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
Sarah de Lencquesaing

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20.6</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>73.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- American: 38%
- French: 35%
- Other: 27%

Day Users: 1,890
Patrons who paid a fee for one-day use of the Library

- American: 17%
- French: 66%
- Other: 17%

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,210</td>
<td>2,329</td>
<td>2,384</td>
<td>2,458</td>
<td>2,646</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**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 105-volume sets of The Library of America 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 Darryl Hudson Book Fund was established by Library member Darryl Hudson.

The Library received major collections of new books from the following literary agencies:
- Agence Littéraire Eliane Benisti
- Agence Littéraire Catherine Lapatouer
- Agence Littéraire Michelle Lapatouer
- 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 Magna played the piano and accompanied the caroling, and Barbara Freedman told stories.

**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. AIBF president Claudine Belache 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 VTLIS European Users Group. (VTLIS 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults books</td>
<td>5,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's books</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiovisual</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Additions</td>
<td>6,637</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Collection as of December 31, 1999**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults books</td>
<td>91,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children's books</td>
<td>8,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiovisual</td>
<td>1,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodical subscriptions</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Collection</td>
<td>101,573</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Circulation Growth, 1995-1999**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Circulation (in thousands of books)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>87,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>89,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>86,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>89,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>99,666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile</td>
<td>4,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>9,5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Non-Fiction</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biographies</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History &amp; Geography</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodicals</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mysteries &amp; Science Fiction</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audiovisual</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

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 Photofournalism

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>000 Includes Computer Science, Journalism, Book Publishing Industry</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Philosophy &amp; Psychology</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Religion</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 Social Sciences</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 Language</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 Natural Sciences &amp; Mathematics</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600 Technology</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700 The Arts</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800 Literature</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900 Geography &amp; History</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REFERENCE SERVICES

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

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

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