

The American Library in Paris ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The year in review

In 2014, the American Library in Paris enjoyed another remarkable year of activity, diversifying its programming, extending its resources, and attracting new users and audiences. As the information in these pages reveals in detail, the Library continued to meet the needs of an international community of members devoted to the written and spoken word and the exchange of talent and ideas.

The Library welcomed new institutions of higher learning as partners, providing their students with outstanding study areas and research facilities, physical and virtual.

The Library's resources for and services to children, teens, and their parents remained a core of our purpose and a foundation of our renown in Paris.

The Library's evening programming, its book groups and workshops, its wine-tastings and exhibits, drew thousands of people to events, often as their introduction to the Library, and a growing visibility in the community and underscored the Library's appeal as a cultural magnet in Paris.

The Library's Gala Dinner with Antony Beevor, its annual Book Award for distinguished writing about France, its new Visiting Fellowship bringing outstanding writers into our midst – these were visible signs both of our intellectual vitality and of the generous financial support we so much require in Paris and beyond.

Challenges are ahead, as they always are. The demographics and the size of the Library's natural constituency -- expatriates and French citizens who love the English language and American culture – are shifting due to trends that are both global and local. The range of demands from our users for programming, meeting spaces, study areas, social activity, and solitude is testing the Library's ability to manage all of its activities in our current physical configuration. And of course the tumult of the Information Age continues to challenge libraries to adapt to new realities and embrace new possibilities that technology affords and makes compelling.

The American Library in 2014 thrived because of our outstanding staff and committed board of trustees, a legion of talented volunteers and avid members, and a growing family of financial supporters. Thanks are due to all of them for an extraordinary year of progress.

Mary Lee Turner Chairman of the Board of Trustees **Charles Trueheart**Director of the Library



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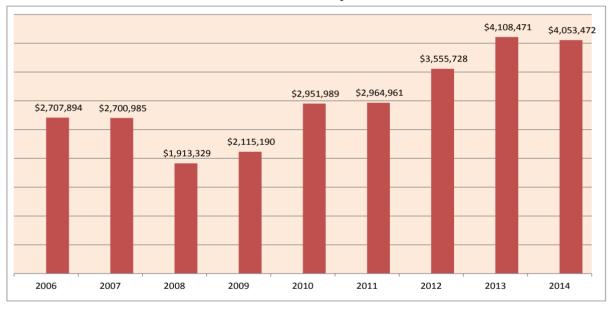
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FINANCIAL

Statement of income and expenses: The American Library in Paris, Inc.

Revenues in \$	2013	2014	Expenditures in \$	2013	<u>2014</u>
	1€=\$ 1,3282	1€=\$1,3288		1€=\$ 1,3282	1€=\$1,3288
Membership fees	313,274	320,606	Payroll	840,991	950,959
Operating income 7%	145,232	134,882	Building, Tax 11%	206,085	183,313
Rent (AUP) 21%	381,378	378,644	Depreciation	92,956	187,127
Gift ALP Foundation 20%	517,979	357,985	Professional fees (1)	86,923	76,947
Donations 25%	356,295	439,781	Books and periodicals 5%	109,723	80,229
Other income 9%	46,994	155,107	Marketing (2) 9%	137,597	151,671
			Other (3)	75,708	33,849
Total revenues	\$1,761,152	\$1,787,005	Total expenditures	\$1,549,983	\$1,664,095
	€ 1,325,969	€ 1,344,826		€ 1,166,980	€ 1,252,329
(1) Banking, accounting and insurance	e fees, (2) Marketing, dev	elopment and gala, (3)	Telephone, equipment rental & maintenance	е	
Sources: Audited annual financial	statements of the Ame	erican Library in Paris,	, Inc. and the American Library in Paris-	-USA Foundation,	
which are available upon request	and on the Library web	osite: www.americar	nlibraryinparis.org		

