



WINTER 2004-2005

EX LIBRIS

THE ALP NEWSLETTER

10 rue du Général Camou

75007 Paris

Phone: (33) 01.53.59.12.60

Fax: (33) 01.45.50.25.83

Email: alparis@noos.fr

Website:

www.americanlibraryinparis.org

GALA SPONSORS

The Board of Trustees and staff of the Library wish to thank the sponsors who contributed to making the 2004 Gala such a resounding success.

Our deepest appreciation to the following:

SPONSORS:

The Wais Family

The Annenberg Foundation/Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Weingarten

The Craig Family

Mr. and Mrs. Méjanès

Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith

Judith Pillsbury

Xchanging

SUPPORTERS:

Conti International

International Herald Tribune

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Paul Hastings, Janofsky & Walker (Europe) LLP

Dechert LLP and Jonathan Schur

Mr. & Mrs. Lee Huebner

Chanel

The Library of America

Friends of the ALP

Special thanks to:

**Lynn Kelley,
Gala Chairman**

'TIS THE SEASON— TO SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY!

This year's Gala has given the Library a good beginning for its annual Fall Fundraising, as contributions from seven major sponsors, nine supporters, and many individuals helped bring revenues to over 50,000 Euros. (See article, page 3). We will soon be moving into the next phase of the annual campaign, with our fall fundraising letter soliciting support from the Library community.

We are delighted to announce that we have received a leadership matching grant from the Irving Berlin Charitable Trust for \$25,000. This grant has been pledged to upgrade our technology and equipment services, and must be matched by other funds for this purpose to fulfill the terms of the grant. Every dollar or euro received from other donors for this initiative brings us closer to our overall goal of \$50,000, which will put us well on our way to technology enhancement.

With the rapid changes in technology, library services have seen an enormous range of innovations that make cataloging, library reference, renewals on line, browsing for favorite books, and library holds as simple as a stroke on the keyboard.

The Library has received proposals from various vendors, and we are eager to put

these exciting new capacities to work for our patrons. With the new systems, patrons will be able to enjoy the following services, with simple, easy-to-use commands, either in the Library or all from your home computer:

- review our entire catalog of holdings on line
- search for a favorite book or author
- do research using simple key word commands

- renew books on line

- read reviews of many of the books that we have

- put a hold on a book you are eager to check out

This is something that everyone can enjoy, and that will enhance your Library experience.

Special Prize Offered

The Hotel Astor (11, rue d'Astorg, Paris 8e) has offered a gift certificate for two free dinners, good until September 2005. If you make a donation to the Library by the deadline of February 1, 2005, your name will be entered into a drawing for this special gift. Only one entry per person. So be on the look-out for more information about how you can give, and please give generously, to ensure that the Library continues to offer the best and latest in all that makes a great Library!



Gala Contributors

M. et Mme Jean Paul Angles

Mme Suzanne de Brantes

Mme Urve Landers

M. Juan de Bestegui

Mlle Alexandra Hughes

Mme Anne Raynaud

Mme la Baronne Philippine de Rothschild

Mme Edmond de la Haye Jousselein

Mr. Perry Culley

Mr. Thomas Upton Sisson

Mrs. Sybil Sever

Ms. Nancy Clift Gillespie

Ms. Anne Conover Carson

Ms. Emily Kolb-Rubatto

M. Jacques Maisonrouge

Mr. George B. Dornblaser, Jr.

Ms. Pamela K. Hull

J.N. Cimino

The Arthur Loeb Foundation

Cocktail Fundraiser with Alan Furst

By Gail Buyske



Better luck next time for those who couldn't make Alan Furst's reading on October 6; you missed the author whose novels were described by

"astonishing value" in stimulating him with books he never even knew he wanted: books acquired by European eyes and with European taste. Alan praised the Library's open stacks policy, which allows felicitous book discoveries, and admonished us not to "let anything happen" to the Library, "a rare and beautiful thing."

