



EX LIBRIS

The Newsletter of the American Library in Paris
March 2011

A summer of renewal and refurbishment

The Library is undertaking a dramatic rearrangement and renewal of its physical facilities and resources in the coming months — an effort to keep up with the evolving needs of our patrons.

By May, the children’s and youth library will be relocated to the two-level corner space in the rear of the Library, adding space for books and programs to this popular department and allowing a dedicated mezzanine

corner for young adults.

By the rentrée, after a six-week summer closure, Library users will benefit from a new reference section, a new welcome and circulation desk, a conference room for meetings, book groups, and other gatherings, an enlarged principal reading and evening program room. The administrative offices will be refurbished and, depending on costs, the Library hopes to renovate its restrooms.

These renovations of the Library, which also will include recarpeting, relighting, and repainting, are made possible by anonymous gifts to the Library.

Peter Fellowes, a Library trustee who serves on the renovation task force, said “This overdue renewal of the Library’s physical spaces makes tangible the revitalization that’s already going on in other ways—in

Continued on page 3



Photo by Mark Lejaloha

Stephanie Hunter in ‘The Islanders’

Word for Word is back

The celebrated San Francisco troupe Word for Word returns to Paris on **Saturday 2 April** with a performance of Andrew Sean Greer’s *New Yorker* short story, “The Islanders,” a tale of two old friends confronting their pasts during a tour of Ireland. Greer, author of the novel *The Story of a Marriage*, will be attending the performance at the Salle Adyar, off Avenue Rapp, and all are invited to the Library afterwards for an informal reception.

Donations to benefit Word for Word and the Library are requested at the door, and reservations are essential for this popular annual attraction. Please telephone 01 53 59 12 60 or write rsvp@americanlibraryinparis.org

The 2011 gala: Scott Turow

Bestselling novelist Scott Turow will be the Library’s guest of honor and featured speaker at the annual gala dinner **Tuesday 24 May** at the Four Seasons Hotel George V. Please save the date!

Turow is the author of ten novels on legal themes, beginning with *Presumed Innocent* (1987) and most recently its sequel, *Innocent*. A practicing lawyer, he has also written books and articles on such issues as the death penalty, literacy, author’s rights, and politics in his native Chicago — and an early classic about the first year of law school, *One L*.

The gala is the Library’s principal fundraising event of the year, a soirée that gathers the Library family with many distinguished authors to celebrate books in a festive atmosphere — this year, with musical accompaniment from Yale University’s Redhot & Blue and a silent auction.

The Library’s current members and donors will receive printed invitations in early April, but reservations are already being accepted from all. For more information about Scott Turow and the gala, please visit our website.



TWO-DAY BOOK SALES 2 KIDS 4-5 CALENDAR 8

INSIDE THE LIBRARY

The book is doing fine

Robert Darnton, University Librarian at Harvard and one of the leading academic gurus of the information revolution, offered words of reassurance at a recent Library forum about the future of the printed book — and even optimism that about the future of reading.

“Just as the radio did not kill the newspaper, television did not kill the radio, and the Internet did not kill television, I don’t believe that e-books will threaten the printed word,” Darnton said. “Thanks to technology, we can make books accessible to anyone who has the Internet. That, I find, is of staggering importance.”

All who responded to last year’s appeals for donations to the Library were invited to the January 6 event, “The Analog Book and the Digital Future,” which packed the reading room. Darnton spoke under the auspices of the Julia Peterson Dede Distinguished Visiting Library Fund.

His talk and visit to the Library was the subject of a short documentary segment televised on ARTE the following week. It is viewable on our website at <http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org/library-blog/2011/01/from-gutenberg-to-google/>.

A longtime professor of history at Princeton University, Darnton became the director of the university library system at Harvard in 2007. His academic specialties are the history of the book and the history of France. *The Forbidden Best-Sellers of Pre-Revolutionary France* won the National Book Critics Circle Award for



Photo by David Bacher

criticism in 1995, and his essay collection *The Great Cat Massacre and Other Episodes in French Cultural History* became a popular bestseller. His latest work is *The Case for Books: Past, Present, and Future*, a collection of his New York Review of Books columns on the Google Book Settlement and other hot topics of the current debate over the future of the book and of reading.