Investment assets: The American Library in Paris (USA) Foundation



Membership revenues 2007—2014



LIBRARY DATA

Collections

Total collection 135 121

Adult book holdings	106 696	
Category	Holdings	<u>Checkouts</u>
Literature/criticism	20 264	4 819
Fiction	16 607	18 856
Geography & history	12 921	4 236
Social Sciences	11 738	4 008
Arts/recreation	6 383	2 868
Mysteries	5 114	8 046
Biographies	4 649	3 007
Applied sciences	4 532	2 512
Philosophy/psycholog	y 3 644	1 985
Travel	2 584	4 245
Religion	2 378	874
Science fiction	1 957	1 100
Cooking/food	1 923	923
Languages	1 530	1 470
Youth holdings	14 283	47,190
DVD+CD youth+adult	4 249	21,398

Titles in periodical databases	3 700
Titles in periodical archive	478
Periodical subscriptions	99

Visits and transactions

Library visits in 2014	74 573
Average daily visits	270
Library transactions in 2014	225 974
Average daily transactions	761
Visits to Library website	17 811
Visits to Library databases	3 412
Number of evening programs	67
Total evening attendance	4 120
Children's programs	225

Membership

Total Members	2 316	
New	1 351	
Renewing	965	
Individual	46%	
Family	21%	
Student	9%	
Institutional	24%	
(from 29 institutions; see page 11)		

Members by nationality

1 1 -	
United States	520
France	366
United Kingdom	76
Canada	41
Australia	28
China	28
South Korea	23
India	20
Germany	20
Italy	14
Ireland	14
Mexico	9
Sweden	9
Finland	7
Spain	7
South Africa	7
Brazil	6
Saudi Arabia	6
Taiwan	6
Japan	6
Japan	U

...and about 65 other countries. Many members do not specify a nationality, often because their households number more than one.



EVENINGS AT THE LIBRARY

Thanks to the support of the Annenberg Foundation and growing gifts from members and supporters, the Library was fortunate to host the following events in 2013.

Alexander Maksik presents his second novel, 'A Marker to Measure Drift' • Immigrants or expatriates? A presentation by Justin E. H. Smith • Wines of the Loire: A workshop with Joshua Adler • Historical research with Skip Moskey • Selden Edwards and 'The Lost Prince' • Mary Louise Roberts: 'What Soldiers Do' • The challenges of covering China with Beijing correspondent Peter Ford • A food writing double-header with Patricia Wells and Ann Mah • 'Collateral Damage' from Alice Boatwright • The art of translation with Jean-Paul Gratias and Geneviève Doze • Emily Lodge recalls 'The Lodge Women' • Black cowboys in the American West with Naida Culshaw • Diane Johnson presents her new memoir, 'Flyover Lives' • African-American artists: A presentation by Kathryn Wat from the National Museum of Women in the Arts • Amity Gaige and her new novel, 'Schroder' • Lise Faulise



on handwriting for teachers and parents • Chamber music with Julien Fourrier and Lilla Anderson • A conversation with Mo Willems • Reza Aslan on Jesus 'The Zealot' • Word for Word presents 'In Friendship' by Zona Gale • Joshua Adler on the wines of Burgundy • Two readings of 'Portrait of a Lady' by **Diane Johnson** and **Laura Furman** • **David Lebo**vitz: 'My Paris Kitchen' • Digital parenting: Advice from Elizabeth Milovidov • Paris during World War I: A new book by **John Baxter** • The art of collecting: A conversation with **James Dyke • Chris Boïcos** on Alexander Mapplethorpe • Moving up to CP: A presentation by **AAWE** and **Message** • 'Welcome to the Free Zone,' with **Bill Reed** • **Joan Dejean** presents her new book, 'How Paris Became Paris' • 'To Rise Again at a Decent Hour,' with Joshua Ferris • 'Diner en Blanc': A screening • Playwright David Hare on Oscar Wilde • Pictures from the heavens with **Robert Nemiroff • Karen Karbo**'s Julia Child • 'Inside a Pearl,' a new memoir by Edmund White · Tilar Mazzeo on the Ritz at war · Lochlann Jain: 'How Cancer Becomes Us' • Michael Gorra presents his biography of a masterpiece, 'Portrait of a Novel' · Charles Trueheart, Clydette de Groot, and Saara Marchadour discuss the American Library in Paris Book Award • Whit Stillman screens his new television pilot, 'The Cosmopolitans' • Carrie Solomon and the art of American food • 'Posthumous' • Joan Schenkar on Patricia Highsmith • Alexander Lobrano and Clotilde **Dusoulier** on French food writing • Victoria Schultz and Todd Gitlin on the Occupy movement • Mimi Thorisson: A Kitchen in France • Emmanuel Carrère's Limonov • Celso Gonzalez-Falla: 'My Lost Cuba' • All about atheists: a presentation by Peter Watson • Dictionnaire du nouveau français with Alexandre des Isnards · Stephane Sednaoui's search and rescue photos from 9/11 • Alex Danchev on René Magritte • Chris Boïcos on Marchel Duchamp • Global terror: A panel discussion with **Alex Danchev**, **Wendell Steavenson**, and Leela Jacinto • The art of Craig Hanna • Sheila Kohler's new novel about Sigmund Freud • Artisinal sweets with **Le Petit Duc Palanque**

