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The American Library in Paris

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e-Libris 25 May 2021

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2021 Gala speaker Zadie Smith

Thursday 23 September

We are delighted to announce that author Zadie Smith will be our 2021 Gala Speaker. This year's Gala celebration will return to the familiar format of an in-person dinner with over one hundred Library supporters. With your safety and comfort as our utmost priority, this year's event will be held at **Le Pré Catelan in the Bois de Boulogne** in an open-air salon adjoining the gardens.

Zadie Smith is the author of the novels *White Teeth*, *The Autograph Man*, *On Beauty*, *NW* and *Swing Time*, as well as a novella, *The Embassy of Cambodia*, the essay collections *Changing My Mind*, *Feel Free*, and *Intimations*, and a short story collection, *Grand Union*. She is currently a tenured professor of fiction at New York University and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. She is a regular contributor to the *New Yorker* and the *New York Review of Books*.



Every year, the American Library in Paris hosts a gala dinner featuring a prominent speaker. This event is the **most important fundraiser of the year** and supports the health and vitality of the Library.

Visit our [Gala 2020 webpage](#) or contact **Advancement Manager Morgan Wurzburger** to purchase your tickets or to sponsor a table: gala@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Special Event with Viet Thanh Nguyen

Pulitzer Prize winner returns to the Library

[Wednesday 2 June at 19h30 on Zoom](#)

Pulitzer Prize-winning author (and former Writer-in-Residence at the Library) Viet Thanh Nguyen presents his long-awaited new novel, *The Committed*. Nguyen will describe the work's historical backdrop: immigrant enclaves of drug lords, communist spies, and petty criminals in 1980s Paris. He will also speak to his writing process, touching on themes of identity, revolution, and intellectualism.

Tickets are 5€ for Library members, 10€ for non-members. [RSVP](#) to purchase your tickets and receive the Zoom link.



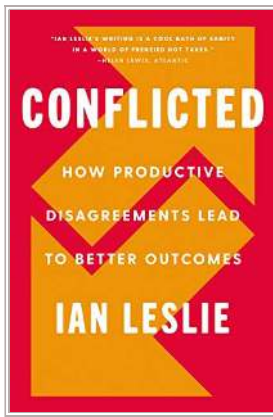
Programs for Adults



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.



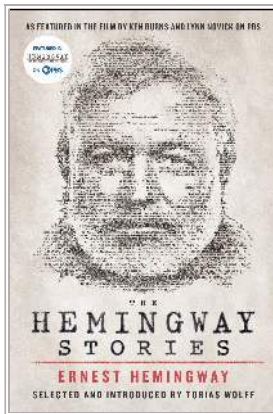
[How to Disagree, Productively](#)

Tuesday 25 May at 19h30

In *Conflicted: How Productive Disagreements Lead to Better Outcomes*, writer Ian Leslie argues that we live in a world that is primed for toxic disagreement, that we are not remotely prepared for this, and that we need to think of good disagreement as a skill that must be learned. Drawing on insights from many different fields, his book offers a guide to how we can unlock the immense benefits of disagreement, at home, at work, and in the public realm.

Open to the public via Zoom.

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



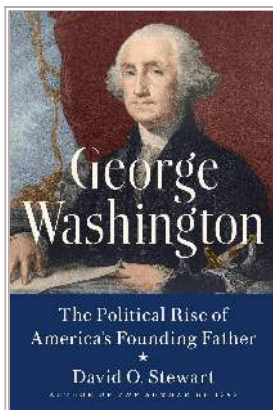
[Hemingway and the Craft of Writing](#)

Wednesday 26 May at 19h30

Authors Tobias Wolff and Mark Braude look to Ernest Hemingway, one of the greatest American writers of all time. Hemingway's spare and profound prose continues to capture the complexities of the human condition and inspires a conversation about literature, reading, and the craft of writing.

Open to the public via Zoom.

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



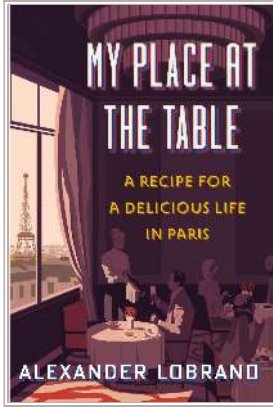
[The Political Rise of George Washington](#)

Tuesday 8 June at 19h30

Join bestselling writers David O. Stewart and Walter Stahr to discuss *George Washington: The Political Rise of America's Founding Father*. Stewart's most recent book follows the surprising transformation of a headstrong, unwise young Virginian into a master politician who led the founding of the world's first constitutional republic. The story traces Washington's political education through the Virginia House of Burgesses and Fairfax County Court to the pinnacle of American life.

Open to the public via Zoom.

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



[His Place at the Table](#)

Wednesday 9 June at 19h30

A mouthwatering testament to the healing power of food, Alec Lobrano's *My Place at the Table* is a moving coming-of-age story of how a gay man emerges from a wounding childhood in Connecticut, finds himself at the epicenter of the Parisian dining revolution, and discovers love. Lobrano's memoir includes his "little black book," an insider's guide to his thirty all-time-favorite Paris restaurants.

Open to the public via Zoom.