After reading passages from his latest novel, *Dark Voyage*, Alan explained the major role that details play in his work. He is a self-described "hoover" for facts, both large and small, that can add to the atmosphere he creates in his novels. He even revealed that the 1938 *Brown's Nautical Almanac* is a prized possession! After a brief question and answer session, all adjourned to the front of the Library to mingle and enjoy the lavish cocktail buffet prepared by the Friends of the Library. Proceeds from the event will support the Library's programs.

one critic as the next best thing to watching *Casablanca* for the first time. Library Director Shirley Lambert had a tribute of her own—immersion in one of Alan's books caused her to miss her bus stop!

Alan was as enthusiastic about the American Library in Paris as his fans are about him. His first two books and a good portion of his third were written "out of" the library, as he put it. Although Alan actually wrote the books in his apartment in the Marais, the American Library proved of

Authors of *Wine and War* a Hit—and Five Generous Winegrowers Help Support the Library

October 13 was the scene of the Library's first wine tasting soirée, coupled with a presentation by Don and Petie Kladstrup on their book *Wine and War*. The rapt attention paid throughout to tales of close calls, secret hiding places, and ways the vignerons found to outwit the Nazi occupying force was testimony to the power of the Kladstrups' narrative. Their light-hearted asides were devoted to memories of sublime wines shared with new friends, as their research for the book took them to chateaux and caves.



Five of the winegrowers who figure prominently in the book generously donated selected bottles of their wines for the wine tasting afterward, and all proceeds from the event will go to support Library operating expenses. Our sincere thanks to these generous Library sponsors. The houses and the wines they contributed are:

Laurent Perrier : Champagne (brut)

Domaine Huet: Le Mont Vouvray 2002 (demi-sec)

Maison Joseph Drouhin : Beaune Clos des Mouches, 2002, and Chambolle-Musigny, 1er Cru 2002

Maison Louis Latour : Aloxe-Corton Les Chaillots, 1999

Chateau Coufran : Chateau Coufran Haut-Médoc, 1999 Cru Bourgeois Supérieur

STAFF IS READING

Shirley Lambert: *The Book of Illusions*, by Paul Auster—Having a celebrity author as guest for this year's gala is a good spur to all of us to read his books, and this book illustrates Auster's remarkable talent for slowly drawing the reader into the layers of a man's life, as its repercussions immerse the other characters. A mesmerizing novel, complex.



Kim Le Minh: *A Right To Be Hostile: The Boon-docks Treasury*, by Aaron McGruder; foreword by Michael Moore—Two inner-city kids' insightful perspective on American society, politics, and much more... The most controversial comic strip ever!
Song of the Exile, by Kiana Davenport—An epic novel about two young Hawaiians - a jazz musician and his Korean lover, caught in the madness of WWII. The reader travels from Honolulu to New Orleans to Paris and Shanghai, and from the 1930s to Hawaii's statehood in 1959.

Kristin Duncombe: *The Miracle Life of Edgar Mint: A Novel*, by Brady Udall—The incredibly moving and at times very funny story of the life of Edgar Mint, a young Apache boy, whose near-death at age seven sets the course for a life of survival and creative suffering. Udall's story is written so gracefully that the attachment to the characters in the book, Edgar in particular, is impossible to avoid. A must read.

Adele Witt: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, by Mark Haddon—Narrated by Christopher Boone who is fifteen and has Asperger's form of autism. He finds the neighbor's dog murdered and sets out on a quest to solve the mystery. The character of Christopher, which Haddon has developed, is very realistic and moving.



Armelle Aymonin: *Ignorance*, by Milan Kundera—A short novel about Czech émigrés visiting their native Prague after a 30-year absence. A subtle, often poetic depiction of the rift between those who felt they had to leave and those who stayed and their impossible dialogue. One of Kundera's most perceptive works.
Rachel Koblic: *White Teeth*, by Zadie Smith—A John Irving-esque look at different cultures, friendship and love over the course of three generations. For anyone with London in their blood, this book will make you cry laughing.

