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The American Library in Paris

ESTABLISHED 1920

e-Libris 7 June 2022

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Editor: Carolyn Dubol

The 2022 Book Award Jury

Honoring Literature. Interpreting France.

We are proud to reveal the jury for the 2022 American Library in Paris Book Award. Stay tuned for the announcement of the award's shortlist, coming in July. The winner will be unveiled at the Book Award Ceremony in November 2022.

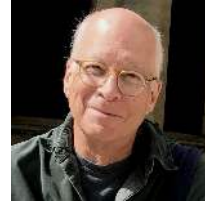
Thomas Chatterton Williams is the author of *Self-Portrait in Black and White: Unlearning Race*, and a recipient of the Berlin Prize. He has written for *Harper's* and the *New York Times Magazine*, among other publications. He lives in Paris.



Alexandra Schwartz is a staff writer and theater critic at the *New Yorker* and a former editor at the *New York Review of Books*. She is the recipient of the Nona Balakian Citation for Excellence in Reviewing given by the National Book Critics Circle.



Charles Trueheart (Chair) is a contributing editor at the *American Scholar*. He is a former *Washington Post* correspondent and director of the American Library in Paris. His book about Vietnam in the early 1960s, *Two Gentlemen in Saigon*, will appear next year.



YAFF Celebration Events: Friday 10 June



Join us Friday 10 June to celebrate the hundreds of young writers who submitted their original short stories to the 2022 Young Authors Fiction Festival.

18h00: Kindergarten/*Grande Section* through 5th Grade/*CM2*

19h30: 6th Grade/*6ème* through 12th Grade/*Terminale*

At the Celebration Events, we will announce the 1st–5th place-winning stories in each grade and present the winners with a personalized bookmark and certificate. Finalists have been notified, and participants have received an invitation to the event for their age group.

The top five stories in each grade are published in two Celebration Books, which will be available for purchase for 15€ at the events, and then from 11 June at the Library.

If you would like to attend one of the Celebration Events, you must RSVP:

[Yes, I'd like to attend a YAFF Celebration Event](#)

The Library and the YAFF Committee would like to thank [The British Council](#), [Marymount International School](#) and [Union School](#) for supporting YAFF 2022.

2022 Gala Slideshow



On 19 May we celebrated the Library at the 2022 Gala Dinner, with honoree Ann Patchett.

We invite you to view the photos from the evening on the [Library's Flickr page](#). All photos are courtesy of photographer Krystal Kenney.

If you weren't able to join us in person, we do hope you consider making a donation in support of the Library. The Gala is our most important fundraising event of the year, and your help is still needed. Please visit our [Gala website](#) to make a gift. All supporters will receive access to the full recording of Ann Patchett's Gala speech.

Thank you for your continued patronage, and we hope you are able to join us for next year's event.

A Million Thanks to Librarian Kirsty McCulloch Reid

Longtime Children's and Teens' Services Librarian and YAFF Coordinator Kirsty McCulloch Reid will be leaving the Library at the end of the summer to relocate to her native Scotland.

Kirsty first joined us as a volunteer and intern in 2015, and she has made an indelible mark during her time with the Library. She spearheaded the expansion of the Young Authors Fiction Festival, growing it into a program that inspires hundreds of young writers every year. She has worked tirelessly to update our online catalog so that it is easier to search, create exciting programming, and assist young readers (and their teachers and guardians) in finding books they love.



Kirsty will remain a part of the Library community, continuing as Volunteer YAFF Coordinator in 2023. While we're sad that Kirsty is leaving the Library, we're thrilled for her as she begins this exciting new chapter.

Two farewell celebrations will be hosted on **Saturday 6 August** for Library members: one at 11h00 for children ages 0–12 and their families, and the other at 14h00 for teens. Please join us in sending Kirsty off with a warm *sláinte!*

RSVP Children 0–12: 11h00

RSVP Teens: 14h00

Pap Ndiaye named Minister of Education

In March 2021 news outlets from *Le Monde* to the *New York Times* reported on a historic moment: Pap Ndiaye, a French historian specializing in African American and Afro-French history, had been appointed director of the National Museum of the History of Immigration in Paris.

In February 2022, Ndiaye visited the Library to kick off our Black History Month programming, appearing in conversation with Paris-based writer Jake Lamar.

