



The American Library in Paris

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

A message from the Chairman

Once again I would like to thank our Library staff, the Library Director Charlie Trueheart, and the members of the Library Board of Trustees for all of their hard work and dedication to The American Library in Paris in 2008. Most important, however, it is to our members, patrons, friends and supporters here in Paris and around the world that we owe our deepest thanks, for their continuing support of the Library through membership, volunteer activities, participation in fundraising, and general outreach.

The Library is an institution with nine decades of service here in Paris to families, children, students, scholars, writers, readers and researchers of all ages and nationalities, and we are all responsible for keeping it a thriving and vibrant institution in the years to come, even as we adapt to the challenges of a world of Google, Kindle, and a changing role for libraries generally. To that end, the continued financial support of the ALP community is critical to our ability to thrive, and I thank all of our supporters for their assistance in 2008 and look forward to your continued support and generosity in the months and years to come.

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Chairman of the Board of Trustees

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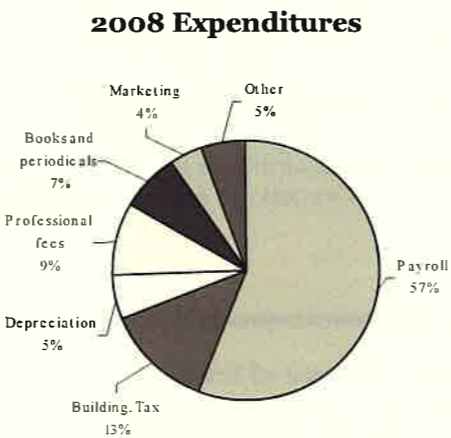
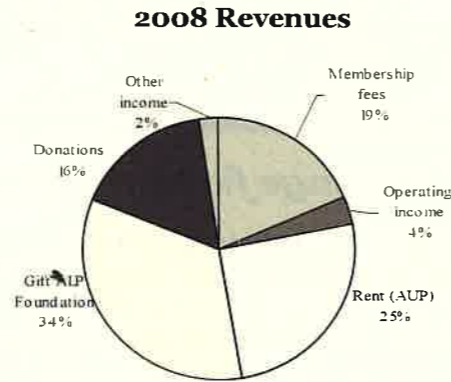
Statement of income and expenses

The American Library in Paris, Inc.

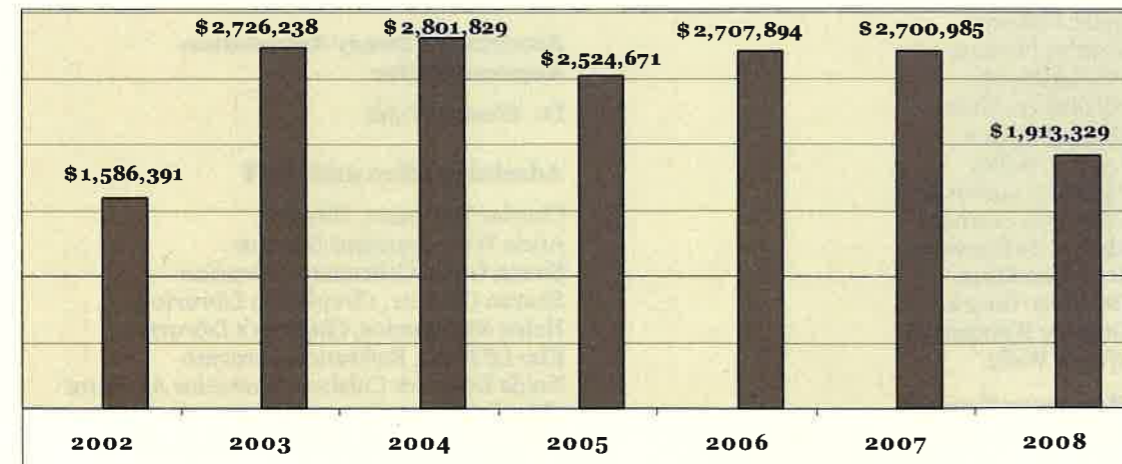
Revenues in \$	2008	2007
Membership fees	275 521	131 092
Operating income	51 956	37 150
Rent (AUP)	374 692	329 873
Gift ALP Foundation	503 527	510 356
Donations	244 048	81 762
Other income	34 295	29 366
Total revenues	1 484 039	1 119 599

