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The American Library in Paris

ESTABLISHED 1920

e-Libris 13 July 2021

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In the event that this *e-Libris* is cut short by your email service, please click the link at the bottom of the email to see the newsletter in its entirety.

E-Libris will be taking a summer break, and will return at the end of August.



Summer Hours Starting Thursday 15 July

Mark your calendars: This Thursday the Library transitions to its summer schedule.

Thursday **15 July** 2021 through Monday **30 August** 2021, inclusive:

Tuesday–Saturday: 10h00–16h00

Sunday–Monday: Closed

Holiday closures: 14 July (Bastille Day) & **15 August** (Assumption)

Regular operating hours resume on Tuesday **31 August**.

Extended Borrowing Through the Summer

Are you going away this summer, and worried about overdue library books? Member Services is giving you the green light to take your books on vacation. Simply ask a staff member about extended borrowing and custom due dates. We're happy to accommodate your travel schedule.

If you're not able to come to the Library before you leave for the summer, give us a call at +33 (0)1 53 59 12 60 or email us at info@americanlibraryinparis.org, and we can extend your due dates remotely.



Book Groups: Spots Available for Fall 2021

If you are interested in joining one of our book groups in the fall, the following groups have available spaces or a wait list. Spots fill up quickly, and some groups require summer reading, so please [sign up now](#).

If you don't find the book group of your dreams in the below list, consider starting your own group. Programs Manager Alice McCrum will guide you through the process. Please contact her via email: mccrum@americanlibraryinparis.org

For more information about all groups, as well as instructions on how to sign up, please visit the Library's updated [book groups webpage](#).

Book Groups with Open Spots

The Art of Writing: Patricia Highsmith

"Why should it be surprising that many writers enjoy drawing or sculpting?" Patricia Highsmith wrote. "A picture also tells a story." Highsmith was a photographer's muse, a cinematic inspiration (several of her books were adapted to the screen), and an artist (she kept artistic records of where she set her stories). Led by Precious Brown, this new book group invites discussion about the art and writing Highsmith produced during her time in France. Weather permitting, the group might make a day trip to Fontainebleau, where Highsmith resided.

The Art of Writing: The Beat Hotel

By the mid-1950s, the Beat Generation had made a name for itself in America as an underground movement. When a handful of Beats arrived in Paris in the fall of 1957, they checked into a bohemian hotel at 9, rue Git-le-Cœur. It was there that William S. Burroughs honed his cut-up technique. This book group will consider three of the Beat Generation's leading writers' formative years in Paris, as well as the profound influence the city exerted on their lives and work.

Prize-Winning American and British Plays

Reading plays and talking about them afterwards is a worthwhile way to learn about characters and their dilemmas, the human condition in general, and problems in a particular society or culture. Using our imagination, one can picture what is happening on stage and appreciate a story that is well-told through dialogue. The group, run by Hilary Kaiser, will read and discuss award-winning American and British

plays, most of which are available online. If time permits during the session, the group will also read memorable scenes out loud.

Book Groups with a Wait List

Modern Ideas in Human Culture

Maurice Lanman and Laurie Calvet's long-standing non-fiction group, now beginning its tenth year, continues into 2022. They frequently focus on science and technology and their effects on society. This year they will focus on how geography and culture impacted our past and skew our views about the future. They start with a selection of books on the history of civilization and human geography. In the context of climate change, they then explore how differing moral philosophies propose to deal with and live with the impacts of this change. Finally, they look to evolutionary psychologist Stephen Pinker for a reassuring view of the progress of human society toward global enlightenment.

French and American Encounters

Sharon Golec's book group focuses on non-fiction works exploring French and American history, and the many mutual influences our two countries have had on each other. After delving into the history and culture of the 1930s this past year, the group will explore this same period from slightly different angles in the year to come. In the fall, they will focus on "tandems," figures whose intense connections of different types (couples, friends, mentors, antagonists) influenced history. Each member of these tandems brought different, often conflicting viewpoints to the issues of the day. The evolution of their perspectives and actions cannot be completely separated from their personal relationships with their "partners."

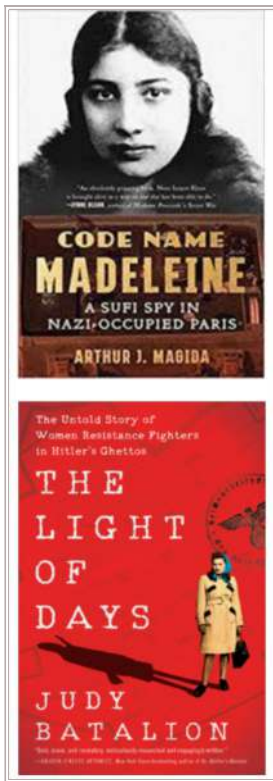
Strangers in a Strange Land

Why do people take challenging journeys into the unknown? Deliberate flight from the unbearable? Pursuit of a dream? Or perhaps they have been swept, against their will, towards life-changing paths. Whatever the scenario, there is always a story to tell. Mary Harries Magnusson and Deborah Singleton's group focuses on novels whose protagonists are geographically, or else spiritually far from home. They focus, too, on what has prompted the protagonists' journeys and on how the new land shapes their lives.

Programs for Adults

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

Adult programming will finish its 2020–21 season on Tuesday 13 July, with a [fascinating event](#) on women resisters in the Second World War. After a summer hiatus, programs will resume in September 2021. Stay tuned: We'll announce our fall lineup in late August.



