfus Affair, The Boer War, and the Spanish-American War.



Tuesday 12 December 19h30

Sparkling wine tasting

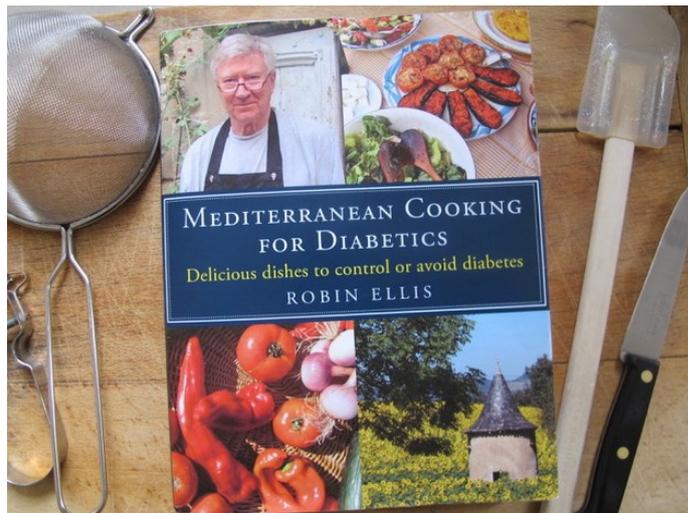
Join Josh Adler from Paris Wine Company for a taste of a new selection of sparkling wines from across France, including Crémant, Champagne, and Pétillant Naturel. The evening will explore different methods of making sparkling wines, and allow participants to try wines for all tastes and budgets to spark ideas for holiday gifts or entertaining. **Cost: 35€ per person.**

RSVP required. To reserve a spot, please send an email to: rosenberg@americanlibraryinparis.org

Wednesday 6 December 19h30

Healthy cooking in France

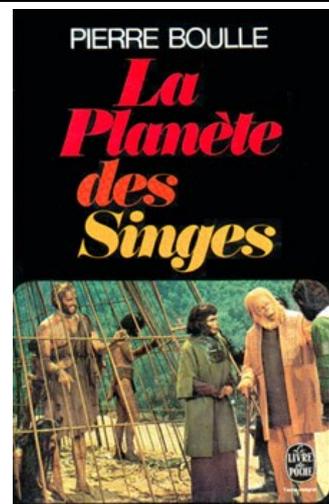
British actor and writer Robin Ellis, (best known for his role as Captain Ross Poldark in the original BBC *Poldark* series) is also a cook who has lived in southwestern France for 27 years. Robin was diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes in his fifties. Research told him the best culinary approach was a low-carb Mediterranean diet—and exercise—and he staved off medication for the condition for six years. He has now written three cookbooks on healthy eating and will talk about diet, recipes, and more.



Wednesday 13 December 19h30

The Planet of the Apes and the American Psyche

Artist and Rice University professor Christopher Sperandio brings science fiction to the Library's programs in a talk about French science fiction author Pierre Boulle, and the lasting influence of *La Planète des Singes*. While not the first author to imagine the rise of intelligent simians, Paris-based author Boulle certainly made the most lasting impression. Although he considered his 1963 novel *La Planète des Singes* to be a minor work, Boulle's book has spawned no less than nine feature films, a morning cartoon series, comic books, and a raft of merchandising. Sperandio will discuss the influence Boulle's premise has on his current, in-progress graphic novel. As Sperandio notes dryly, "one may conclude that, given the current alternatives, a world run by talking apes may not be the worst thing to happen."



COMING IN 2018

Stand-up comedian Jim Gaffigan in conversation (see page 6) ... a French take on the Lost Generation ... AFP journalist Adam Plowright on Macron's rise and first nine months ... Alice Feiring presents her book on natural and biodynamic wines ... Julia Mickenberg on the story of American woman defecting to Red Russia between the wars ... Natalie Moore on *The South Side: A Portrait of Chicago and American Segregation* ... and more to come...

Evenings with Authors and other weeknight programs at the Library are free and open to the public (except as noted) thanks to support from the Annenberg Foundation, our members, and those who attend programs. We suggest a 10€ donation to support each evening program.

LIBRARY PHOTOS

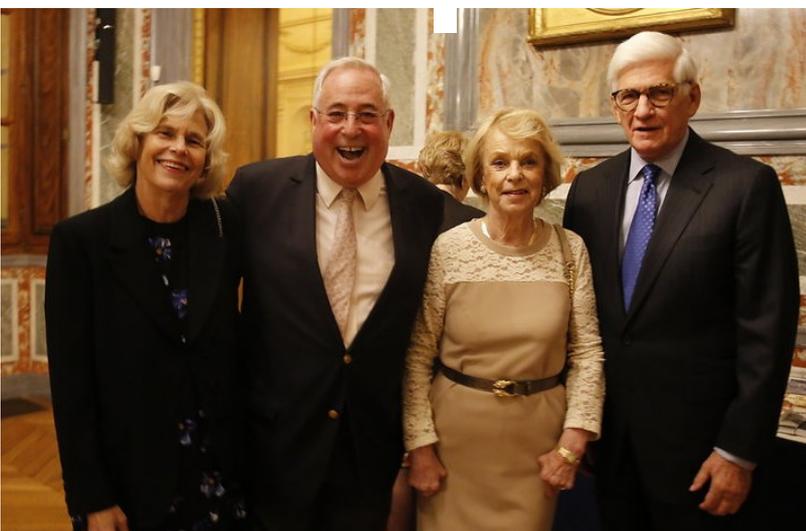
2017 BOOK AWARD CEREMONY



From left to right, Charles and Clydette de Groot with David Bellos; the author with Book Award Administrator and former Library Director Charles Trueheart; Cultural Counselor Julia Fendrick, representing the U.S. Embassy, with Pamela Combastet