Expenditures in \$	2008	2007
Payroll	901 967	698 698
Building, Tax	218 184	181 976
Depreciation	83 209	106 836
Professional fees (1)	147 587	174 014
Books and periodicals	118 972	104 301
Marketing (2)	67 299	30 550
Other (3)	85 953	79 214
Total expenditures	1 623 171	1 375 589

- (1) Banking, legal, and insurance fees.
 (2) Advertising, programs, fundraising.
 (3) Shipping, postage, telephone, equipment rental and maintenance.



Investment assets: The American Library in Paris (USA) Foundation



Sources: Deloitte & Associés and Exponens. Copies of audited annual financial statements of the American Library in Paris, Inc. and the American Library in Paris-USA Foundation are available upon request and on the Library website: www.americanlibraryinparis.org

LIBRARY DATA

The collection

	2008	2007
Total collection	132 894	139 289
Adult holdings	113 617	119 611
<i>Added</i>	6 642	7 176
Youth holdings	11 933	12 490
<i>Added</i>	1 265	1 084
A/V holdings	7 344	7 188
<i>Added</i>	983	1 205

Circulation Transactions

	2008	2007
Items Checked out	96 904	89 342

Membership

	2008	2007
Total Members	2 169	1 773
Individual		
One-year	37 %	37 %
6 or 4 month	8 %	8 %
Family		
One-year	21 %	21 %
6 or 4 month	2 %	4 %
Student		
One-year	13 %	12 %
Institutional	13 %	13 %
Youth	6 %	5 %

Programs

	2008	2007
Number of evening programs	48	33
Total attendance	2 555	1 243
Average attendance	53	43

Membership origin

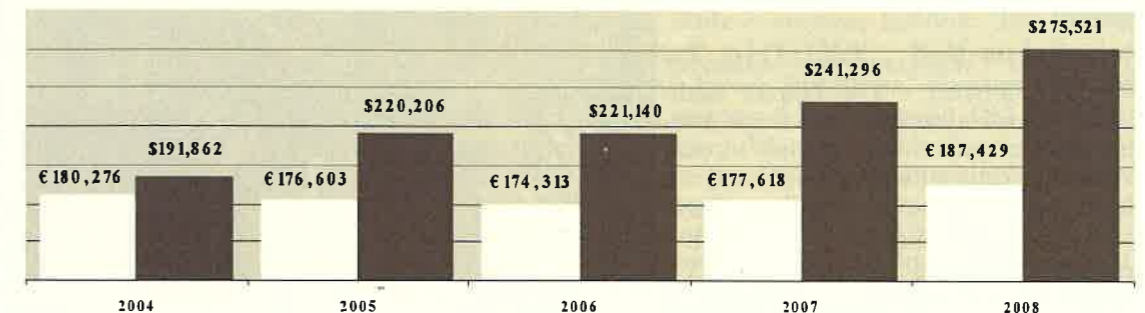
As of 31 December 2008

Country	Count	Percentage
United States	709	35%
France	470	23%
United Kingdom	146	7%
'Binational'	68	3%
Canada	54	
Korea	47	
Australia	46	
Ireland	23	
Germany	22	
India	19	
Italy	18	
New Zealand	11	
Japan	8	
Netherlands	8	
Sweden	8	
Belgium	8	
Algeria	6	
Turkey	6	

... and 112 others from an additional 33 countries.