Tales of Resistance

Tuesday 13 July at 19h30

Join Judy Batalion and Arthur Magida to discuss their latest books, *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters* and *Code Name Madeleine: A Sufi Spy in Nazi-Occupied Paris*, respectively. The former is a searing history that brings to light the extraordinary accomplishments of brave Jewish women who became Resistance fighters—a group of unknown heroes whose exploits have never been chronicled in full, until now. The latter follows the captivating story of the valiant Noor Inayat Khan, daughter of an Indian Sufi mystic and unlikely Second World War heroine.




Both books are available now for purchase at [The Red Wheelbarrow bookstore](#). If you plan to tune in from Paris, be sure to pick up your copies in time to read them before the event.

Open to the public via Zoom.

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



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.

-  Past programs are on YouTube, including events with Tom Hodgkinson, Carissa Véliz, and Paula Deitz.
-  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

Join us throughout July and August as our programs for ages 0–18 continue. We have something for all ages with our [Summer Reading Challenge](#), our weekly Wednesday and Saturday programs, and our Fantasy Book Club. See the [online calendar](#) for details.

Children's Programming

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

[The Weirdest Things Animals Do and Why!](#) (virtual)

(ages 6–12)

Saturday 17 July at 11h00

During this virtual event, we will read stories and learn all about the strangest habits and behaviors of animals both wild and domestic.

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



[Story Hour in the Park: Oceans](#)

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 21 July at 14h30

For this Story Hour, we'll read stories about the ocean and all sorts of marine animals. This interactive, outdoor program (weather permitting) will last one hour. We'll sing songs and learn hand rhymes, so be ready to join in, move around, and model movement and listening for your little one.

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

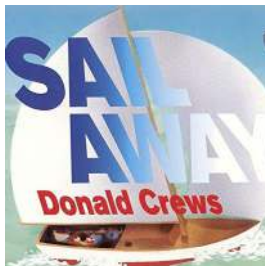
[Summer Crafternoon](#)

(ages 6–12)

Saturday 24 July at 11h00

Join Children's Librarian Kirsty for a small, in-person crafting event. We'll make some fun summer-inspired crafts together in the Children's Library. All supplies will be provided.

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



[Story Hour in the Park: Let's Sail Away!](#)

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 28 July at 14h30

For this Story Hour, we'll read about boats and sailing adventures. This interactive, outdoor program (weather permitting) will last one hour.

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

[Natural Disasters](#) (virtual)

(ages 6–12)

Saturday 31 July at 11h00

Join Children's Librarian Kirsty for a virtual event all about natural disasters. Tornadoes, earthquakes, tsunamis—we'll look at all kinds of natural disasters, how they occur, and how they affect people and the environment.

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



Teen Programming

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

Applications Open: Teen Writing Group and Teen Advisory Group

(ages 12–18)

Deadline to apply: 31 July at 23h00

Do you love writing? Do you want to get more involved in the Library community? Now is your chance to apply for the Teen Writing Group and the Teen Advisory Group, which will pick up again in the fall. The Teen 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 Teen Advisory Group offers participants an opportunity to provide valuable feedback to the Library—and earn community service hours.

[Teen Writing Group Application](#)

[Teen Advisory Group Application](#)

Open to Library members.

Meet our 2020–2021 Interns

We are very grateful to the interns who have worked at the Library over the 2020–2021 academic year. Their help has been invaluable to the Library's operations, and it has been a privilege to work alongside this talented group of students at such an exciting moment in their careers.

Gabrielle McFarland (September 2020–March 2021) Gabrielle is an MA student at SciencesPo, studying International Economic Policy. During her internship as a Development Intern, she worked on various fundraising and marketing projects. She also assisted the Member Services department. Thanks to her strong work ethic, humor, and passion for literature, Gabby quickly became an invaluable member of the Library team.



Julie Zaneskis, (April–May 2021) Julie is a student of translation at l'Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (Inalco). As a Collections Intern, her calm nature and hard work really shone in the archives, where she worked on organizing, maintaining, and cataloging titles in the periodical archives, helping with the organization of various digital archives, and providing support to the Member Services team.



Gema Salamanca (May 2021) Gema is a graphic designer about to embark on her professional career. During her time as the Library's Graphic Design Intern, Gema helped to refine the Library's branding with a new brand guide, created promotional materials, and took beautiful photographs of the Library's newly renovated children's and teens' spaces and the new Atelier.



Mia Uremović (June–September 2021) Mia is the Library's current Collections and Member Services Intern. An MA student in translation (French and American studies) at the University of Zagreb, Mia is completing an Erasmus+ internship while at the Library. Mia's internship projects include the organization of books, magazines, and databases, as well as giving support to Member Services. Her hobbies include reading, traveling, cycling, and volunteering.



Hana Szobonyova (June–August 2021) Hana is the Library's current Programs Intern. An MA student of History and Philosophy of Art at the University of Kent, she is working with the Programs Manager on social media management and publicizing upcoming events. Hana's hobbies include art and design history, philosophy, photography, and creative writing.



The American Library in Paris offers a number of intern placements throughout the academic year, providing an opportunity to gain valuable work experience and become a part of the Library community.

For more information and to apply online, visit our website: americanlibraryinparis.org/internships

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