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ESTABLISHED 1920

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ANNUAL  
REPORT

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1999

## REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

The success of CAMPAIGN 2000, the fundraising drive to renovate the Library, made possible a refurbishment project which began in December, 1999. The project was spearheaded by Building Committee members and Trustees Nancy Webster and Linda Emmet, and Library Director Kay Rader. Assistance was provided by library space planning consultant Andrea Michaels and architect Philippe Jonathan.

The project created additional seating space for readers, a young adult section, a more spacious Children's Room, and access to the mezzanine which houses thousands of books previously closed to the public. The renovated reading room will help accommodate the Library's increasing membership and program attendance. Improved directional and subject signs, book displays, and better organization of the book collection will make the Library easier to use.

The project included the following improvements:

- Renovated reading room
- New young adult section
- Safety and handicapped exits
- Fire walls
- New carpet
- Fresh paint
- New heating system
- Upgraded electrical system
- Improved lighting
- New furniture
- New directional and subject signs
- Increased access to the book collection

### We thank the donors who made this work possible:

The Annenberg Foundation  
 The Florence Gould Foundation  
 The Dillon Fund  
 Irving Berlin Charitable Trust  
 JP Morgan  
 The Scaler Foundation  
 The French American Charitable Trust  
 Linda Emmet

### Gifts for the Children's and Young Adult Room

The Sussner Family  
*(donation of new furniture)*  
 Association of American Wives of Europeans  
*(grant for new furniture)*

### Gifts-in-Kind

Patrick Cardon  
 Catherine Coste

## ENDOWMENT GIFTS

### THANK YOU TO THESE DONORS FOR THEIR MAJOR GIFTS TO THE ENDOWMENT

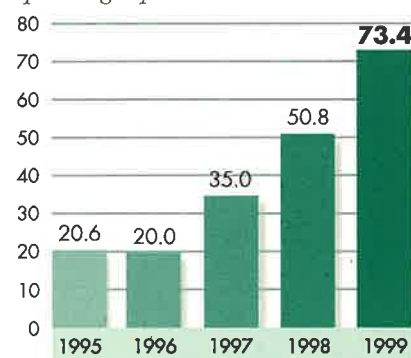
The Starr Foundation  
 The Annenberg Foundation  
 The Felix and Elizabeth Rohatyn Foundation  
 Anonymous

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DRIVE

### Results, 1995-1999

(in thousands of U.S. dollars)

These donations help pay the Library's operating expenses.



## LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP

On February 15, the Membership Committee held an open house to introduce the Library to representatives of English-language organizations and schools in the Paris region.

### School Memberships

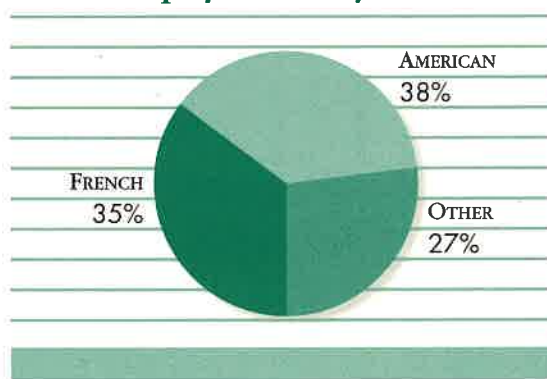
#### Universities

American Graduate School of International Relations and Diplomacy  
 Brigham Young University in Paris  
 New York University in France  
 Stanford University Program in Paris  
 Southern Methodist University in Paris  
 University of Southern California in Paris  
 International School of Management  
 University of Delaware in Paris  
 Wells Program in Paris  
 Parson's Paris School of Design  
 European University  
 Institut Supérieur de Gestion  
 Schiller International University  
 Ecole Polytechnique  
 Paris Center for Critical Studies  
 Educational Programs Abroad