Sharon Gouhier: *1421: The Year China Discovered the World*, by Gavin Menzies—A real—but almost alternative—history, world discovery, and might-have-been.

The Rule of Four, by Ian Caldwell & Dustin Thomason—Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose* meets Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*.



Annual Gala Sold Out: Over 50.000€ Raised!!

This year's Gala on November 9th kicked off the ALP's fall fundraising season with a bang! With over 150 people in attendance, the Automobile Club of France sparkled with the lively chatter of library supporters – some of whom were seen toting their well-worn copies of books written by Gala guest of honor, Paul Auster.

Guests began filtering into the club's library for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres around 7:30p.m., greeting friends old and new, and eagerly anticipating meeting Auster. The Tuesday night atmosphere was festive, as Gala guests unwound from work with champagne and canapés, and the crowd's diversity was a testimony to both the Library's and Auster's broad fan base.

Auster, who lived in France for a number of years and was known as a translator before being recognized for his superb novels, critical works, and poetry, commented on the cultural exchange that has long existed between France and the United States. He shared his praise of the American Library for establishing itself as an organization intent on promoting this international exchange, and expressed his hope that the bond would remain strong well into the future. When asked why he had left France to return to the U.S., he said simply, "The language. I needed to live in English in order to write."

Hungry, the crowd moved upstairs to the lavish dining room, to find each table named after one of Auster's works. Those who were affably indignant at being labeled *Leviathan* or *Ghosts* were soon appeased with their very own bottle of Allure perfume or cologne – generously donated by Chanel as a gift for each guest. It was a pleasure to see so many of the library's supporters clearly en-

joying each other's company, as well as the beautiful setting.

The Board of Trustees at the American Library, as well as the library staff, extend their thanks to everyone who attended the Gala, our major fundraising event of the year. We particularly wish to thank Lynn Kelley, Gala Chairman, whose superb organization of the event left nothing to chance. We are also grateful to our sponsors and supporters, all of whom have provided such generous financial contributions to the Library. Thanks also go to Paul Auster, whose presence certainly contributed to the success of the event (the Library raised over 50,000 euros). The funds raised will contribute to our core mission, that of encouraging and enriching the exchange of culture and friendship between the United States and France.

Sponsors: The Wais Family, The Annenberg Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Weingarten, The Craig Family, Mr. and Mrs. Méjanès, Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith, Judith Pillsbury, Xchanging.

Supporters: Conti International, International Herald Tribune, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, Paul Hastings, Janofsky & Walker (Europe) LLP, Dechert LLP, Jonathan Schur, Chanel, The Library of America, FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS.



Businesses Large and Small Support the Library

Hotel Astor, 11 rue d'Astorg, Paris 8e, 01 53 05 05 05, www.hotel-astor.net

The Hotel Astor has generously contributed two dinners at the Restaurant Astor for the winner of the prize drawing February 1, 2005. For details, see the article on how you can support your Library, p.00. The Astor is well-known for its superb cuisine, and the Library thanks them for their welcome support.

Chateau Saint-Jean d'Aumières, route de Montpellier, 34150 Gignac, 04 67 57 23 49, www.aumieres.com
Proprietor Paul Tori, a graduate of Georgetown University, and with an MBA from Columbia University, left a career in international banking to follow in the footsteps of his winemaking grandfather from Italy. Paul's Chateau is in Languedoc, and the Library is extremely grateful for his "in-kind" support. As you lift your glass at a Library event, do pick up one of Paul's brochures. He is a delight to deal with!

Proxi Super, 39 rue de Bourgogne, Paris 7e, 01 45 55 18 07

The staff of the Library used to race out to the local grocery store for supplies for every Evening With an Author—no more. Proxi buys and delivers all our party wares in bulk. We love their service, and we are sure you will too. We also thank them for their generous support.

Kids' and Parents' Korner

Mother Goose Lap-Sit for Ages 1-3

First and last Thursday of the month.

(Nov 25, Dec 2 & 16, Jan 6 & 27)

10:30-11:00AM

English rhymes, songs and stories—puppets too! All toddlers must have an adult lap to sit on. Sign up is necessary!

