



EX LIBRIS

The Newsletter of the American Library in Paris December 2015

After November 13

The terrible events of November 13 remain in our thoughts, and as the year comes to an end like all Parisians we adjust to the consequences and repercussions.

The staff, trustees, and volunteers of the American Library were thankfully spared the loss of loved ones, and have come together to support this institution in a difficult time. As have all who make the Library a habit.

Security at the Library has been tightened with professional guards on duty at the door, checking bags and verifying membership cards. The response of patrons has been overwhelmingly positive, reflecting an unspoken spirit of understanding.

Our friends in the United States and other infrequent visitors may be interested to know that, since we reopened November 17, the presence of its users has remained stable, with a slight increase in daytime entries, especially on weekends, and a slight depression in evening program attendance.

The Library has turned its program schedule to pertinent topics. An expert on explaining violence and terrorism to children led a seminar for parents the Friday after the events. In December, a historian of the 10th and 11th arrondissements, where most of the November 13 bloodshed occurred, will give a talk on the culture and context of this neighborhood. We will continue to explore ways to help our community understand the causes and explore the solutions to this sharpened crisis.

Meanwhile, inside the Library, we are refining our security procedures for staff and volunteers. We are fortunate as always to have a close relationship with the préfecture de police and the United States Embassy in Paris; both have reached out to American institutions to offer guidance and support.

At a time like this, we hardly need to remind you how important your donations are to the Library. New security implies new costs, and your generous donations will help us to meet those needs along with everything else that keeps this institution strong and dynamic. Thank you in advance for your support.

Charles Trueheart, *Director*

From *ebrary* to your 'brary: E-books

The Library has substantially expanded digital offerings with its newest database, ProQuest's ebrary Business Collection.

Members now have access to more than 20,000 electronic books in a variety of business-related subject areas, including accounting, business ethics, capital markets, economic policy, entrepreneurship, corporate culture, corporate finance, marketing, and real estate. Only books from trusted publishers, such as Cambridge University Press, MIT Press, McGraw Hill, and Palgrave MacMillan are included in the collection.

While this is primarily a scholarly database, much of the material will be useful for casual readers, as well as students and researchers. Searching the database is user-friendly and intuitive, allowing users to find relevant, topical materials quickly and easily.

As with the Library's other digital resources, ebrary books may be accessed through the E-Sources portal in the on-line catalog. Members will be prompted to log in with their Library credentials.

Electronic books may be read online in a web browser or checked out and downloaded to a laptop, tablet or phone (iOS and Android) and accessed offline for 14 days. Users interested in reading e-books in offline mode

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The Book Award goes to 'The Marquis'

The Marquis: Lafayette Reconsidered, by historian Laura Auricchio, is the winner of the third annual American Library in Paris Book Award.

The annual prize honors the most distinguished book of the year about France or the French-American encounter, and carries a cash award of \$5,000.

The choice of the winning book was made by an independent award jury, this year consisting of Laura



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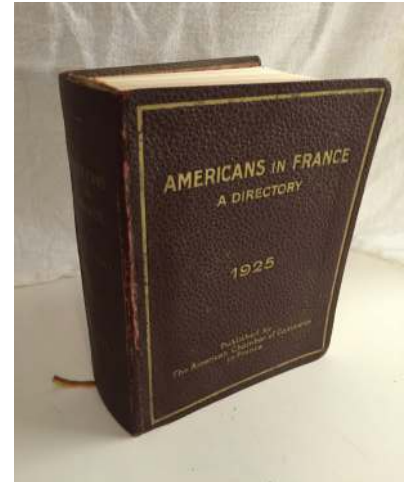
For the American Library, please ring *Elysées 58-84*

With the recent acquisition of the 1925 volume, the Library's set of *Americans in France: A Directory*, originally published by the American Chamber of Commerce, is now complete. Library members and day users may now consult all the volumes from 1925 through 1940, housed in our Special Collection.