BOOK AWARD

A 2012 gift from the Florence Gould Foundation made possible the creation of **The American Library in Paris Book Award**, an outward sign of the Library's continuing commitment to outstanding writing that deepens and stimulates French-American understanding.

The literary prize and a \$5,000 cash award goes to the author of the most distinguished book of the year, written originally in English, whose subject matter is France and the French, or the longstanding and constantly evolving French-American encounter.

In 2014, the second year of the award, a screening committee reviewed 94 submissions and presented the jury with a shortlist of six outstanding titles. The 2014 jury, drawn from the Library's Writers Council and this year consisting of **Alice Kaplan**, **Sebastian Faulks**, and **Pierre Assouline**, selected *An Officer and A Spy*, a historical novel about the Dreyfus affair by **Robert Harris**, as the winning book of the year.

The other shortlisted titles were *How to Ruin a Queen*, by **Jonathan Beckman**, *The Embrace*

of Unreason: France 1914-1940, by Frederick Brown, Brave Genius, by Sean B. Carroll, Citizen Emperor: Napoleon in Power 1799-1815, by Philip Dwyer, and Lovers at the Chameleon Club, Paris 1932, by Francine Prose. The winner of the 2013 Award was Fredrik Logevall for Embers of War: The Fall of an Empire and the Making of America's Vietnam.

The Florence Gould Foundation renewed its support for the Book Award in 2014 with a second major gift to the Library.

The ceremony to award the prize, on 3 November at the Geroge C. Marshall Center in Paris, also benefited from the generous patronage of Alain Aubry, Mary Duncan, Charles and Clydette de Groot, Diane Johnson, and Susan Mallory Kayat.

Members of the screening committee for the 2014 Book Award were Irina Boulin-Ghica, Jacqueline Cessou, Jeanne Fellowes, Mary Fleming, Leslie de Galbert, Clydette de Groot, Odile Hellier, Brian Manning, Saara Marchadour, and Charles Trueheart.

VISITING FELLOW

Gifts from **The de Groot Foundation** make possible the **American Library in Paris Visiting Fellowship**, consisting of a \$5,000 stipend for a writer desiring to deepen his or her research on a French-related topic with a month in Paris.

Visiting Fellows also speak to Library audiences, conduct workshops for Library members, consult with Library staff about its collections, and engage in the life of the Library community.

The Library welcomed its second Visiting Fellow in November, 2014: **Alex Danchev**, a professor of international relations at St Andrews University in Scotland and a biographer of Cezanne and Braque, whose work-in-progress is a biography of Rene Magritte. The first Visiting Fellow, in 2013, was **Anthony Flint**, who finished work on his biography of Le Corbusier, *Modern Man*, published in 2014.

BOOK GROUPS WORKSHOPS EXHIBITS

Volunteer-led monthly book groups continued in 2014 to attract diverse and enthusiastic members discussing such genres as memoirs and mysteries and such themes as the literature of exile, novels about mortality, new French novels, whistleblowers, business start-up stories, sports and society, brain science, and World War I.