The American Library in Paris, like all libraries, has a stake in this debate, and will be presenting programming on this theme periodically in the coming year.

A lifetime Library membership... tickets to the gala... take a chance to help keep the Library strong

Virtue is its own reward, but it never hurts to have a sweetener.

On March 8, Library members and friends will receive a fundraising appeal by e-mail — a first-ever experiment in place of our spring appeal for donations. To encourage you to open that e-mail, and to help support the Library’s work and mission, we’re offering chances at tickets to the **24 May 2011** gala dinner with Scott Turow at the Four Seasons Hotel George V or lifetime memberships to the American Library in Paris.

All you need to do to be entered for the drawing — which will take place on **Wednesday 13 April** at the beginning of the Evening with an Author program — is to make a donation of at least €75 (or \$100) to the Library.

Yes, you’ll be able to make your donations on line or by mail — so long as we receive them by **Tuesday April 12**. For more information, watch next Tuesday for **e-Libris!**

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

Current and past issues of the newsletter are available at www.americanlibraryinparis.org

A second day of book sales

Increasingly popular, and increasingly helpful to the Library, the huge book sales normally on the first Saturday of every month are now two-day events, Saturday 10h00-19h00 and Sunday 13h00-19h00. They continue this spring on **5-6 March**, **2-3 April**, **7 May*** and **4-5 June**.

*Sunday 8 May is a holiday and the Library will be closed.

INSIDE THE LIBRARY



A 3-D architectural rendering of the lower level of the new children's department (above) and a schematic design of the front of the Library after renovation, with a new reference section at left, a new conference room, and a new circulation desk .

New spaces in the old space

Continued from page 1

programming, membership, collections, outreach, and fundraising.”

Consulting architect Lia Kiladis is working with Library staff and trustees on design elements and contracting issues. Ed Aguila, circulation manager, is the Library's internal project coordinator. Kiladis and director Charles

Trueheart will speak about the design and construction at the annual meeting of the Library on Tuesday 14 June.

Please watch **e-Libris** and the Library website for updates on a brief suspension of youth operations in late April and for dates of the summer closure — probably beginning June 21. And thank you in advance for your patience during the travaux.

Please welcome...

Celeste Rhoads, interim youth librarian since September, has assumed the position on a permanent basis. She succeeds Helen Stathopoulos Géhin, who has been appointed as an upper school librarian at Ecole Active Bilingue Jeannine Manuel. Rhoads will oversee all children and young adult services, collections, programs, and volunteers.

Amelia Carlin, a former university reference and research librarian in her native Australia and a Sunday reference desk volunteer since September, has just joined the Library staff as a collections and reference assistant. Between now and September, she will be working mainly on the major shifting of book and periodical collections to accommodate the reconfiguration of the Library after the renovation described separately in this issue.

Please welcome these outstanding new colleagues the next time you are in the Library.



Celeste Rhoads



Amelia Carlin

A fiction festival for young authors

The American Library in Paris is proud to be the new organizer of the Young Authors Fiction Festival, this year in collaboration with the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI).

The Fiction Festival aims to strengthen community among English-speakers in the Paris area through the art and craft of storytelling.

It is open to all students ages 5 to 18 in the greater Paris area who write in English. It offers a wonderful opportunity for educators to encourage creative writing among their students. **Deadline for submissions is midnight 1 April 2011.**

If you or someone you know is interested in submitting a story, download the Festival guidelines as well as *From Keyboard To Printed Page* for tips on how to format your story from the Library's website. The Young Authors Fiction Festival is absolutely free of charge to enter. Any questions? Contact the YAFF 2011 team at yaff2011alp@gmail.com



THE YOUTH LIBRARY

The Teen Scene

Complete Meditation

Ages 12+
Friday 4 March
19h00–21h00

Explore the power of meditation and relaxation during this workshop with **Jay Bhosale**.

Descriptive Writing

Ages 12+
Friday 11 March
19h00–21h00

Cathy Altman Nocquet returns with original exercises to help teens discover and develop their descriptive writing skills. Exploring their senses, they'll find new, interesting words to make their writing more vivid and authentic.