In the preface, the Directory claims to have "blaz[ed] a new trail" by "present[ing] in an authoritative manner official and social French-American activities and organizations, [and] to list [...] the personal addresses of Americans resident in France."

Looking to reach American Express? Call *Louvre 51-90*. Or Edith Wharton? Write to *Ste. Claire du Château, Hyères (Var)*. The Directory's listings include hundreds of American residents, businesses, and institutions. The 5-year-old American Library in Paris was reachable by telephone at *Elysées 58-84*.

Rare book dealer Brian Perkins of Back Door Book Shop in Fort Worth, Texas, said he regretted parting with this book and its pages of period advertisements, but wrote he is "pleased that it's where it belongs." We thank him for the special price he accorded the Library. The Library is also thankful for a generous donation to our conservation fund that will allow us to preserve this volume for researchers during the next 95 years and beyond.



NOTES ON LIBRARY PEOPLE

The Library's Board of Trustees elected a new member at its November meeting. He is **William Kelly**, a retired senior executive of several U.S. and U.K. energy companies. He now resides in Paris and sits on the board of several other companies in Europe, the United States, and Panama. Kelly was educated at the University of Pittsburgh and Fairleigh-Dickinson University. He was elected to fill the unexpired trustee term of **Clydette de Groot**, who resigned from the board in June. She was elected at that time to the Library's Advisory Council.



Kirsty McCulloch Reid, who has been the children and teen services intern since April, will join the permanent staff of the Library in January as children and teens services assistant. A native of the Isle of Skye, Kirsty has a degree in English literature from the University of Glasgow and is studying for her master's degree in information and library management at Robert Gordon.



Two new circulation assistants have joined the staff. **Alexandra Vangsnes** recently completed internships at two Paris bookstores, Shakespeare and Company and the Abbey Bookshop. She grew up in Waterford, Virginia, and is currently completing her studies at the Harvard University Extension School.

Valentin Lewandowski, who is Polish-French, is a recent graduate of the *Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts*. He has interned at Flammarion and taught drawing to middle-schoolers in Hollywood.

EX LIBRIS

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

Circulation assistant **Eric Hengesbaugh** returned to Paris from a vacation trip to California this fall much later than expected. An avid mountain climber, Eric sustained serious injuries from a 40-foot (12-meter) fall at the start of a climbing trip in the Eastern Sierra mountains.

His climbing team had received a Live Your Dream grant from the American Alpine Club and was also collaborating with the Adventures and Scientists for Conservation. They were at the start of a three-week trek to collect samples from fresh water lakes to measure microplastic pollution.

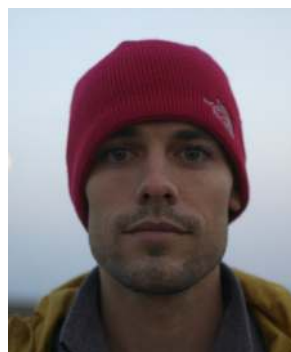


Photo by Gabe Kirtz

Please check the Library blog on the website for his account of why he loves climbing, how the accident happened, and the books that got him through his ordeal.

The holidays at the Library: 5 ideas

1. A gift membership to the American Library brings joy and enlightenment to a loved one throughout the year. Choose the membership category and pick up a gift card at the front desk.

2. An all-cotton, American-made, long-handled Library tote bag, now in six colors, **black, burgundy, green, red, gray, and natural** is a useful gift that simultaneously declares your attachment to a beloved institution. (€12)

3. A stack of fine used or nearly-new books from our December book sale Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 December. Most books for €1, €2, or €3.

4. The Library now offers for sale (€1) a series of great postcards featuring scenes from the Library's glorious past, as well as photographer-author Linda Hervieux's creative image (left) of the rue du Général Camou and the Eiffel Tower by night.



5. Why not put the membership card, the postcards, and the books in the tote bag and tie a bow on the whole package?

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Please note that the Library will be closed from **Thursday 24 December 2015** until **Tuesday 5 January 2016**. Books may be returned through the streetside slot 24/7.

