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The American Library in Paris

ESTABLISHED 1920

e-Libris 16 March 2021

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Programs for Adults



**GROW@
ANNENBERG**

Evenings with an Author and other weeknight programs at the Library are free and open to the public (with a 10€ suggested donation) thanks to support from GROW @ Annenberg, our members, and those who attend programs.

All programs, including book groups, workshops, and *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GROW @ Annenberg, will continue virtually for the present time.

JOIN US TONIGHT

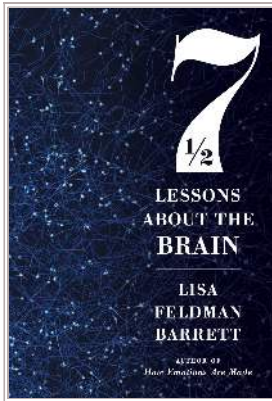
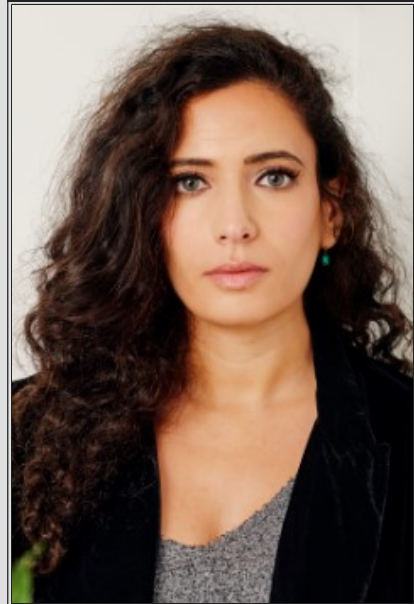
[Evenings with an Author: Hala Alyan](#)

Tuesday 16 March at 19h30

Hala Alyan, the Library's fall 2018 Visiting Fellow, presents her latest novel, *The Arsonists' City*. In a Beirut smoldering with the legacy of war, an ongoing flow of refugees, religious tension, and political protest, a family's secrets ignite, imperiling the fragile ties that hold them together. The novel explores how we hold on to the people and places we call home. Hala Alyan is a Palestinian American writer and clinical psychologist. Her poetry collections have won the Arab American Book Award and the Crab Orchard Series, and her debut novel, *Salt Houses*, won the Dayton Literary Peace Prize.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



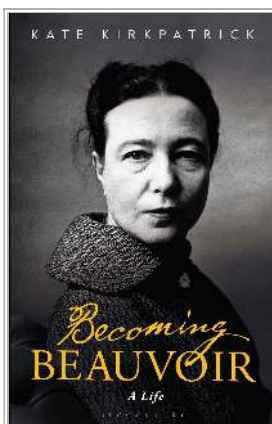
[Evenings with an Author: Lisa Feldman Barrett](#)

Wednesday 17 March at 19h30

Have you ever wondered why you have a brain? Renowned neuroscientist Lisa Feldman Barrett demystifies that big gray blob between your ears in *Seven and a Half Lessons About the Brain*. You'll learn where brains came from, how they're structured (and why it matters), and how your brain works in tandem with other brains to create everything you experience. Along the way you'll also learn to dismiss popular myths such as the "lizard brain" and "nature vs. nurture". Dr. Lisa Feldman Barrett is a University Distinguished Professor at Northeastern University with appointments at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



[Evenings with an Author: Kate Kirkpatrick](#)

Wednesday 24 March at 19h30

Join us for an evening with Dr. Kate Kirkpatrick as she speaks about her new book, *Becoming Beauvoir*. While Simone de Beauvoir was one of the most influential intellectuals of the twentieth century, her life has been widely misrepresented and profoundly misunderstood. Dr. Kirkpatrick draws on previously unpublished diaries and letters to offer unique insight into de Beauvoir's relationships, her philosophy of freedom and love, and her complex struggle to become herself. Dr. Kirkpatrick is Tutorial Fellow in Philosophy at Regent's Park College, Oxford. Her research focuses primarily on French existentialism and phenomenology, the philosophy of religion, and feminist philosophy. *Becoming Beauvoir* achieved the *coup de cœur* list for the 2020 American Library in Paris Book Award.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