Creative Writing with Tioka Tokedira

Ages 14+
Friday April 8
19h00-21h00

Tapping into difficult emotions is part of the honesty that makes for great writing.

Writers often try to mimic what teens are feeling. Sometimes they get it really right and sometimes they just sound like an adult trying to sound like a kid. We'll look at a few examples. Participants should bring their favorite YA book or one they are currently reading.

Boggle the Mind!

Ages 12+
Friday 15 April
19h00-21h00

A Teen Games Tournament: Scrabble and Boggle

Show off your master vocabulary and join us over games of Scrabble and Boggle. We'll have plenty of snacks to feed your brain!

Sign-up required for all teen events.

Read With Sammy!

Ages 6+
Thursday 10 March
16h00-18h00
Sign up is required

Sammy, a certified therapy dog with BARK – Beach Animals Reading with Kids, absolutely loves to read! Bring in one of your favorite books to share or discover new ones at the Library.



All things green!

Ages 6+
Saturday 5 March
15h00-16h00



Wear something green in celebration of the Irish national holiday coming up on the 17th – St. Patrick's Day! Enjoy fact, fiction and fun all about St. Patrick's Day, shamrocks and other good luck charms as we explore stories of good fortune from Ireland and other parts of the world.



Silly Songs

All ages
Saturday 12 March
15h00-16h00

The Library welcomes back **Matt Black**. Many of the songs are childhood classics, but a few are Matt's zany and original creations. These performances are always a big hit. Come sing along! Parents welcome!

How to Eat Like a Child

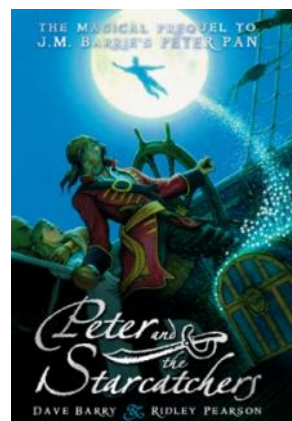
Ages 6+
Saturday 26 March
15h00-16h00

The Library welcomes the **American Children's Theatre** for a special musical performance from their spring show.

Bookworms

Ages 9-12
Saturday 12 March
16h30-17h30
Sign-up required

The book group is back with **Peter and the Starcatchers**, the exciting prequel to *Peter Pan*, packed with pirates, cannibals and adventure! We'll discover this wonderful story over three consecutive Saturday afternoons.



TEENS AND CHILDREN



Happy Easter! Happy Spring!

Ages 8+

Saturday 23 April

15h00-16h00

Easter and Spring Party

Fact, fiction and fun - plus an egg hunt!

Learn about Spring, Easter and the traditions surrounding some favorite spring holidays.



Music for all ages!

Ages 9 months to 3 years

Saturday, 2 April

11h00-11h45

KidJam with **Valeria Beatson**: A special musical event. Come jam with your little one!

Celebrate Poetry!

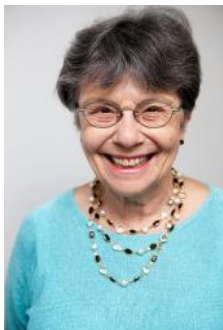
Ages 6+

Saturday April 30

15h00-16h00

Children's Poet Laureate **Mary Ann Hoberman** will come for a special reading in honor of Poetry month in the U.S.

Parents welcome!



Songs from the Communal Well:

Ages 6+

Saturday 14 May

15h00-16h00

Join us for a good old-fashioned folk performance and sing-along! We welcome back musician **Roger Hoerberichts** to play American folk songs and family favorites.



Come celebrate Mom!

Ages 8+

Saturday 7 May

15h00-16h00

Mother's Day Story Hour and card making.



Reading aloud for the very young



Ages 1-3: Mother Goose Lap Sit on the first and third Thursday of the month from 10h30-11h00. Sign-up is requested. Each child must be accompanied by an adult lap. **3 & 17 March; 7 & 21 April; 5 & 19 May.**

Ages 3-5: Wednesday Story Hour. 10h30-11h30 or 14h30-15h30 Drop-in sessions: No sign-up needed. **2, 9, 16, 23, 30 March; 6, 13, 20, & 27 April; 4, 11, 21 & 28 May**

VOLUNTEERS

The Library could not operate without the help of dozens of volunteers who work closely with staff to manage key services and programs. Here we highlight two of our wonderful volunteers.