Did not specify country	244	12%
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Membership revenues 2004-2008



Membership revenues are calculated on an accrual basis as of 2008.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

In 2008 the children's department, under the leadership of Helen Stathopoulos, continued to expand its collections and to offer outstanding programs for children, teens and families. Nearly 200 programs during the year drew nearly 2,500 young people of all ages, as well as their parents, to the Library.

Exceptional programs included storytelling, mythology, book clubs, Scrabble Saturdays, art, dance and music performances, youth fitness hour, cartooning workshops, and author visits. Musicians Roger Hoerberichs and Paul Biagi led a folk performance and sing-along and the *Académie Américaine de Danse à Paris* performed selections from the "Nutcracker" suite and the Beatrix Potter ballet.

COLLECTIONS: The children's department purchased 2008's award-winning children's and young adult literature, new fiction series and comics. In non-fiction, the Library added new and notable books and series to its geography, history and science collections. New children's DVDs were added to the active DVD collections, which represent approximately 30 percent of the Library's total circulation.

BOOK SALES: A large selection of children's books, including many duplicate items, were sold at this monthly event. December book sales were especially successful as visitors purchased books as holiday gifts.

LOVE IN A BOX: Once again, the children's department took part in this charity drive for needy families in France. New and almost-new French-language books were collected from the children's department for this worthy charity, with many Library patrons participating.

SATURDAY SERIES FOR 6-12 YEAR-OLDS: New topics were presented weekly, and a wide array of talented storytellers, writers, musicians and movement experts rounded out a very full roster of programs.

THE RED WHEELBARROW CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST: The Library again hosted creative writing workshops with participants submitting entries to this Paris-wide competition for children ages 5 to 18. A special Saturday workshop, "From Idea to Final Draft," led by writer Ann Jacobus Kordahl, and contest coordinator Alice Cook, taught young people how to craft a short story.

WILD THINGS SUMMER READING CLUB: In its tenth year, 85 children participated in this 3-month program which culminated in an End-of-Summer Reading Club party in September.

BOOKWORMS: The book club for 9-12 year-olds read and discussed award-winning books, including 'The Second Mrs. Giaconda' and 'Skellig.'

TEENS: Young adult events included screenwriting, fiction and poetry workshops, as well as a roundtable discussion on identity and politics in conjunction with Black History Month. Teen interns and volunteers helped the children's department with collection and programming work.

SEASONAL PARTIES. More than 80 children attended the Library's Halloween costume party. The Thanksgiving celebration hosted more than 30 kids, plus their parents with crafts and turkey facts. Christmas, the Winter Solstice and Hanukkah were highlighted in Library programs and celebrated at our annual Holiday Party at the American Cathedral in Paris. The party, organized by dedicated volunteers who helped bake and prepare food, crafts and decorations, offered gift books to every child, distributed by Santa; pianist Nancy Magaud led a round of caroling.

SCHOOL GROUPS The Library continued to provide story times for children from surrounding schools and organizations including the *Lennox Bilingual School*, *La petite école bilingue*, and the *Bilingual Montessori School*. Schools booked sessions for classes of 10 or more children, especially around the Easter, Halloween and Thanksgiving holidays. School visits offer a chance for outreach and to distribute membership information to international schools and families.



Photo: David Escher

EVENINGS AT THE LIBRARY

Thanks largely to the continuing support of the Annenberg Foundation, the Library, its members, and the general public were fortunate to welcome the following authors and other public figures during 2008.

