This bi-monthly electronic newsletter highlights upcoming events, exhibitions and programs, and introduces you to our resources, services, and the people making a difference on the Library's behalf.

A Celebration of Babar
2009 Annual Gala
Save the date!

The Library's annual gala dinner in 2009 will honor Laurent de Brunhoff, son of Jean de Brunhoff, and the author and illustrator of Babar books for more than 60 years. The gala fundraiser will take place on Thursday 4 June 2009. Watch Ex Libris, e-Libris, and your mailbox for an invitation and more details.

February is Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, the Library presents programs for adults and teens, a special Art on View exhibit, and a book display, located across from the circulation desk.

Talk About Art: Images of Blacks in Western Art

Thursday 5 February at 19h30

On ancient Greek vases, behind the altars of medieval European churches, and in French Impressionist paintings, black people are portrayed in Western art as saints, sinners, heroes, and villains. Artist and curator Cheryl Ann Bolden will explore the perspectives of the artists, the hidden meanings of the images, and the differing interpretations of the viewers.

Kids and teens

Friday 6 February
19h00-21h00 (ages 12+)

"To know where you're going, you have to know where you've been."
Why do we celebrate Black History Month? Join Cheryl Bolden to learn more. Let's discuss black history, fiction, music, and cultural contributions to America and around the world. Teens will be asked to read, write, rap, talk, listen and think. Let's get together and explore these big issues.

Saturday 7 February
15h00-16h00 (ages 6-12)

Author Visit and Poetry Workshop

Join us for an afternoon with children's author, poet and teacher Orel Protopopescu. Orel will read from her illustrated books and talk about...
Don't miss the special *Art On View* exhibit on display through the end of February, featuring a selection of images as well as artifacts from Ms. Bolden's collection *Precious Cargo: African Diaspora, History and Culture*.

**Breaking Barriers: The African American Odyssey**
On display throughout the month of February

Celebrate the men and women who through their ordinary and extraordinary efforts paved the way for the events unfolding today. From the agents and conductors of the Underground Railroad, the abolitionist movement, and the Tuskegee Airmen, to the Civil Rights Movement's lasting legacy and the "first" across a myriad of professions.

**Abraham Lincoln Turns 200**

Abraham Lincoln is known not only as one of America's greatest presidents, but one of its greatest writers as well. Visit our special book display and explore how Abraham Lincoln’s ideas and legacy are still shaping America 200 years after his birth.

And don't miss a special Evenings with an Author presentation: **Wednesday 11 February 19h30** Biographer Bernard Vincent on *Abraham Lincoln remembered*.

**Upcoming Programs and Events**

**Tuesday 17 February 19h30**
Evenings with an Expert: Science writer and photographer Lucia Simion explores *Antarctica: The Continent of Peace and Science*

**Wednesday 18 February 19h30**
Evenings with an Author: Novelist Ward Just reads from the forthcoming *Exiles in the Garden*.

For program details, visit [http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org/](http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org/)

All evening events at the Library are free and open to the public. We are the process of writing. Children will discover the joy of poetry and rhyme, and together we will write some poetry of our own, just for fun.

**Saturday 14 February 15h00-16h00 (ages 6-12)**

*Be my Valentine!*
Valentine's Day is here, so join us for Valentine's Day fact, fiction, and treats! Then let's get creative: imagining, drawing, cutting, pasting and writing up cool valentines for friends and sweethearts. Stickers, stamps and hearts galore!

**And always...**

**Mother Goose Lap Sit**
10h30-11h00 (ages 1-3)
5 February & 26 February
Rhymes, songs, and stories in English.

**Wednesday Story Hour**
10h30 & 14h30 (ages 3-5)
Drop-in sessions every Wednesday. No sign-ups needed. Spend an hour together sharing a
grateful to the Annenberg Foundation for its continuing support of Evenings with an Author.

Children attending lap-sit and/or story hour must have their own library card, or be covered by a family membership. Otherwise, the program day fee applies.

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