What a Halloween extravaganza!

The Library welcomed hundreds of guests to our annual Halloween Extravaganza on 31 October.

A big thank you goes to the many volunteers who made it all possible by contributing their time and talent before, during and after the event. We'd also like to thank Marks & Spencer for its generous gift of refreshments and candy for trick-or-treaters, Starbucks on rue Saint

Dominique for the coffee and tea which fueled many parents through the day, and the neighborhood businesses that opened their doors to trick-or-treaters.

Eric the Magician, Matt Black, and Kids & Us joined us to perform at our children's parties during the day and then at dusk Liv Barrell of Paris As You Please hosted historical walking tours around the 7th arrondissement

while staff and volunteers prepared the Library for our Horror Fest.

The event showcased films made by the Library's teen film club and stories and monologues written by members of our Teen Writing Group.

We're continuously surprised by how many people want to come and celebrate Halloween with us. While we have tried to accommodate the ever-growing numbers of guests by expanding our activities outside our doors and including events throughout the day for various age groups, we want to be sure that the Halloween Extravaganza remains first and foremost a fun and enjoyable event for Library members, as so next year we will be selling tickets in advance for this event, with first sales for our members.

Details will be announced in fall, but rest assured, we are already planning how to make Halloween 2016 even better!

Celeste Rhoads

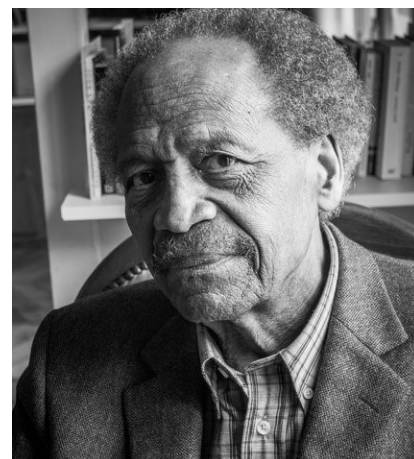


A Poet's Poet

The work and life of James Emmanuel

2 February 2016 — 20 March 2016

To mark Black History Month, the Library is pleased to present an exhibition highlighting the life and work of African-American poet James Emmanuel, often regarded as one of the best and most neglected 20th century poets. Drawing from a recent gift of his collection, the Library will display many of his published works alongside those of other poets who were heavily influenced by him.



BEE THERE OR...

The Annual Paris Spelling Bee, organized by Gifted in France in collaboration with the Library, is launching its eighth season. Registration for the Paris Spelling Bee is open to all English-speaking students who are in CM1-6ème (4th-6th grades). Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and limited to 90 applicants. Registration deadline is **13 January 2016**. More information can be found on the Library website.



On **Saturday 9 January**, join the Paris Spelling Bee team at the Library for an introduction to spelling bees for kids 8-11 years old at **12h00**. Join us later at 19h00 for our Family Pizza and Movie Night. We'll be screening *Akeelah and the Bee*, a movie about a precocious 11-year-old girl from south Los Angeles with a talent for words. Pizza and refreshments will be served. A donation of €5 per child is suggested. RSVP is required!

Libraries working together worldwide

At the suggestion of former Library trustee Clydette de Groot, the Library was approached by two young representatives from Global Potential seeking book donations for a library they are helping build in Nianiar, Senegal.

This NGO has been collecting books and funds to build a library in a village lacking both electricity and running water. A group of six French students spent over a month in the region working with local students to conceive the project, and plan to return in the new year, bearing additional books in French and in English.

The American Library was happy to participate in the book drive, which has already collected over 1,000 books. Our donations are actually *your* donations. The Global Potential team selected books for adults and children from our November and December used book sales. They — and we — thank you for your support.

E-resources

Continued from page 1

will be prompted to download a free e-reading program, such as BlueFire Reader for iOS, for the best reading experience.

In either online or offline mode books may be digitally highlighted and annotated, and passages may be saved, copied, and shared. As an added bonus books may be accessed by multiple patrons simultaneously, so you'll never have to wait for a book you need.