On 20 May 2022, Pap Ndiaye was named *Ministre de l'Éducation Nationale et de la Jeunesse* by French President Emmanuel Macron.

Ndiaye's *Evenings with an Author* talk is available to watch on the Library's YouTube channel.



Pap Ndiaye and Jake Lamar at *Evenings with an Author* sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg

New Print Magazines

The Library is now subscribed to the magazines *Delayed Gratification* and *Jacobin*.

Delayed Gratification is the world's first slow journalism magazine. This quarterly publication revisits the events of the last three months to offer in-depth, independent journalism in an increasingly frantic world. Instead of trying to beat social media to breaking news stories, the magazine focus on the values we all

expect from quality journalism: accuracy, depth, context, analysis, and expert opinion.

Jacobin is a quarterly magazine that is focused on the American left, offering socialist perspectives on politics, economics, and culture. In April 2016 Noam Chomsky called the magazine "a bright light in dark times."

Both titles are available to read onsite or to borrow.

Book Display: Pride Month

Every June, Gay Pride is celebrated in many parts of the world to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in New York City, to recognize and raise awareness about the impact that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people have had on history, and to acknowledge the challenges they still face today.

With that in mind, our own Claire Hargreaves, Member Services Assistant and Book Display Maven, has curated a display of essential reading for Pride Month, including fiction, memoir, graphic novels, and nonfiction covering a range of topics relating to the LGBTQIA+ community.

Visit our Members' Lounge this June to find a selection of titles to suit every taste. As always, displayed books are available for checkout.

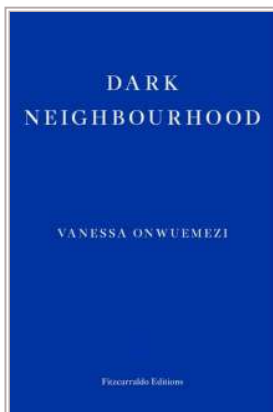
Visit the Teen Mezzanine this month to see the Pride display curated by Children's and Teens' Services Intern Diya Katyal.



Programs for Adults

Evenings with an Author, sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg

Evenings with an Author are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. You must RSVP to attend our programs, either in person or via Zoom.



TOMORROW

[Dark Neighborhood](#)

[with Vanessa Onwuemezi and Daniel Medin](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom

Wednesday 8 June at 19h30 CEST

In *Dark Neighborhood*, writer Vanessa Onwuemezi's debut story collection, ambiguity reigns. Populated by undefined figures lurking in strange places, Onwuemezi's stories feel liminal and haunting, and push the limits of linear narrative. From the awkward banality of the immediately post-apocalyptic, to solitary and introspective scenes of death, to eerie glimpses into Americana, the lyrical and imaginative voice guides readers into the vast landscape of the unknowable. Onwuemezi will be speaking with editor and professor Daniel Medin on form, translation, language, and new directions in contemporary fiction.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom



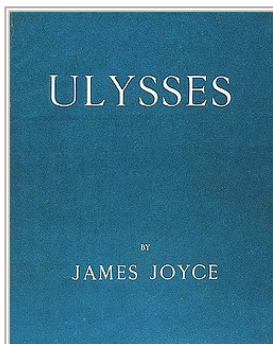
**[Le fagot de ma mémoire](#)
with Souleymane Bachir Diagne**

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 15 June at 19h30 CEST**

The American Library is thrilled to invite celebrated philosopher and author Souleymane Bachir Diagne to discuss his recent work, *Le fagot de ma mémoire*, as well as his extensive writings in philosophy and African literature. In *Le fagot de ma mémoire*, Diagne traces his adolescence in Senegal, his studies in Paris at the École Normale Supérieure and the Sorbonne, and his teaching at universities in Dakar, Chicago, and New York, considering the many figures and diverse lines of thought which have influenced his remarkable path. Diagne will be speaking on his life and thought, as well as on the situation of the present-day francophone world.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom



**The Centennial of *Ulysses*
with Adam Biles, Alice McCrum & Lex Paulson
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Thursday 16 June at 19h30 CEST**

This year, as we mark the centennial of the publication of *Ulysses* through famed Paris bookstore Shakespeare and Company, the Library is thrilled to be hosting Literary Director of Shakespeare & Co. Adam Biles and Dr. Lex Paulson, along with Library Programs Manager Alice McCrum, for a live recording of the final episode of their *Ulysses*-themed podcast, *Bloomcast*. McCrum, Biles, and Paulson will be discussing the book's famous ending, their overall reading experiences, and their final thoughts on Joyce's magnum opus. Join them as they muddle, for one last time, through this radical, sublime, and often misunderstood novel first published one hundred years ago, in 1922.