Book group leaders in 2014 were Ann and Don Morrison, David Jolly, Leslie de Galbert and Clydette de Groot, Peter Fellowes, Elaine Aragon, Mary Harries Magnusson, Gabrielle Cassavetti, Ed Turner, Anne Raynaud, Rosarita Cuccoli, and John Gridley.

Library members were also offered workshops on wine, poetry, creative writing, historical research, writing about photography, along with a walking tour of American Revolution sites in Paris. These offerings were led by **Mary Jo Padgett, Joshua Adler, Jessica Levine, Skip Moskey,** and **Michael McCaughley**.

The Library also presented five exhibitions in 2014: Reimagining Blacks in the American West; Books and Us: Photographs by Henri Zerdoun; America in 1914; 2014 Book Award Nominees; and Occupy Portraits: New York City, 2011-2013. Artists that were presented in these were photographers Henri Zerdoun and Victoria Schultz. Exhibit curators included Naida Culshaw, John Gridley, and Pauline Lemasson.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS

The children's and young adults' services department remains one of the most active corners of the Library. Materials from collections for children and teens accounted for over 40% of circulation in 2014, while the department conducted more than 200 programs throughout the year for children and teens from ages 1-18.

Capacity crowds attended regular Library programs of all kinds, especially Mother Goose Lap-Sits on two Thursdays a month, weekly Wednesday Story Hours, Bookworms Book Groups, and Friday Teen Nights.

Two teen clubs launched in earlier years continued to thrive: The Teen Writing Group produced several contest winners and the Master Shot Film Club's members created films screened at the Library's annual Halloween party.

Highlights of the year included:

- In April the Library gathered together book lovers of all ages for a reading flash mob under the Eiffel Tower. The Master Shot Film Club, led by volunteer Clarence Tokley, filmed the event and created a short video of the scene to spread the love of books on social media.
- In April, the annual Young Adult Fiction Festival recognized the work of writers aged 5 to 18 from over 20 local schools.
- Just a few of the many guests who hosted events for children and teens in 2014 included children's author and illustrator **Mo Willems**, children's novelist and Berkeley professor **Anne Nesbit**, **Eric the Magician** (who hosted several magic workshops for ages 8-12), and **Stacey Wilson-MacMahon**, who taught children about



The Library's team of staff, interns and volunteers after three hours of tours of the Haunted Library!

secret messages of the Underground Railroad.

- The Library, thanks to a special donation, is able to attract skilled interns in the children's and young adults services department. In 2014, those interns were **Matilda Rossetti** from England and **Jay Kelley** from California.
- By far the most popular event for children and teens in 2014 was the annual Halloween Extravaganza. With hundreds of people through the doors during the day of the event, and many volunteers on hand to help out, the event was a great success and a proven membership-builder. This year marked the return of the Haunted Library, where we spooked several children and teens and even a few adults.

Celeste Rhoads

Children's and Young Adult Services Manager

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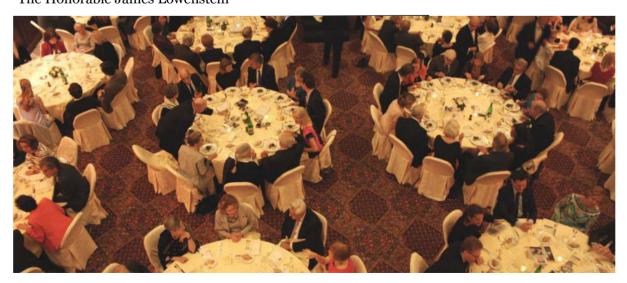
Gifts to the Library every year are the visible expression of the institution's financial health and its importance to the community and world it serves. The donors recognized on the following pages for their generosity are remarkable for the broad range of gifts they made in 2014 both to the American Library in Paris, Inc., by responding to periodic appeals and participating in the annual Gala Dinner, and to the American Library in Paris USA Foundation, with grants and donations often in excess of \$100,000. This support allows the Library to provide its resources and services at membership prices far below the actual cost of operations. The Library is grateful to all whose names follow.

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