Anne Hunt

Anne Hunt moved to Paris with her family in September 2009 and began volunteering at the Library a month later. "Walking in was like entering an Aladdin's cave. The reception was so warm and friendly that I joined straightaway. I also enquired about volunteering and on mentioning that I'd worked in a library in England, I was taken straight down to meet Naida Kendrick Culshaw and was 'hired' on the spot."

A former practicing lawyer in Britain, Anne works closely with development manager Sam Gardner and comes to the Library at least twice a week to work on event organization, donor relationship development, fundraising research and planned giving policy review, as well as working on development related events including the Gala. Sam says, "Anne's enthusiasm, attention to detail and problem-solving make her a real asset and a joy to work with."

"The Library and the wonderful warmth of the staff have been a lifeline,"

Anne says. "Life as a trailing spouse in a new country was not easy. Once the initial excitement of being in this wonderful city has worn off, life as a perpetual and solitary tourist began to pall. As a volunteer, I enjoy contributing in my small way to something worthwhile and in return I get to enjoy the camaraderie of the dedicated staff and other volunteers, who make me feel valued. I cannot thank them enough."

Anne enjoys spending Sunday mornings at the Edgar Quinet art market and this fall, she will study geology when she returns to England. We at the Library wish her the best of luck and thank her for all her hard work!

Jacqueline Nafziger

Known for her winning smile and hard work, Jacqueline Nafziger, a Frenchwoman who used to live in Chicago, has volunteered about eight hours a week at the Library for the past ten years. She greets members and visitors at the Welcome Desk on Tuesday mornings and prepares books to be added the Library collection Wednesdays. Reference Librarian Kim Lê Minh says, "Jacqueline is a long-time, devoted, highly reliable volunteer, always willing to pitch in. I appreciate her earnestness and common sense." Collection Manager Simon Gallo says, "We met Jacqueline at the *Salon du Livre*, where the Library had a stand.



As far as I am concerned, Jacqueline is the best thing to come from our visits to the *Salon*."

When asked what she enjoys about the Library Jacqueline responds, "I like what I do and enjoy meeting people from many countries. Of course, I enjoy speaking English." In her spare time, she enjoys reading, listening to classical and jazz music, meeting friends for conversation in English. She also enjoys making jewelry.

We thank Jacqueline for her many years of service, with many more to come!

COMING ATTRACTIONS



Always be a poet, even in prose.
~Charles Baudelaire

The Library celebrates France's poetry month with two events. First, writers featured in Parisian literary journal "Upstairs at Duroc" will present ways in which the infinite landscapes of oceans, islands, deserts, mountains, and city streets are transformed into the landscape of words. Next, Mary Jo Salter, poet, essayist, and professor at Johns Hopkins, presents her latest work *A Phone Call to the Future*.

The Library in bloom

The Library will welcome Catherine de Bourgoing, former director of the Musée de la Vie Romantique to speak about French romantic gardens. She is the curator of the Romantic French Garden exhibition at the Musée de la Vie Romantique, which runs from 8 March to 17 July.



We look forward to continuing our Evenings with Gardens series with **Antoine Jacobsohn**, *potager du roi* (head of the kitchen garden) at the Chateau de Versailles, on Wednesday 15 June, and **Patrice Fustier** of the Domaine de Courson on Wednesday 5 October.



LIFE, EBONY, MAD, VOGUE, and other treasures

Inside the Archives
A Special Exhibit
29 March - 8 May

The Library's holdings include, almost invisibly, hundreds of periodicals covering American culture and society during the 20th century, and deep into the 19th.

Members have full access to these treasures, in many cases the only copies of these magazines and journals in France, making the American Library a major resource to historians and other scholars.

In this exhibit, we share a few of our iconic titles, some in splendid shape, others which show signs of age. We'll be sharing cover art and articles from popular titles such as *Life*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, *Look*, *Mad*, *Harper's*, and *Vogue*. You may discover some lesser-known titles, such as *The Liberator*, an American socialist magazine, or a 1893 issue of *McClure's* featuring the last adventure of Sherlock Holmes.