Hilary Kaiser on 'G.I. Joe and Mademoiselle' **Alan Riding** on European culture **Dinaw Mengestu** on 'The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears' **Thirza Vallois** on Aveyron **Carol Burnell** on Maria Cosway **Paul Schmidtberger** on 'Design Flaws of the Human Condition' **Lily Tuck** on Elsa Morante **Cullen Murphy:** 'Are We Rome?' **Sara Paretsky** on 'Writing in an Age of Silence' 'How do Wars End?' with **Gregor Dallas** **M. T. Anderson** on Octavian Nothing 'Meltdown in the Markets' with **J. Paul Horne, Liz Alderman, Simon Kennedy,** and **Jean-Luc Schneider** **Mary Duncan** on 'Henry Miller is Under My Bed' **Richard Reeves** on the American presidency **Alexandra Harney** on Chinese competitiveness **Walter Wells** and **Patricia Wells** on 'We've Always Had Paris... and Provence' **Edmund White** on 'Hotel de Dream' **Frances Gendlin** on Europe, Islam and the Jews **Bryce Corbett:** 'A Town Like Paris' **Whim 'n' Rhythm** in concert **David Lodge** on 'Deaf Sentence' **Cara Black** on murder in Paris **Don Morrison:** 'Is French Culture Dead?' **Preeti Samarasan** on 'Evening is the Whole Day' **Chris Boicos** on Gertrude Stein **Alan Cowell:** 'The Terminal Spy' **Victoria Zackheim** on 'For Keeps' **Ted Stanger** and **Jean-Marie Colombani** on the American presidential elections Five decades of verse by **C. K. Williams** **Jerome Charyn** on 'Johnny One-Eye' **Clotilde Dusoulier, Charlotte Puckette, Olivia Kiang-Snaije** and **Meritxell Falguera** on French cuisine **Ted Widmer** on American liberty **Maureen Mooney** on the unwelcome foreigner **David Sedaris** on David Sedaris **Kristin Duncombe** and **Mia Vieyra** on 'the oppositional child' **Michael Genelin** on 'Siren of the Waters' 'I Married a Frenchman' with **Polly Platt, Leslie de Galbert, Allison Glasgow Lafontaine** and **Lou Murrin Honoré** **Tatiana de Rosnay** on 'Sarah's Key' **Olivier Rozenberg** on the European Union **Michael Herrmann** on Jean Nouvel

BOOK GROUPS

In 2008, the Library launched regular book groups for members organized by experienced leaders and held on Mondays, when the Library is otherwise closed. Below are the topics, leaders, and books.

SPRING **Strangers in a Strange Land** *Pamela Druckerman* Orwell: 'Down and Out in Paris and London,' Singer: 'Enemies,' Naipaul: 'A Bend in the River,' Satrapi: 'Persepolis' **Memoir** *Clydette de Groot and Leslie de Galbert* Rieff: 'Swimming in a Sea of Death,' Obama: 'Dreams from My Father,' Chang: 'Wild Swans,' Said: 'Out of Place.' **History Lessons** *Mary Fleming* Nemirovsky: 'Suite Française,' Schlink: 'The Reader,' Lee: 'A Gesture Life,' Foer: 'Everything is Illuminated' **AUTUMN** **Self and Society** *Peter Fellowes* Tolstoy: 'The Death of Ivan Ilyich,' Joyce: 'Dubliners,' Forster: 'Howards End,' Greene: 'The Heart of the Matter.' **History Lessons** *Mary Fleming* Di Lampedusa: 'The Leopard,' Faulkner: 'The Sound and the Fury,' Waugh: 'Brideshead Revisited.' **Strangers in a Strange Land** *Lennox Morrison* Bowles: 'The Sheltering Sky,' Guène: 'Just Like Tomorrow,' Morris: 'Trieste and the Meaning of Nowhere,' McCann: 'Zoli' **Memoir** *Leslie de Galbert and Clydette de Groot* Mortenson and Relin: 'Three Cups of Tea,' Pamuk: 'Istanbul,' Neruda: 'Memoirs,' Jaffrey: 'Climbing the Mango Tree' **Young American Novelists** *Abigail Altman* Krauss: 'The History of Love,' Brockmeier: 'A Brief History of the Dead,' Freudenberg: 'The Dissident,' Shteyngart: 'Absurdistan.'

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Photo: David Becher

The American Library in Paris

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