01 53 59 12 60 or alparis@noos.fr

Story Hour for Ages 3 to 5

Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30AM or 2:30-3:30PM

December

- 1 All Things Big and Small
- 8 Hannukah (with storyteller Sandy Gogel)
- 15 Planes, Trains and Automobiles
- 22 Christmas is Coming!
- 29 NO STORY HOUR

January 2005

- 5 Winter Wonderland
- 12 Grandparents are Great!
- 19 The Moon is Shining
- 26 Groundhog Day

For Children Ages 5-8

"The Night Before Christmas" and other favorite holiday stories

December 18, 2004, 2:00-2:30PM (14.00-14.30h). AGES 5-7

Christmas is coming! The goose is getting fat! Come and spend a festive half hour hearing some of the holiday classics!

Tales from Around the World, Special Saturday Story Hours

January 8 and 22, 2005, 2:00-3:00PM(14.00-15.00h). AGES 6 to 8

Spend those cold January afternoons with Children's librarian Rachel Kobic, listening to stories from all corners of the globe.

Warmth in the Winter, Dreaming with watercolors

January 22, 2005, 2:00-3:15PM (14.00h-15.15h). AGES 5-7

Drawing from the inspiration of Frederick the mouse (creation of famed illustrator Lio Lionni), who stores warm colors in his head to get through the long winter, kids will experiment with paint techniques and color blending. Led by Mary Schmemmann and Kristin Duncombe.

Illustrating the African Savannah, A hands-on exploration with illustrator-author Bridget Strevens-Marzo

January 29, 2005, 3:30-5:00PM (15.30-17.00h). AGES 5-8

Illustrator-author Bridget Strevens-Marzo will talk to kids about the process of illustrating a book, centering the discussion around her recent best-selling picture book *Kiss, Kiss!*

Kids' and Parents' Korner

For Children Ages 7-12

"The Language of the Giraffe," A communication workshop guaranteed to produce magical results

December 7, 2004 6:00-7:15PM (18.00-19.15h). AGES 7-10

Would you like to communicate better with your teachers, friends, parents, brother and sisters? Learn to speak the language of the giraffe: four secret and simple tools to produce amazing results at home, school, and with your friends. Clinical psychologist Judith Collignon will teach you how!

"The Truth About Santa Claus"

18 December, 2004 2:45-3:30PM (14.45-15.30h). AGES 8-12

Did you know that the first Santa Claus recorded in history lived in Asia Minor more than 1600 years ago? And that he was orphaned at the age of twelve? Come spend a fascinating hour learning about the history of Santa Claus, how his legend began and what it has evolved into today.

"Miracle on 34th Street" Movie Night

18 December 2004, 7:00-9:30PM (19.00-21.30h). AGES 9-12

School's out! Come enjoy a wonderful movie and some snacks to get the holiday season started right! One Euro for members, nine euros for non-members.

"How Did You Know What to Draw?" An illustrator talks about researching her work

January 22nd, 2005, 4:00-5:00PM (16.00-17.00h). AGES 8 to 10

Acclaimed illustrator Mary Morgan will tell how she gathered the background information needed to accurately illustrate three of her popular works: *Buba Leah*, *Bloomers*, and *The Tiger Has a Toothache*.

"Fly Away Home" Movie Night

22 January 2005, 7:00-9:30PM (19.00-21.30h). AGES 9-12

Get together with your friends again after the holidays and watch another great movie...with snacks of course! One Euro for members, nine euros for non-members.

SPEAK UP! A workshop on public speaking.

Saturday, January 29th, 2005, 2:00-3:30PM (14.00-15.30h). AGES 9-12

From book reports and classroom presentations to talking to grown-up friends of the parents, kids dread speaking in public. Marc Porter, communications consultant and Toastmaster extraordinaire will work with kids on organization of thought, preparing a speech and/or report, and tactics to overcome fear when standing in front of a group.