#### High Schools

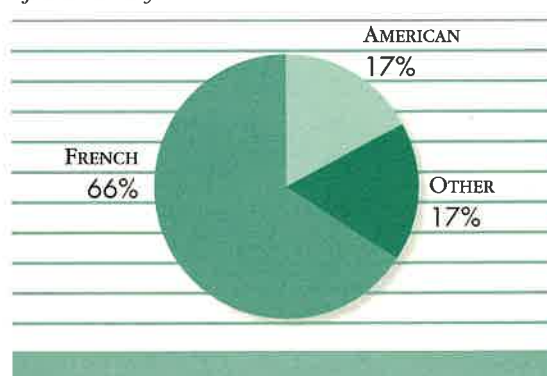
International School of Paris  
 L'Ermitage

### Membership by Nationality



### Day Users: 1,890

Patrons who paid a fee for one-day use of the Library



### Membership Types

One-day, 4 months, 6 months, student, annual, senior citizen, juvenile, unemployed, and family

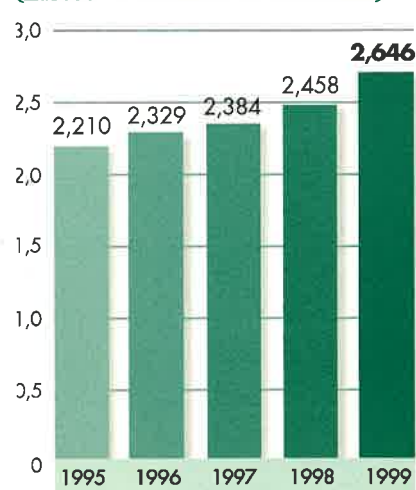
#### Donor Memberships:

Members who subscribe to the Library at a higher level than normal subscription rates

First Edition, Sustaining

### Membership Growth, 1995-1999

(number of members in thousands)



## MAJOR GIFTS TO THE COLLECTION

**The Annenberg Foundation** gave a donation for the purchase of books and audiovisual materials to enrich the Library's American Studies collection, including the subjects of American history, literature, film, social studies, art, and popular culture.

**The Florence Gould Foundation** donated recent titles of The Library of America editions to the Library and its branches. In 1998, the Foundation made a donation of complete 106-volume sets of The Library of America editions to the Library and branches, and a gift of all future titles published by The Library of America.

**Jack W. Plunkett**, President of Plunkett Research, Ltd., made a donation of all titles by Plunkett Research, which publishes reference works on finance, industry, and business.

**Jules Buck** and his daughter **Joan Juliet Buck**, gave the Library over 1,000 books, including Heritage Press classics, first editions of modern American authors, and many books on motion pictures.

**The Frank family** and **Microsoft** donated CD-ROMs for children and adults, including the *Encarta Encyclopedia Deluxe* and *Encarta Virtual Globe*.

**Suzy MacDougall** donated a large collection of new books on language, management, and science.

**The Princess Grace Irish Library** donated a collection of books and recordings of Irish literature.

**The Peter Boesch and Darril Hudson Book Fund** was established by Library member Darril Hudson.

**The Library received major collections of new books from the following literary agencies:**

- Agence Littéraire Eliane Benisti
- Agence Littéraire Catherine Lapautre
- Agence Littéraire Michelle Lapautre
- Copernicus Diffusion
- Ms. Lora Fountain
- La Nouvelle Agence de Mary Kling
- Editions Robert Laffont
- Editions Jean-Claude Lattès

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

### Children's Holiday Party

Over 280 guests attended the Annual Children's Holiday Party on December 5 at the American Church. Sponsored by the **Mona Bismarck Charitable Trust**, the event was organized by Trustees Whitney de Courcel and Sarah de Lencquesaing, and staff members Nancy Meloche, Carol Leimroth, and Anne Lechartier. Trustee Nancy Willard Magaud played the piano and accompanied the caroling, and Barbara Freedman told stories.