From left to right, Jade and Fabrice Henry; Amélie, Stephanie, and Patrice de La Rochefoucauld; Sandrine Poisson Alogna, and William Kelly



From left to right, Mary Lee Turner, Peter and Cissie Barnett, Edward Turner; Rachel Donadio and Scott Sayare

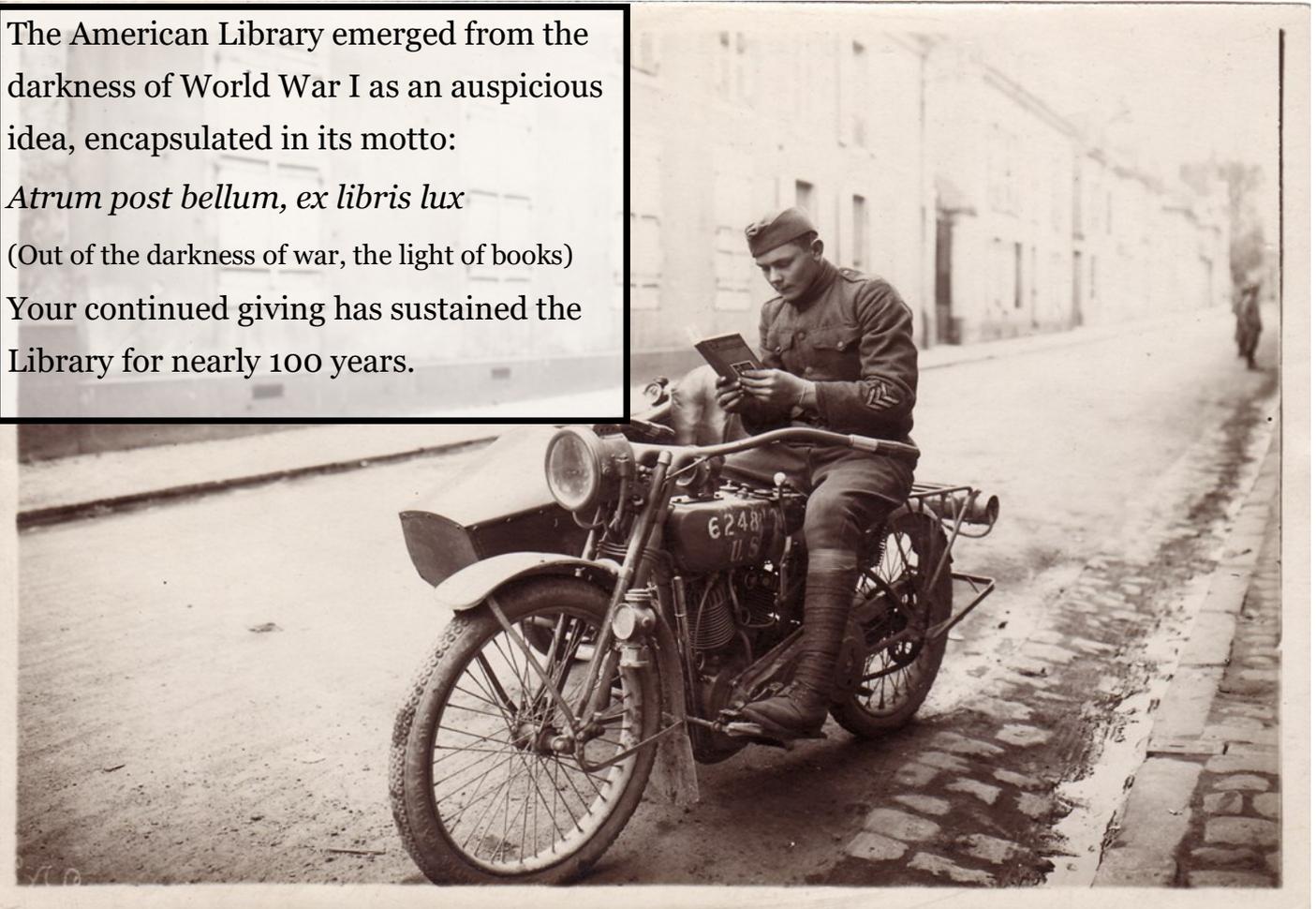
All Photos Omer Faraj

The American Library emerged from the darkness of World War I as an auspicious idea, encapsulated in its motto:

Atrum post bellum, ex libris lux

(Out of the darkness of war, the light of books)

Your continued giving has sustained the Library for nearly 100 years.



The American Library in Paris

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