Operation TRICK OR TREAT a Success!!

Witches and cats, pirates and ghosts, fairies and monsters – everyone (and everything) turned up to this year's Halloween party! If you were around the library on Saturday, October 30th you would have seen a cowboy bowling for candy or Zorro dizzily trying to pin the tail on the cat. You may also have witnessed vampire Ian Nelson-Roehl telling spooky stories to 30 or more rapt little children. If you were *really* lucky you may have joined in the Halloween parade as ghouls and goblins alike marched through somber studiers to the sound of the Monster Mash! Thanks to everyone who dressed up and came out!

Who Carves the Pumpkins?

A traditional part of the Library's celebration of Halloween is the costume party and parade through the Library. This year the participants showed their usual creativity and flare for the dramatic.

Another popular tradition is the lottery for the carved pumpkin—a lucky child in each story hour takes home an intricately carved Jack-o'-Lantern. Last year, Alex Chevalier lent his skills to the task and crafted some remarkably wicked faces. This year, Children's Librarian Rachel Kobic and volunteer Ian Nelson-Roehl were found wielding knife and spoon, as they sculpted scary faces on the pumpkins grown in Burgundy by Charmaine Donnelly, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Children's Holiday Christmas Party!

December 5, 2004, 5:00-7:00PM (17.00-19.00h)

At the American Church, 65 Quai d'Orsay, 7th arrondissement

Holiday refreshments, caroling, arts and crafts, Santa Claus in person, and a special gift book for every child.

Space is limited. Please reserve

Volunteers needed—sign up at the front desk.

TEENAGERS

Here, Now!

December 4, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (19h00-21h00)

Workshop for ages 13 and up

Tap into the unity of mind and body to improve performance and concentration. Alexis Niki, Alexander Technique teacher, will help teens re-discover their innate ability to be more present in everything they do. The tools are easily applicable to improving study habits, test-taking, and ability to focus in general. Free for members, 8€ for non-members.

PARENTS AND OTHER ADULTS INTERESTED IN KIDS' LIVES

TUESDAY TALKS

Community Forums for Parents and Other Adults Interested in Kids' Lives

Raising Children in France—Coping with Culture Shock

December 7, 7:30-9:00PM (19.30-19.00h)

The challenges of expatriation as it affects children—speakers will offer valuable tools for bridging the gap between cultures. Marine de Labriolle, anthropologist, parent educator and licensed nurse, works as a counselor for global families. Laurence Sicot, anthropologist, intercultural consultant, and specialist in intercultural communication, works with expatriate families, helping prepare them for overseas assignments.

Tuesday Talks will resume in February, 2005!

"FESTIVAL AMERICA" at Vincennes Provides Library Ideal Showcase

The bi-annual celebration of American authors sponsored by the Mairie of Vincennes provided the ALP the perfect opportunity to meet forty-nine North American authors and their French publishers. By sponsoring the opening reception, Board members, volunteers, and Library Director Shirley Lambert were able to mingle with such luminaries as Sherman Alexie, Jane Smiley, Sandra Cisneros, David Payne, our own Diane Johnson, and many other writers of note. The two-hour cocktail soirée was the first chance the authors had to meet and talk with each other and discuss their various interests, but they also demonstrated great curiosity about (and enthusiasm for) the American Library. Although only a few writers (notably those who had spent time in Paris previously) knew of our existence, all expressed interest in doing an Author Night for us.

Special thanks go to volunteers Michelle Momdjian, Nitza Sola-Rotger, and Stefanie Diaz. Many Board members contributed food (some special homemade goodies disappeared very quickly)—and many thanks to kitchen workers and chefs extraordinaires, Board members Berna Huebner, Michèle Gompel and Nancy Magaud for all their work in transporting, setting up, cleaning up, and (of course) cooking.



Mirror Visions Creates a Saturday to Remember!

October 9 was another fantastic first for the Library. A grand piano in the reading room was tuned to concert pitch, and the Mirror Visions ensemble arrived with their superb pianist, Margaret Kampmeier, everyone attired in evening clothes for a lyrical performance before a standing-room-only crowd.