As you're exploring ebrary don't forget to take advantage of the Library's other excellent resources:

- JSTOR: a growing digital library of academic journals, books, and primary sources with a vast archival collection of journals in over 50 academic disciplines.
- EBSCO MasterFILE Premier: a digital collection of

magazines, reference books, and primary source documents.

- Mango Languages: an interactive, progressive language-learning suite covering over 50 languages.
- World Book: an online encyclopedia with three different interfaces geared to different age groups, from primary school to high school students.
- Zinio: an online platform that offers full-color, cover-to-cover, interactive digital magazines, including *The Economist*, *The New Yorker*, and *Vanity Fair*.

Blu-ray too

The Library has received a donation of 50 new Blu-ray DVDs from Canal Plus, ranging from popular entertainment like *Rambo* and *Silver Linings Playbook* and the Coen Brothers' *Burn After Reading*, to the collected works of Ingmar Bergman and classic French films with Jean-Paul Belmondo and Jean Gabin. If you have a Blu-ray player, take one of these films home!

Lan Samantha Chang

During the month of November, the Library welcomed its fifth Visiting Fellow, Lan Samantha Chang, a novelist and the director of the Iowa Writers' Workshop at the top-ranked University of Iowa.

Chang led a five-session intensive novel-writing workshop for thirteen American Library members to effusive reviews from the group. She spoke at an evening program devoted to reconstructing the way F. Scott Fitzgerald turned his manuscript for *The Great Gatsby* — along the way, giving up his preferred title, *Trimalchio in West Egg* — into the near-perfect novel it became.

The Visiting Fellowship, launched in 2013, is supported by gifts from The de Groot Foundation. The prior Library fellows were Anthony Flint, Alex Danchev, Ta-Nehisi Coates, and Susan Hiner; in April, the Library will welcome the next fellow, novelist Megan Mayhew Bergman.



Photo by Meredith Mullins

Book Award

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Furman, the chair, editor of the O. Henry Prize Stories since 2002; novelist and biographer Lily Tuck, winner of the National Book Award in Fiction; and Harvard University historian Fredrik Logevall, author of *Embers of War*, which won the first American Library in Paris Book Award in 2013.

“For many Americans, the Marquis de Lafayette is a distant, bewigged figure, a man who helped us fight the British and win our independence,”

said Furman at the award ceremony at the George C. Marshall Center in Paris November 6.

“He had no talent for the manners, dress, and customs of court life in Versailles. He longed to be a soldier. Fortunately for him, his imaginative intellect and his open heart were captured by the idea of an American revolution that would create a new nation and better the lives of its citizens. Before he ever saw America, he loved it, and, we come to learn, he was better loved there than he ever was in his native France.”

Logevall, another of the jurors, observed: “Her analysis is subtle and

often penetrating, and the range is noteworthy — she covers two continents and seven-plus decades. I like her generosity of spirit toward her subject, yet to her credit she’s also aware of his faults, not least his puzzling if often charming naiveté.”

The Marquis was published in the fall of 2014 by Alfred A. Knopf. Laura Auricchio, an art historian by training and a dean at the New School in New York, is the author of a previous book, *Adélaïde Labille-Guiard: Artist in the Age of Revolution*.

The annual award is supported by a generous gift from the Florence Gould Foundation.

The other shortlisted books for 2015 were :

- *The Other Americans in Paris: Businessmen, Countesses, Wayward Youth 1880-1941*, by Nancy L. Green. (University of Chicago Press)
- *Fatal Isolation: The Devastating Paris Heat Wave of 2003*, by Richard C. Keller. (University of Chicago Press)
- *In Montmartre: Picasso, Matisse, and Modernism in Paris, 1900-1910*, by Sue Roe. (Penguin/Fig Tree)
- *When Paris Went Dark: The City of Light Under German Occupation 1940-1944*, by Ronald Rosbottom. (Little, Brown).