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



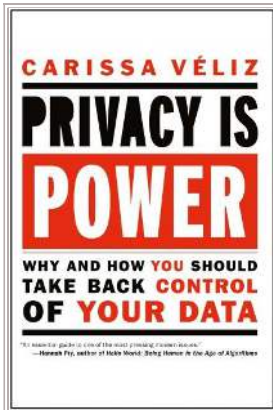
[An Evening with Paula Deitz](#)

Tuesday 22 June at 19h30

Join Paula Deitz to discuss her work as long-time editor of the *Hudson Review*. At the vanguard of developments in literature and the arts, over the years Deitz has published undiscovered writers from diverse backgrounds, many of whom have become major literary figures. Deitz is also a cultural critic whose articles about art, architecture, and landscape design have appeared in newspapers and magazines in the US and abroad.

Open to the public via Zoom.

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



[Take Back Control of Your Data](#)

Wednesday 23 June at 19h30

An urgent and hands-on guide for taking back our right to privacy, *Privacy is Power* is full of simple and effective analogies that make it clear how companies are stealing our private data, why this is harmful, and what can be done about it, while offering practical solutions for both policymakers and private citizens. Author Carissa Véliz is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Oxford.

Open to the public via Zoom.

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



Past programs are on YouTube, including events with Jenny Odell; Nathalie Handal; Jess McHugh and Peter Sokolowski; and Oliver Gee and Lina Nordin Gee.

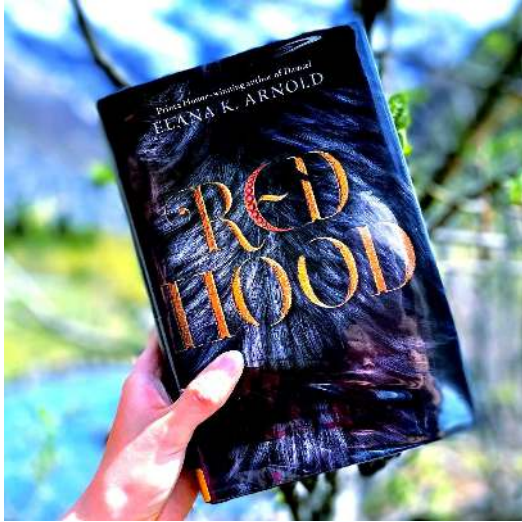


Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.



Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg.

Kids and Teens



[A Conversation with Elana K. Arnold](#)

(ages 8–18)

Saturday 5 June at 18h00

Elana K. Arnold is the author of critically-acclaimed young adult novels and children's books, including Printz Honor winner *Damsel*, National Book Award finalist *What Girls Are Made Of*, and Global Read Aloud selection *A Boy Called Bat* and its sequels.

Arnold will discuss her work, her inspiration, and her writing process, then take questions from participants. After the main event, teens are invited to stick around to chat with the author about her YA novels.

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

Children's Programming Highlights

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

[Summer Scavenger Hunt \(Outdoor Event\)](#)

(ages 6–12)

Saturday 29 May from 11h00

Join us for an outdoor scavenger hunt featuring fun, prizes, and surprises. Children and their adult chaperones can stop by the Children's and Teens' Services Desk between 11h00 and 17h00 to pick up the scavenger hunt rules, then set off into the surrounding neighborhood to complete the challenges. Masks are required for all participants ages 8 and up.

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

[Story Hour in the Park: Classics and Favorites](#)

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 2 June at 14h30

Children and their grown-ups are invited to join us for an interactive Story Hour, outdoors in a small group. During this hour-long program, we'll read several classic stories and a few new favorites, and sing several well-known songs. Plan to join in, sing along, and move around, and model movement and listening for your little one.

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



Select Teen Programming

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

Teen Night: Capture the Flag

(ages 12–18)

Friday 4 June at 18h30

Put on your running shoes and join us for a game of capture the flag on the Champ de Mars. We'll meet at the Library at 18h30 to divide into teams and go over the rules, then we'll set out as a group to the park to play. Parents/guardians can pick up participating teens in front of the Library at 20h00. Sign-up early as spaces are limited!

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



Applications Open: Teen Writing Group and Teen Advisory Group

(ages 12–18)

Friday 28 May at 10h00

Applications for 2021/2022 are opening for our [Teen Writing Group](#) and [Teen Advisory Group](#). The writing group offers a space where aspiring writers can share their work, get feedback, work on their technique, and get to know other writers in our community. The advisory group offers participants an opportunity to earn community service hours by providing valuable feedback to the Library. Members of this group are asked to weigh in on our collection and offer suggestions about programs, policies, and more.

Open to Library members.

Deadline to apply: 31 July at 23h00

Save the Date: Literary Reaping

(ages 12–18)

Friday 18 June at 19h00

Show off your fabulous memory of all things related to teen literature. For this event, you'll be placed in teams to answer trivia questions and complete challenges based on young adult literature—classic and contemporary. In the past, participants were asked to shoot an arrow as straight as Katniss, prove a knowledge of the gods that rivals Percy's and Magnus's, demonstrate a knowledge of the small science to match a Heartrender's, and decide on the perfect spell faster than a maji. All participating teens will win a book to add to their home libraries.

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

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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.

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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



The American Library in Paris
10 rue du Général Camou
Paris, France 75007
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