The event is co-sponsored by Shakespeare and Company.
Free and open to the public. Registration required.

RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom



**Fiction, Fantasy, and Books to Inspire Hope
with Samira Ahmed**

Ages 12–adult

In Person at the Library

Friday 17 June at 19h00 CEST

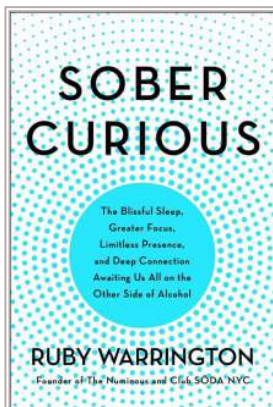
Please note the special start time.

Light refreshments will be served after the event.

Samira Ahmed is the *New York Times*-bestselling and award-winning author of the young adult novels *Love, Hate & Other Filters*; *Internment*; *Mad, Bad & Dangerous to Know*; *Hollow Fires* (released May 2022); as well as the *Amira & Hamza* middle grade fantasy series. She is the first South Asian Muslim writer of the popular Marvel Comics superhero Ms. Marvel. Her short stories and poetry have appeared in publications and anthologies including the *New York Times*, *Who Will Speak for America*, *Take the Mic*, *Color Outside the Lines*, *Vampires Never Get Old*, and *A Universe of Wishes*.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend in person](#)



**Sober Curious
with Ruby Warrington**

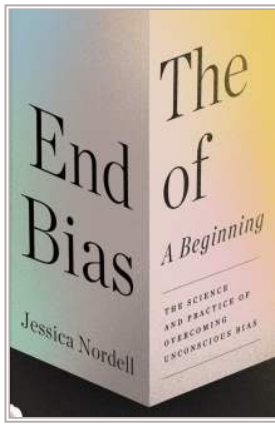
Online Event: Live on Zoom

Wednesday 22 June at 19h30 CEST

In author and editor Ruby Warrington's *Sober Curious*, she dares to ask a question that many adults fear: What would happen if we reconsidered our relationship to alcohol, and gave it up voluntarily? How would our bodies, minds, sleeping habits, and productivity levels change? What could a life without alcohol look like? In response, she formulates the path of the "sober curious": not a sober lifestyle following an alcohol use disorder, but a series of steps taken by someone considering cutting alcohol out of their life to explore how their life might change.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



[The End of Bias](#)
[with Jessica Nordell](#)

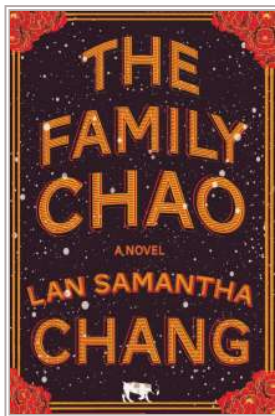
Online Event: Live on Zoom

Thursday 23 June at 19h30 CEST

In *The End of Bias*, science journalist Jessica Nordell is not looking to shame or excuse behavior. Rather, she is interested in identifying bias, its short- and long-term effects, and ways to overcome it. From the workplace to education, from healthcare to policing, Nordell considers case studies whose data overwhelmingly prove the harm caused by unexamined stereotypes and unconscious bias. Equal parts diagnostic and prescriptive, the book sets itself apart with its solutions-oriented approach. Ultimately, this is a work of optimism, which nonetheless demands serious reflective work from its reader.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



[The Family Chao](#)
[with Lan Samantha Chang,](#)
[in conversation with Alexander Capdeville](#)

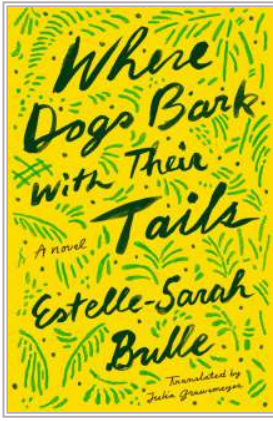
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom

Tuesday 28 June at 19h30 CEST

Lan Samantha Chang's latest novel, *The Family Chao*, updates the mythical trope of patricide. Reminiscent of Dostoevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*, the work is catalyzed by the murder of a patriarch upon the homecoming of his three sons. Set largely in and around the family Chinese restaurant, the murder is exceptionally used to explore racist and anti-immigrant attitudes latent in American society, showing how crisis pushes these sentiments to the surface. This is a story of hunger and consumption: devouring traditional and Americanized dishes, media, and ideology, the characters are gluttoned on the drama of the murder, the spectacle of an ensuing trial, and the tantalizing mythology of the American dream.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



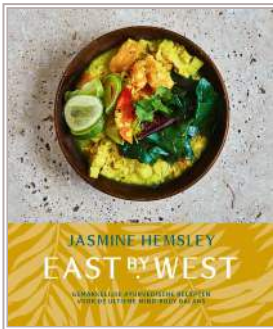
**[Where Dogs Bark with Their Tails](#)
[with Estelle-Sarah Bulle,](#)
[in conversation with Julia Grawemeyer](#)**

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 29 June at 19h30 CEST**

Join the American Library to celebrate the recent English translation of author Estelle-Sarah Bulle's debut novel, *Là où les chiens aboient par la queue*. A moving and layered story of memory, heritage, and diaspora, the work tells of the Ezechiel family and their slow migration through both geography and class, from the countryside of Guadeloupe to the suburbs of Paris. Framed by a young woman seeking to learn about her family's past, the story is populated by a rich ensemble of voices and woven through with stories which range from devastating to fantastic, contending with loss, love, exploitation, exile, and the mythologization of return.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



**[East by West](#)
[with Jasmine Hemsley](#)**

**Online Event: Live on Zoom
Thursday 30 June at 19h30 CEST**

Originally scheduled for 1 June, this event will now take place on 30 June.

Following her successful pop-up café in London, chef Jasmine Hemsley has authored the cookbook *East by West*, which propels the ancient Ayurvedic relationship between eating and wellbeing into the modern age. A 5,000-year-old holistic healing system, Ayurveda promotes the use of nutrition, mindful rituals, and cleanses to nourish and energize the body and mind. Hemsley will discuss the history of Ayurveda, how the practice has changed her relation to food and the earth, and the many uses of Ayurveda in the present day.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



Past programs are on YouTube, including Visiting Fellow Ian Williams on Racialization and Disorientation and Colm Tóibín and Patrick Hastings on James Joyce's *Ulysses*.



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



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



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.

Kids' and Teens' News

Registration is required to attend any program, and attendees must be Library members. To find out what's coming up next, check our [calendar](#) and register early!

Job Opening Children's and Teens' Services

The Library is seeking a full-time

Assistant Children's and Teens' Services Librarian (CDI)

Start date: 2 August 2022

Weekly hours: 36 hours

To apply, please carefully read the [job description](#), then fill out the [application form](#). Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, and only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an in-person interview.

Please remember that valid European working papers are a requirement.



An Eagle Scout Has Landed

For the past year, the Children's and Teens' Services staff have been working with Boy Scout Roman Blanco on his Eagle Project, a service project that is part of the requirements to attain the Eagle Scout rank. Roman's mission: to design and build new shelving signs for the recently expanded Children's Library and Teen Mezzanine. Roman teamed up with his Boy Scout troop and his family to fundraise, source the materials, and create the signs, which are now on display.

Now Accepting Applications for the [Teen Writing Group](#)!

Experienced writers and amateurs ages 12–18 are invited to apply for the 2022–2023 Teen Writing Group. Members participate in monthly meetings to share their work and get to know other writers in our community.

Some Teen Writing Group meetings are led by group members, others by guest hosts. Authors who have hosted the Teen Writing Group in the past include Jamika Ajalon, Clementine Beauvais, Tanehisi Coates, Anne Heltzel, Amy Plum, Hilary Reyl, Tioka Tokedira, and James Verini.

The deadline to apply is 12 August 2022.

[Apply now!](#)

How Can You Help the American Library?



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, become a volunteer, and tell your friends about the Library.

[RENEW](#)

[DONATE](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

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.

[BECOME A LIBRARY MEMBER](#)



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