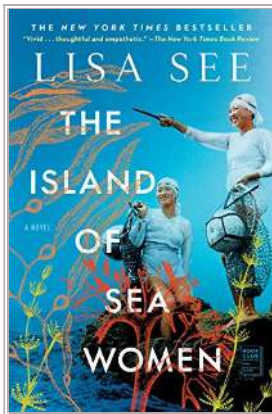
**[Writing Workshop with Laura Cronk:
Poetry, Nonfiction, and Open Genre](#)**

Thursday 25 March at 19h00

What would you say if you could speak directly to a former apartment, to a powerful leader, to your alarm clock, to time itself? The classic poetic device of apostrophe, or direct address, can be uniquely productive for both poets and prose writers, leading us to discovery and unexpected connection. This workshop, open to writers of any genre, will provide an opportunity to experiment with apostrophe and the idea of the ode. Laura Cronk is the author of two books of poems, *Ghost Hour* and *Having Been an Accomplice* from Persea Books. She is the chair of undergraduate writing at The New School in New York City, where she teaches courses on pedagogy and creative practice.

Free and open to Library members.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



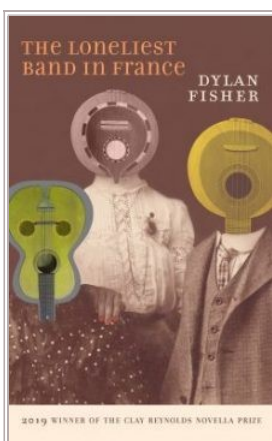
[Evenings with an Author: Lisa See in Conversation with Pauline Lemasson](#)

Tuesday 30 March at 19h30

Please join us for a conversation with *New York Times* best-selling author Lisa See about writing, creativity and inspiration, female friendships, and historical research, with particular focus on her novels *Shanghai Girls* (2010), *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* (2017), and *The Island of Sea Women* (2019). See's fiction is widely read and beloved for her deep look into Chinese culture and history. We will discuss her writing process and where she finds creativity and inspiration. This event will be moderated by Pauline Lemasson, a contributing writer for *Inspirelle* and *Untapped Paris*. She was formerly the Strategic Partnerships Manager at the American Library in Paris and Executive Director of the Chinese American Museum in Los Angeles.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.






[Evenings with an Author: Dylan Fisher](#)


Wednesday 31 March at 19h30

We welcome you to a conversation with Dylan Fisher, the author of the debut novella *The Loneliest Band in France*, chosen as a *coup de cœur* for the 2020 American Library in Paris Book Award. In the story the titular Loneliest Band in France claims to have a song that can hurt—even kill—its listeners. When Migara, a Sri Lankan student new to Montpellier, is recruited to help debut this murderous song, he's forced to interrogate his relationship with his mother's death, his estranged father, his own aspirations, and the cost of each. The book won the Texas Review Press's 2019 Clay Reynolds Novella Prize.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.


-  Past programs are on YouTube, including Jeremy D. Popkin on the French Revolution; a panel on women's travel writing; and Nita Wiggins on Rosa Parks, NASCAR, and resilience.
-  Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.
-  Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg.



Visiting Fellowship

Writers submit by April 1

[APPLY NOW](#)



Kids and Teens



Thanks to the ongoing [Project 100](#) capital campaign, we have been able to implement many

exciting new changes to the Children's Library and Teen Mezzanine:

- The expansion of the Children's Library and Teen Mezzanine means more space for members to read and browse, and more space for our librarians to display our rich collections for children of all ages.
- Donations dedicated to new books have allowed Children's and Teens' Services to increase the collection by 25%.
- Over the past year and a half, we have been reorganizing the collections to make browsing easier for our visitors.

Find out more about all the changes to our Children's and Teens' collections on the [Library's blog](#).

Children's Programming Highlights

The Library hosts virtual events for all ages. Check out the [online calendar](#) to find out what's coming up, and to register.

[Author Barbara Diggs on Boycotts, Strikes, and Marches](#)

(ages 9–18)

Saturday 20 March at 14h00

Dive into history with Barbara Diggs to explore the pivotal role youth played in movements for change during the Civil Rights Era and the Vietnam War. Aspiring writers, curious readers, and children and teens interested in American History are all encouraged to attend. Diggs will also talk about her research and writing processes. The author's nonfiction titles, including *Boycotts, Strikes, and Marches*; *The Vietnam War*; and *Race Relations: The Struggle for Equality in America* are available in our print collections and on our e-book platform.

Free and open to the public. [RSVP required](#).