The program, entitled "Across Life, Across Time: Secrets of Memory," was free and open to the public, thanks to the generosity of the group, who donated both their performance and all support services. The three singers, soprano Tobé Malawista, tenor Scott Murphree, and baritone, composer, and pianist Richard Lalli, create and perform some of the most striking repertoire in American music. They commission compositions that set texts to music—sometimes the texts are poetry, sometimes letters, sometimes memoirs. The resulting work engages the audience on both an intellectual and emotional level.

Jeffrey Greene, a poet residing in Paris, wrote three poems set to the music of Francine Trester and Christopher Berg. Greene, a loyal fan of ALP, was instrumental in organizing the concert, and Chris Berg managed the logistical details. Several of Richard Lalli's works were performed (poetry by C.K. Williams), and the final song cycle of 15 works was composed by Tom Cipullo to the poetry of Linda Pastan. Our profound thanks to the performers, especially Tobé Malawista, to Jeffrey and Chris, and to the other poets and composers who made this superb event possible.

Evening With an Expert Set to Debut in January 2005

By Drew Shagrin

Do you work in business? Law? Or do you simply have an inquiring mind that seeks to understand the world around us? Then come to the Library to learn and enjoy at our new monthly program, An Evening With An Expert. Free and open to the public, each Evening With an Expert will feature one of Europe's prominent experts on a topic of general interest. The format will be a moderator and principal speaker, with questions afterwards from the audience. All sessions will be moderated by Drew Shagrin. Programs will be Tuesday evenings at 8:00 p.m., beginning with January 11.

January 11. "Money Laundering: Where Banking and Government Meet Organized Crime and Terrorism." The expert is Chris Davies, the Paris-based director of worldwide compliance at Société Générale.

February 8. "International Dispute Resolution." A primer for non-lawyers. The expert is Alex Blumrosen, a Paris-based partner at the law firm Bernard-Hetz-Bejot.

March 15. "Corporate Social Responsibility: How Europeans and Americans Understand This Term Differently." The expert is Kate Fish, the Paris representative of the San Francisco-based consultancy Business for Social Responsibility.

April 19. "Killer of the Modern World: The Mortality Effect of Climate Change (A Case Study of the 2003 Canicule)." The expert is Magali Barbieri, a Paris-based researcher at the Institut national d'études démographiques.

May 24. "The European Union." How is it governed now, what would the proposed constitution change, and how is the ratification process going to unfold? The expert is Peter Linton, the Brussels-based Europe Chairman of BKSH (the worldwide government relations division of Burson-Marsteller).

June 14. "EU Competition Law." What are the rules, what are the grey areas, what are the battles, and how does all of that affect us? The expert is Pierre Kirch, Paris- and Brussels-based head of the EU law/competition law practice group of Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker.

Evenings With an Author

Fall resumed our popular Evenings with an Author, and we note with pride that our audiences are more varied than ever! An especially popular program was Asma Hasan's presentation of her book *Why I Am a Muslim*. This intelligent young American explained that many of the practices that we Westerners associate with Islam are not only outmoded in today's societies, but are actually due to their native cultural context rather than the religion.

Another huge crowd greeted the authors of *Wine and War* (see article), but the largest program (135 people) was the after-theatre party October 7 for *Improvstival*, a week-long theatre festival and the first international gathering of improvisational performers ever held in Paris.

To recap:

September 8 – Kaplan, the college admissions test prep company, "The New SAT and the College Admissions Process."

September 15 – Vincent Chenille with Pierre Rodier, "Ian Fleming and James Bond: 40 Years Later."

September 22 – Janet McDonald, *Brother Hood*.

September 29 – Asma Hasan, *Why I Am a Muslim*.

October 6 – Alan Furst, *Dark Voyage* and cocktail soirée hosted by the Friends group.

October 7 – Reception for *Improvstival*.

October 11 – Mark Shaw, "How to Become a Published Author or Poet."