### AN EVENING WITH GORE VIDAL ANNUAL GALA DINNER

Tha American Ambassador's Residence  
May 18, 1999  
*Under the patronage of Ambassador and Mrs. Rohatyn*

#### GALA SPONSORS

THE ANNENBERG FOUNDATION  
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PERSONNEL DECISIONS INTERNATIONAL  
STURGE INSURANCE AGENCIES  
**GIFTS-IN-KIND**  
CHÂTEAU DE BOURSALUT AND  
CHANEL PERFUMES

### Open House and Book Sale

The April 18 Open House and Book Sale attracted a record turnout, thus introducing the Library to a wider public. The event was organized by Assistant Director Adele Witt, with the help of Library staff and volunteers.

### Professional Activities and Outreach

■ The Library hosted the annual general meeting of the Paris group of the Association des Bibliothécaires Français on March 1. ABF president Claudine Belayche and 25 French librarians attended the meeting, which was organized by Reference Librarian Andrea Delumeau.

■ Library staff attended meetings of the American Library Association, the Association des Bibliothécaires Français, and the VTLS European Users Group. (VTLS is the Library's automation system.)

■ Outreach activities included Library information booths at "Bloom Where You're Planted", the annual newcomer orientation program of the American Church, and the Women's Institute of Continuing Education (WICE) Open House. Children's Librarian Nancy Meloche visited Paris schools to promote the Library and was the guest storyteller at "Bloom".

## THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

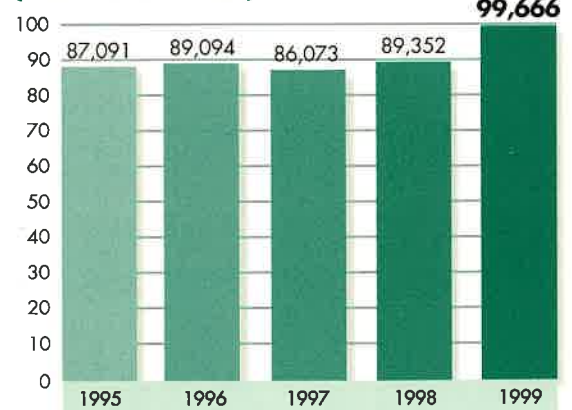
### Additions to the Collection in 1999

Adult books	5,781
Children's books	617
Audiovisual	239
<b>Total Additions</b>	<b>6,637</b>

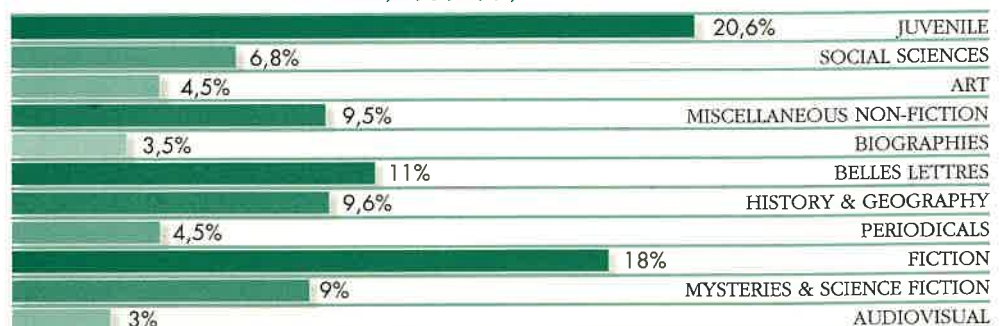
### The Collection as of December 31, 1999

Adult books	91,025
Children's books	8,312
Audiovisual	1,871
Periodical subscriptions	365
<b>Total Collection</b>	<b>101,573</b>

### Circulation Growth, 1995-1999 (in thousands of books)



### Circulation of the Collection, 1999: 99,666 items borrowed



## REFERENCE SERVICES

### Exhibits

■ In February, the Library celebrated Black History Month by displaying selected pieces from Cheryl Bolden's exhibit "Precious Cargo: African American Artefacts 1795-1968", as well as related literature from the Library's collections.

■ The Library hosted an exhibit of drawings of flowers, leaves, and fruits by American artist Natacha Garance. A vernissage was held on April 30 to open the exhibit, featuring classical flute and piano music by Eric and Theresa Degardin.