[Story Hour: American Landmarks](#)

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 24 March at 10h30 and again at 14h30

Find out about American monuments, parks, and landmarks during this Story Hour. The picture books we'll read include *Her Right Foot* by Dave Eggersand and the new release *You Are Home: An Ode to the National Parks*, by Evan Turk. Story Hours are hosted by our children's librarians and volunteers, who will read books and lead you and your little one in songs during an interactive, live, virtual session that lasts 45 minutes. Before this Story Hour, participants are encouraged to draw one place you would like to visit—in America or elsewhere!

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

[Vikings](#)

(ages 6–12)

Saturday 27 March at 14h00

Who were the Vikings? How did they travel, and why? Children's and Teens' Services Librarian Kirsty will lead you on an exploration of Viking culture, from battles to farming. You'll also learn Viking runes so that you can send your own messages. We'll even design our own Viking long-ship!

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

Select Teen Programming

Visit the [website calendar](#) for all upcoming teen programs.



We at the Library believe that creative writing plays an important role in a young person's literary development, and [The Young Authors Fiction Festival \(YAFF\)](#) is an integral part of our efforts to foster a love of literature. In an effort to showcase short stories and inspire young writers, we created our new short stories collections for children (in the Children's Library—Juvenile) and for teens (on the Teen Mezzanine). Included are YAFF Celebration Booklets (featuring winning YAFF stories) from 2013 onwards, as well as short story collections from authors such as Roald Dahl and compilations featuring works by classic and contemporary authors.

If you are planning on submitting a story for [YAFF 2021](#), remember: the deadline is 1 April at 22h00!

[The Art of the Short Story](#)

(ages 12–18)

Friday 19 March at 19h00

Just in time for the [Young Authors Fiction Festival \(YAFF\)](#), log in and work on your own original short story with other young writers. Together we'll look at examples of short stories, from dystopia to fantasy, and from horrific to heartwarming. Each participant will leave with a list of resources for places where they can submit short stories, as well as information about the Library's 2021 Young Authors Fiction Festival.

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

[Author Barbara Diggs on Boycotts, Strikes, and Marches](#)

(ages 9–18)

Saturday 20 March at 14h00

Dive into history with Barbara Diggs to explore the pivotal role youth played in movements for change during the Civil Rights Era and the Vietnam War. Aspiring writers, curious readers, and children and teens interested in American History are all encouraged to attend. Diggs will also talk about her research and writing processes. The author's nonfiction titles, including *Boycotts, Strikes, and Marches*; *The Vietnam War*; and *Race Relations: The Struggle for Equality in America* are available in our print collections and on our e-book platform.

Free and open to the public. [RSVP required](#).

[Understanding the American University Application Process](#)

(ages 12–18)

Saturday 27 March at 16h00

Given the demands of the American university application process, students interested in pursuing higher education in the US are well advised to begin preparing early in their high school career, before they embark on their final two years of study toward the French bac or IB. What do families need to know for their teens to be successful and satisfied by the university search and application process? How do students produce a strong and interesting US university application? During this one and a half hour virtual event, College Goals counselor Andrea van Niekerk, will address the complexities of the American university application system, paying special attention to the process and mechanics. She will also take questions about applications to the UK and Canada.

Free and open to the public. [RSVP required](#).

Press Room

Listen to Children's and Teens' Services Librarian Kirsty McCulloch Reid discuss the Young Authors Fiction Festival (YAFF) on [Right to Write—Paris on World Radio Paris](#), the only English-language radio station licensed to broadcast in Paris.



Pandemonium U



Upcoming virtual event by the Library's partner Pandemonium U:

["How the Le Pen family built and rules the postwar French far right," with political scientist Catherine Fieschi](#)

In conversation with Simon Kuper

Friday March 19 @ 9am Pacific/Noon NY/17:00 London/18:00 Paris

["Stolen Renoir: The fate of a painting and a family in wartime France," with James McAuley, author of *The House of Fragile Things: Jewish Art Collectors and the Fall of France*](#)

In conversation with Pamela Druckerman and Simon Kuper

Friday April 2 @ 9am Pacific/Noon NY/17:00 London/18:00 Paris

Renew your Membership and Consider a Gift

As an independent, non-profit institution, we rely on the support and generosity of our community. How can you help the American Library in Paris throughout the year? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, and tell your friends about the Library.

RENEW

DONATE

The American Library in Paris is an independent, non-profit institution that receives no regular government funding. Your generosity is essential in keeping the Library vibrant and creative.

All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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www.americanlibraryinparis.org

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