

The American Library in Paris

Literature • Learning • Culture • Community

10 April 2012

e-Libris

Director's Note

What the Internet is doing to our brains



No subject interests us more at the Library than the future of reading. We've never had so much information at our fingertips, so many ways for readers

and writers to connect, so much sheer output of words. But familiar forms and structures and habits are fading away. It's less difficult every day to imagine reading without paper, without bookstores, without publishers, without (gulp) libraries. But -- awash in information, dazzled and distracted by new technologies, are we losing the ability to concentrate, to contemplate? Are we risking overload?

These are some of the things we'll begin to explore on the **afternoon of Saturday 12 May** at the Library. We'll have **two moderated discussions** of books relevant to this topic – Nicholas Carr's *The Shallows: What the Internet is Doing to Our Brains* and Siva Vaidhyanathan's *The Googlization of Everything* – and then an **exclusive screening** of a startling new film, *Connected: An Autobiography about Love, Death, and Technology*.



Two things are **required** to participate: [membership](#) in the American Library (or a day pass) and a reservation. One more thing is highly **recommended**: Reading one of the books, the magazine-length versions – or other good books on the topic. [Learn more here](#).

Why not take a chance on seats at the Gala?

Kids and teens

Saturday 14 April

15h00-16h00 (ages 6+)

Magical Myths and Fearsome Fables

Want to hear about some great Greek myths, the antics of the Roman gods and goddesses and other stories of heroes from long ago? Come in and explore some historical tales and fantastic legends during an afternoon of fun at the Library.



Saturday 21 April

15h00-16h30 (all ages)

Earth Day Party!

Celebrate Earth Day with some great stories and games, then learn a few tricks about how to take care of this fabulous planet we're on. [Find out more!](#)





Nearly 5,000 of you readers of **e-Libris** received an appeal for donations a few weeks ago. Thanks to those who responded, and for the rest of you,

here's the promised reminder: Make a donation of €100 **by Monday April 23** in exchange for two things – (1) the knowledge that you are keeping a vital community resource strong and (2) a good chance at a pair of tickets to the annual gala dinner with Sebastian Faulks on May 31. Do it now! [Do it here!](#)

Upcoming Events and Programs

Tuesday 10 April 19h30

Close-ups: Film through the Ages - Tama Carroll presents Musicals Part 2, The Next Generation.

Wednesday 11 April 19h30

Evenings with an Author: Join us for this Earth Day talk, featuring Marilyn Waite, who will discuss world-wide water resources.

Thursday 12 April 19h30

Evenings with an Author: National Book Award winning author Lily Tuck presents 'I Married You For Happiness.'

Wednesday 25 April 19h30 - Just Added

Evenings with an Author: James Barr explores 'A Line In The Sand,' a history of the rivalry between Britain and France for dominance in the Middle East.

Tuesday 1 May

Library is closed - Labor Day (Fête du Travail)

Wednesday 2 May 19h30

Evenings with an Author: Senior correspondent for the New York Times, Alan Cowell presents his novel 'The Paris Correspondent.'

Saturday 5 May 10h00-19h00

Sunday 6 May 13h00-19h00

Attention Teens !

Friday 4 May

19h00-21h00 (ages 12+)

A writing workshop with author Ashley Perez

Ever wonder where



writers find their ideas?

Join author Ashley Hope Pérez for an evening of book talk, secrets, and writing.

Bring a pen and a sense of adventure.

[Registration is required for this activity as space is limited.](#)

Attention Teens !

Upcycled it! An art contest for ages 12-18

Deadline: Sat 5 May

Take

something that would



otherwise be

thrown away and use it to make a piece of cool,

new art. Other mediums (paint, markers, clay, etc) may be used as

well, but the art must be

based on recycled materials (like this chair,

made by Alana Juric out of a book that was found

in the trash, old

Used Book Sale at the Library on both days of the first weekend of the month.

Tuesday 8 May

Library is closed - WWII Victory Day (Fête de la Victoire 1945)

Wednesday 9 May 19h30

Judith Rock presents 'The Eloquence of Blood,' book two of her 'The Charles du Luc Historical Mystery series.'

Thursday 10 May 19h30

A Night at the Movies: Judith Merians examines 'The Shawshank Redemption.' Discover the subtext of the story in which Andy, the force of hope, arrives in a forsaken place, changes it, and moves on.

Saturday 12 May 14h00 - 19h00

Reading in the digital age: an afternoon symposium featuring two book discussions and a special screening of *Connected: An Autobiography about Love, Death, and Technology*.

For more details, see the [Events and Programs](#) page on our website.

All evening events at the Library are free and open to the public. We are grateful to the Annenberg Foundation for its continuing support of Evenings with an Author.

cardboard and soda bottles).

Submit your original art (or a photo of your art) to the youth librarian by **midnight on Saturday 5 May**. [Get the criteria for submissions.](#)

And always...

Extra afternoon session!

Mother Goose Lap Sit 10h30 & 17h00 (ages 1-3)

19 April (am session full), 3 May

Rhymes, songs, and stories in English two Thursdays a month for 30 minutes. All children must be accompanied by an adult lap and [registration is required](#).

Wednesday Story Hour

10h30 & 14h30 (ages 3-5)

Drop-in sessions on Wednesdays. Spend an hour with friends and some good books. No sign-ups needed.

Unless otherwise stated, all children and teen programs are free for Library members and 10 euros for non-members. Find out how to [become a member](#).

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