### Evenings with an Author

**Edith Wharton: the Sense of Harmony**, premiere of the English version of Elizabeth Lennard's film about Edith Wharton, written by Danielle Memoire and Elizabeth Lennard, and narrated by James Lord

### AN EVENING WITH SHELBY FOOTE

The author of  
*The Civil War: a Narrative*

The American  
Ambassador's Residence  
November 16, 1999  
Hosted by Ambassador  
and Mrs. Rohatyn

### Ted Solotaroff,

*Truth Comes in Blows: a Memoir*

**Word for Word**, a San Francisco Theater Troupe, *Rose-Johnny* by Barbara Kingsolver, at the Salle Adyar, made possible by a grant from The Florence Gould Foundation and with the support of Air France and European Benefits Group

### John G. Morris,

*Get the Picture: a Personal History of Photojournalism*

### Gwen Davis,

"How to Harness Your Creativity and Make Your Trip Through Life a Journey"

### Emily Stipes Watts,

"Hemingway in Paris," a program to commemorate the centennial of Ernest Hemingway's birth

### Pharos: New Poetry and Prose

from Paris, a group reading of poetry and fiction by contributors to the Paris literary magazine, *Pharos*

### Internet Access

The Library's popular Internet workstations, installed in 1998 with a grant from the United States Information Agency, were used more than 8,000 times (in 30-minute time slots) in 1999. In March, 46 members attended a series of free Internet classes on basic navigation skills and Web research, given by Reference Librarian Andrea Delumeau and volunteer Gentry Lane.

■ In October, *Wilson Business Abstracts Full Text*, a new database, was made available in the Research Center, and can be printed and downloaded. The database indexes and abstracts articles from more than 345 English-language periodicals, including business magazines, and trade and research journals. It also offers full text articles from over 160 periodicals.

### Reference Questions by Subject, 1999

(Breakdown by Dewey Decimal Classification)

000 Includes Computer Science, Journalism, Book Publishing Industry	5%
100 Philosophy & Psychology	3%
200 Religion	2%
300 Social Sciences	18%
400 Language	5%
500 Natural Sciences & Mathematics	1%
600 Technology	14%
700 The Arts	11%
800 Literature	18%
900 Geography & History	23%

## VOLUNTEER AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Forty-seven volunteers participated in the Library's Volunteer Program, managed by Assistant Director Adele Witt. Volunteers, supervised by staff members, worked in all Library departments.

Ten high school and university students participated in the Internship Program, gaining library experience while contributing valuable support to the Library staff.

## CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT SERVICES

### Highlights

- The Library sponsored programs for children from the Association à Travers la Ville, a group which helps disadvantaged children, and for Message, a support group for mothers.
- The 1999 Sizzling Summer Reading Program attracted 120 young readers, a 60% increase over the number of 1998 participants.
- A young adult fiction collection was created for the growing number of teenaged members.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Weekly Children's Story Hour for 3- to 5-year-olds

Monthly Mother Goose  
Lapsit Story Hour for Toddlers

Monthly Story Hours for 6- to 8-year-olds

Class Visits to the Library

**THE WEEKLY CHILDREN'S STORY HOUR HAD A TOTAL OF 1,400 PARTICIPANTS IN 1999.**

### Special Programs

**Parents as First Teachers**, by Ann Pleshett Murphy, editor-at-large of *Parents Magazine*

**Medieval Adventures**, a program of activities and reading

**An American Girl Teatime**, featuring historical fiction from the *American Girl* series

**April is Poetry Month**, poetry workshops and readings

**Scenes from *The Nutcracker***, performed by Brooke Desnoës and the dancers of l'Académie Américaine de Danse à Paris

### Friends of the Children's Room

Thank you to these donors who gave major book collections to the Children's Room:

Mrs. Edgar Kerestedjian  
Pleasant Company  
Mme Catherine Lapautre

### Weekly Children's Story Hour Special Events

Martin Luther King Day	Father's Day
Presidents' Day	Mother's Day
Groundhog Day	Fourth of July
Valentine's Day	Grandparents' Day
Chinese New Year	Thanksgiving
St. Patrick's Day	Halloween
Pajama Party	Hanukkah
Dr. Seuss's Birthday	Christmas