October 13 – Don and Petie Kladstrup, *Wine and War* and special wine tasting event.

October 20 – Claude Bourguignon, *Betsy Bonaparte: The Belle of Baltimore*.

November 9 – Annual Gala, special guest Paul Auster.

November 24 – Alan Schom, "Revising History: The Story of *The Eagle and the Rising Sun: The Japanese-American War 1941-1943, Pearl Harbor to Guadalcanal*." Dr. Schom's remarkable research and quotes from primary sources illuminated factual evidence and brought substance to many of the personalities involved. In certain instances his evidence contradicted popularly held belief—provoking both questions and discussion.



Coming next:

Wednesday, January 12, 8:00PM (20.00h) – Deborah Jenner, "O'Keeffe and Stieglitz: The Alchemy of a Couple." Deborah Jenner is an art historian who has worked with the Musée d'Orsay on the current Stieglitz exhibit. Rare insights into the lives of this unusual couple. Slides.

Wednesday, January 26, 8:00PM (20.00h) – Pharos. The literary magazine *Pharos* presents its annual evening of poetry.



Book Bags as Stocking Stuffers

What to get for that someone who has everything—how about an ALP book bag? Just 15 euros, these sturdy bags keep your books together, are ideal for hauling papers around, and even work as extra grocery bags. Super-strong, attractive, and washable. Your friends and family will thank you!

Woodward Lecture Series to Begin in the New Year

Topics such as "Primary School in France," "Siblings," "The Acquisition of Language," "Genes and the Environment," "The Problems of Puberty," and other subjects of great import to all parents will be covered by preeminent medical specialists. Free and open to the public.

Watch for upcoming announcements!!

Sponsored by the Woodward Charitable Foundation

A Multi-Functional Staff

The staff at any library must be able to pinch-hit for each other, and with the 35 hour work week and efforts to keep library membership affordable by keeping our staff numbers as low as possible, our dedicated team has learned how to be incredibly well-versed in a number of areas, often stretching their knowledge and involvement to areas that go beyond their specific areas of expertise.



Circulation

Sharon Gouhier (Head), Armelle Aymonin, Carol Leimroth, and Kristina Roudiy. Our public service team handles the reception area, memberships, the circulation and shelving of materials, cards for copying, and book sales. Not only can they recommend excellent titles, but their in-depth knowledge of Paris shopping, restaurants, the transportation system, and a whole range of “where-to-find-what” basics is monumental.

Children's and Youth Services

Rachel Koblic (Children's Librarian) and Kristin Duncombe (YA Librarian). Rachel does the Lap-sit and 3- to 5-year-old story programs, as well as the Saturday tales for 6-to 8-year-olds. She also staffs Circulation half time. Kristin organizes workshops and programs for kids 8 to 12, the Tag Team, Teen Talk programs, and parent forums. Both work to select materials best suited to our young members.



Reference

Most of the Library staff can help patrons find materials they need, but Kim LeMinh is our official expert. Even when not at the reference desk, Kim is likely to be found searching the Internet for useful sites for students. She is also our official webmaster and systems expert. She is backed up at reference by Simon Gallo and Adele Witt.

Acquisitions and Technical Services

Simon Gallo, the Library Collection Manager, has been here for 34 years! He handles adult book selection, all book donations, cataloging, book preservation, coordinates the book sales, and prepares books for the shelves. He has also organized all the shelving areas and rearranges them as necessary. A lot goes on behind the scenes!



Administration

Shirley Lambert, Director, Adele Witt, Assistant Director, Aileen Dhaou, Accounting Assistant. Adele recruits and trains volunteers, manages our online catalog system, subscriptions, and the office; serves as liaison for universities and schools; and staffs the reference desk part time. Aileen handles all bank functions, updates financial spreadsheets, and assists with Library communications. Shirley manages fundraising, the physical plant, financial planning and reporting, Library communications, evening programs, and is the liaison with the Board of Trustees.

Happy Holidays to all of our Patrons!