Tennessee!

This spring, the Library is celebrating the centenary of the birth of the dramatist Tennessee Williams. Tama Carroll will moderate a discussion with extracts from films based on his plays: "Sweet Bird of Youth," "The Night of the Iguana," and "Suddenly Last Summer."

Judith Merians will continue her popular film series *A Night at the Movies*, showing the film adaptation of Williams's play "A Streetcar Named Desire." William Jay Smith, former Poet Laureate of the United States and a member of the Library Writers Council, will present excerpts from his forthcoming book, *My Friend Tom: The Poet-Playwright Tennessee Williams*.

Please see the calendar of events on page 8 for more information.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 01 March 19h30

RISKING LIFE & LIBERTY: *When Women Pursue Justice*, an illustrated talk by **Jane Weissman**.



Wednesday 2 March 19h30

Evenings with an Author

Tilar J. Mazzeo on two French entrepreneurs - La Veuve Clicquot and Coco Chanel.

Wednesday 09 March 19h30

Evenings with Gardens

Our series continues with author **Catherine de Bourgoing**, who will present an illustrated lecture on romantic gardens.



Thursday 10 March 19h30

Upstairs at Duroc@the Library

An **evening of poetry** to celebrate France's poetry month, Le Printemps des Poètes.

Tuesday 15 March 19h30

Tennessee Williams through Film

Beginning with "Sweet Bird of Youth," Tama Carroll moderates a discussion with extracts of **Tennessee Williams's** classic plays brought to the screen.

Wednesday 16 March 19h30

Evenings with an Author

Laura Furman presents her new collection of stories, *The Mother Who Stayed*.

Tuesday 22 March 19h30

Screening of Eric Ellena and Berna Huebner's documentary ***I Remember When I Paint***, narrated by Olivia de Havilland, about the benefits of arts for people with Alzheimer's.

Wednesday 23 March 19h30

Evenings with an Author

Essayist and poet **Mary Jo Salter** presents her latest book, *A Phone Call to the Future*.



Wednesday 30 March 19h30

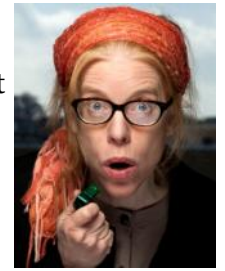
Evenings with an Author

Patrick Weil discusses immigration and French national identity.

Saturday 2 April 20h00

Word for Word performs

"The Islanders" at Théâtre Adyar at 4, square Rapp with a reception to follow at the Library. Reservations recommended.



Tuesday 5 April 19h30

Tennessee Williams through Film

Tama Carroll explores **Tennessee Williams's** "Suddenly Last Summer."

Wednesday 6 April 19h30

Evenings with an author

Jennifer Butler presents *James, Jennifer, Georgina*, which was designed by Irma Boom.

Wednesday 13 April 19h30

Evenings with an Author

Marie de Hennezel presents *The Warmth of the Heart Keeps the Body from Rusting*.

Tuesday 26 April 19h30

Tennessee Williams through Film

Tama Carroll explores "The Night of the Iguana."

Tuesday 3 May 19h30

Paris Art Studies @ the Library

Chris Boicos on **Josephine and Eugénie**, the two Empresses of Paris.



Wednesday 4 May 19h30

Evenings with an Author

Joe Ashby Porter on "The Case of the Two Mr. Porters."

Tuesday 10 May 19h30

AAWE & MESSAGE @ The Library: A panel discussion about the **transition** from primaire (primary) school to college (middle) school.

Wednesday 11 May 19h30

Evening with an Expert

Scott Weber, director-general of Interpeace, discusses what happens after a war ends.

Tuesday 17 May 19h30

A Night at the Movies

Judith Merians presents

Tennessee Williams'

"A Streetcar Named Desire."



**10, rue du Général Camou
75007 Paris**

01 53 59 12 60

www.americanlibraryinparis.org

Tuesday- Saturday, 10h00-19h00

Sunday, 13h00-19h00



Métro: Ecole Militaire (line 8)
or Alma-Marceau (line 9)

Bus: 42, 63, 69, 80, 82, 87, 92

RER C: Pont d'Alama

Vélib': 43, av. Rapp station n° 7024