One hundred and two submissions for the prize were received in 2015. Nominations are already open for the 2016 award.



At the Book Award ceremony November 6, left to right: Library board chairman Mary Lee Turner, winning author Laura Auricchio, jury chairman Laura Furman, and Library Writers Council chairman Diane Johnson. Photo by Krystal Kenney

Banned Books Week

Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Typically held during the last week of September, it highlights the value of free and open access to information. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community - librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, and readers of all types - in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

- American Library Association



We've featured Banned Books Week displays in September in our teen section for the past several years, but in 2015 our display was especially popular and sparked several discussions about access to books and information. By highlighting attempts by individuals and organizations in the U.S. and elsewhere to remove or restrict access to books, Banned Books Week draws attention to the dangers of censorship.

The books we featured in our library displays have all been targets for removal or restrictions in libraries and schools - a surprise for many of our teen members, who were eager to discuss why. Since our displays sparked so many discussions, we've decided to host a teen bookclub around the topic of censored and banned books. Our first meeting will be held in January, date and time to be announced.

2016 YOUNG AUTHORS FICTION FESTIVAL

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 in the Paris area through storytelling. The 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 **1 April 2016**. Check our website for full details. For other questions, contact the YAFF team at alpyaff@gmail.com.



MASTER SHOT FILM CLUB

The Library's Master Shot Film Club, led by local filmmaker and teacher Clarence Tokley, remains one of the Library's most popular programs for teens ages 12-18. This October, several club members created short horror films, which were screened at the Library's Horror Fest (the evening portion of our Halloween Extravaganza).

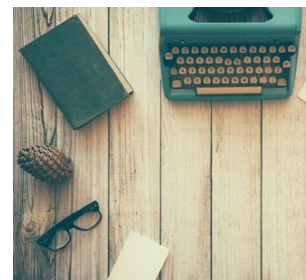
We're excited to announce that this club will continue in 2016, with a screening in May.

TEEN WRITING GROUP

Experienced writers and amateurs gather together once a month on the Library's Teen Mezzanine to share ideas, write and get feedback from their peers. The Library's Teen Writing Group has been popular since its inception in 2012, when editor and YA author Anne Heltzel offered to begin the group. Since Anne's move back to New York 2 years ago, one of the group members leads a session each month.

The Teen Writing Group has been lucky enough to welcome several authors as guest hosts, among them Jay Asher, Amy Plum and Tioka Tokedira.

The Teen Writing Group resumes in January!



Unless otherwise stated, programs are free for library members and €10 per teen for non-members. Teens 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 teen programs: rhoads@americanlibraryinparis.org.

A LOOK BACK AT 2015

As we approach the end of the year and head into the next, it's time to pause and reflect on all of the programs young readers enjoyed in 2015.

Special guests As every year, the Library was lucky to welcome several special guests as hosts for our children's programs, including children's performer Matt Black, Eric the Magician, the team from Gifted in France, teachers from Kids & Us language school, illustrator Milkaya Laijah, authors Dave Barry, Rebecca P. Cohen, Julia Moberg, Cathy Altman Noquet, Ridley Pearson, Maxine Rose Schur and Sarah Towle, artist and curator Cheryl Ann Bolden, and computer programmers from Magic Makers.



Mock Caldecott Since 1938, the Caldecott Medal has been awarded annually to the "most distinguished American picture book" by the American Library Association. In 2015, we decided to choose our own favorite picture book. We selected 25 books as nominees, then throughout the month of January these books were available in the Library and visitors cast their votes. Library members (and visitors) selected *The Baby Tree* by Sophie Blackall as the winner.

Read-a-Thon Our youngest Library members read a total of 12,703 minutes over the February break and raised nearly 1000€ for the Library during our first ever Read-A-Thon (organized with the help of Message Paris and Courtney Kolar of the Message Primary School Kids group). These funds will now go on to support more programs at the Library.