### Guest Story Tellers and Performers

- Sandy Gogel, Hanukkah Celebration
- William Jay Smith, Poetry Day
- Don Croton, Grandparents' Day and Poetry Workshops
- Julie Beadle, Poetry Workshop
- Barbara Freedman, the Teller of Tales, Sizzling Summer Reading Program Party

**ALP IN CYBERSPACE** : 8,127 visits to the ALP homepage at <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/alp/>

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

As a direct result of the gifts and support of our donors and members, the Library underwent a major refurbishment in 1999. All of the Board members, in particular Linda Emmet and Nancy Webster, gave invaluable support to our Library Director and dedicated staff in getting the job done in record time.

### AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION HISTORIC VOTE

At the 1999 annual meeting of the American Library Association in New Orleans, the governing Council adopted a resolution in support of the appointment of an ALA Liaison-Trustee to the Board of the American Library in Paris. The resolution states that the American Library Association wishes to re-establish its historic ties to the Library.

The American Library Association, the oldest and largest library association in the world, founded the American Library in Paris in 1920.

In addition to fulfilling its fiduciary and oversight functions, the Board of Trustees continues to focus on providing the Library with strategic guidance. The Board and Director spent two days on a retreat in order to better prioritize the Library's objectives and clarify roles and responsibilities in the governance process. We renewed our commitment to the ongoing fundraising activities in order to expand our book collection, add staff, increase Internet access, and continue our role as a community center.

As you know, the Library provides the services of an American public library, yet with one major difference – we have no access to tax monies. Therefore, we are entirely dependent on membership fees, fundraising, and gifts-in-kind. To ensure the Library's financial health, our goals are to increase the size of the endowment and continue to find sources of recurring income. You can make a difference by continuing to support the Library with your volunteer time, financial generosity, and most of all, by being a member of the best English-language library in continental Europe.

Elsewhere in this report, we have identified those who gave to the Library in 1999. We thank each and every one of you for all that you have done for the Library. We would also like to thank our Board of Trustees, our Library Director Kay Rader, and the Library staff and volunteers for their tireless efforts.

*Robert Gogel, Chairman*

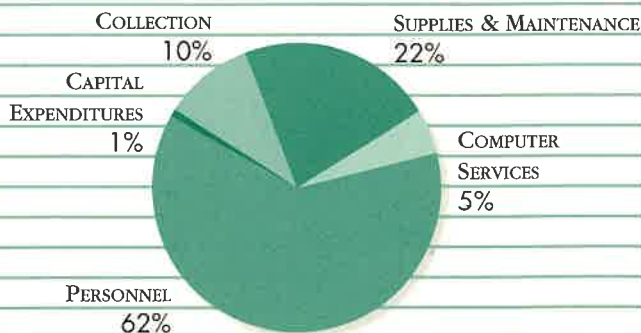
*Charmaine Donnelly, Vice Chairman*

## 1999 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



### REVENUES (FRF)

<b>Operating Revenues</b>	2,747,000
<i>Includes Rental Income, Booksales, and Membership &amp; User Fees</i>	
<b>Gifts</b>	2,263,000
<b>Endowment Income</b>	450,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,460,000</b>



### EXPENSES (FRF)

<b>Operating Expenses</b>	5,416,000
<i>Includes Personnel, Collection, Computer Services, and Supplies &amp; Maintenance</i>	
<b>Capital Expenses</b>	16,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,432,000</b>

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*Honorary Trustee*

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The Annenberg Foundation  
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S. Prentiss Bailey Fund and  
New York Community Trust  
French American  
Charitable Trust  
Irving Berlin Charitable Trust  
The Dillon Fund  
Felix & Elizabeth Rohatyn  
Foundation  
The Mona Bismarck  
Charitable Trust  
The Arthur L. Loeb Foundation  
Lunsford Richardson, Jr.  
Charitable Lead Trust  
The Scaler Foundation  
Society of Children's Book  
Writers and Illustrators-France  
The Starr Foundation

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