Halloween Extravaganza This remains our most popular event of the year. Even with other Halloween-themed events during October (pumpkin carving and scary story writing and more), we're overwhelmed by the demand for Halloween activities. We have new ideas for the Extravaganza in 2016, including preselling tickets (with first sales for Library members). See page 3 for more.

Thanksgiving Along with our annual Thanksgiving storytime, this year the library hosted a writing workshop around the theme of gratitude. Focusing on the art of writing thank-you notes, we each wrote a letter to someone special and decorated our letters with stamps, stickers and designs of our own. On that note, we're thankful for all of the readers, book club members, writers, artists and other friends who visited us in 2015!



Unless otherwise stated, programs are free for library members and €10 per child 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: rhoads@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Winter Wonderland

**Saturday 12 December
from 15h00**

Keep warm indoors and meet fellow Library members during our annual winter celebration!

Join us for a story time and craft-making followed by a rockin' musical performance by Matt Black. After the show, guests will be treated to a visit from a special frosty guest. Each child will go home with a winter treat courtesy of the Library. You can see the full program on the calendar of events.



Photo: Marcus McAdams

Regular events for young children

Ages 3-5: Wednesday Story Hour

Our weekly interactive Story Hours feature reading, singing and hand rhymes, and we wrap up each session with a simple craft project. This activity is popular, with two sessions every Wednesday from **10h30-11h30** and from **14h30-15h30**. Like all of our children's programs, Story Hours are entirely in English.

No reservation required!

Ages 1-3: Mother Goose Lap-Sit

The Library's popular Mother Goose Lap-Sit program will continue in the new year with sessions from **10h30-11h00** and from **17h00-17h30** on **7 & 21 January** and **4 & 18 February**.

Sign-up is required for this activity.

Each child must be accompanied by an adult lap!

CALENDAR

Tuesday 8 December 19h30

Race and citizenship

Jelani Cobb, staff writer at *The New Yorker* and associate professor of history and director of the Africana Studies Institute at the University of Connecticut, speaks about race and citizenship in 21st-century America.



Tuesday 15 December 19h30

Young and old wines: a Joshua Adler tasting

Joshua Adler returns to the Library to talk and share wine, this time tasting new and old vintages of the same wines to see how wines change over time, discuss why, when, and how to age wines.

Cost: 45€.

RSVP: rosenberg@americanlibraryinparis.org



Coming in 2016...

Mary Fleming on her novel *Someone Else ...* ... **Linda Hervieux** on the forgotten black GIs of World War II ... **Robin Givhan** on the famous 1973 fashion show at the palace of Versailles that pitted American and French designers against each other ... **Andrew Lownie** on Guy Burgess ... **Anthony Lacoudre** on the amazing history of French words in English ... Spring Library Visiting Fellow **Megan Mayhew Bergman** ... **Paula Harrington** on Mark Twain ... and former Los Angeles district attorney turned self-taught photographer **Gil Garcetti**.

TWO PARIS NEIGHBORHOODS

Wednesday 9 December 19h30

Resilience of Paris street life

Alex Toledano, author of a recent *New York Times* piece about the locations of the November 13 terrorist attacks, looks closely at a number of historical photos of the city's 10th and 11th arrondissements to put the neighborhoods of the recent attacks in context. In an image-filled presentation, Toledano explores the history of daily life and of urban transformation in these parts of town to examine the continuities and changes since the nineteenth century—on rue Bichat, rue de la Fontaine au Roi, rue de Charonne, boulevard Voltaire, the Bataclan concert hall, and more.



Wednesday 16 December 19h30

Along the rue des Martyrs

Elaine Sciolino returns to the Library to discuss her new book, *The Only Street in Paris: Life on the Rue des Martyrs*. In this memoir-travelogue, the former *New York Times* correspondent and author of *La Seduction* explores this singular, sloped street in the French capital's ninth arrondissement, its colorful history, and its pulse today.

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. The Library suggests a donation of €10 to support our programming.

The American Library in Paris

10, rue du Général Camou 75007 Paris France 01 53 59 12 60

americanlibraryinparis.org

