



# The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris

3 December 2013

## Special readings in Ex Libris -- and a time for giving

The new Ex Libris [newsletter](#) for December is just out, and inside this ten-page edition we're proud to present original work by three distinguished writers: Adam Gopnik of *The New Yorker*, who served as a judge for the 2013 Book Award, reflecting on what fascinates American readers and writers about France; Fredrik Logevall, whose *Embers of War* was awarded the prize, [reflecting](#) on the lessons of the Vietnam War; and Anthony Flint, the first Library Visiting Fellow and biographer of Le Corbusier, [recalling](#) the high points of his time with us last fall.

That and much else in the newsletter is also a reminder of all the reasons the Library needs your support, now more than ever, to maintain its programming, collections, youth activities, book groups and workshops, and newly renovated facilities. Membership revenues only pay for a quarter of our expenses every year.

Please take a moment to remember the Library in your seasonal giving. Our handsome appeal brochure is a handy way to make your contribution. You may also go [here](#) for more information. Thanks in advance for your commitment to the Library.

Charles Trueheart, Director

## Aspiring novelists, e-publishing and debunking French myths

For all those aspiring novelists out there, Tuesday 11 December is an [evening](#) for you: Three English-language novelists who live in France will speak about their three very different first novels and the particular processes they each went through to get their books published by boutique publishing houses. Scott Dominic Carpenter (*Theory of*



**Sunday 8 December  
17h00-18h30 (all ages)**

### ***Winter Wonderland***

Join us on Sunday 8 December for a very special [seasonal event](#) featuring a winter storytime, musical performance by Matt Black, carolling and a visit from Santa! Refreshments will be provided!

## Teens



**Friday 6 December 17h00-  
18h30 (ages 12-18)**

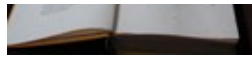
### ***Vision-Boarding - Writing Supercharged***

Australian author Tristan Banks will show his vision board, which helps him to

create his books. Then, gather your own images, video, music, maps, web grabs and free-written ideas to inspire your own vision board.

[Sign up is required](#)

publishing houses. Scott Dominic Carpenter (*Theory of Remainders*), Alecia McKenzie (*Sweetheart*) and Lantzey Miller (*City Limit*) will talk about the writing of their books and what it's like being 21st century variations of those 20th century icons: English-language writers in Paris.



Earlier on the same day at 14h00, the Library will co-present a panel discussion on the risks and rewards of [e-publishing](#) at the [Mona Bismarck American Center](#). This panel of writers, agents and publishers with experience in the field will discuss changes in e-publishing and what to expect in the future.

Consider it a riposte: On 18 December [Piu Eatwell](#) will explore the iron-clad clichés about French food, hygiene and history in her new book *They Eat Horses, Don't They? The Truth About the French*. Her thoroughly-researched book casts a different regard on what has become its own literary genre: France and the French as a superior way of life.



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## 2014 Young Authors Fiction Festival and writing workshops

The Library is proud to be the [organizer](#) of the Young Authors Fiction Festival (YAFF) in collaboration with [Time Traveler Tours](#). YAFF is free-of-charge and open to all students ages 5 to 18 in the greater Paris area who write in English. The deadline to submit an original story is 1 April 2014.



Calling all young authors! Join Sarah Towle, award-winning author and co-coordinator of YAFF on 7 December 2013 at 12h00 for the kick-off of a four-part writing workshop series dedicated to helping you discover, draft, revise, and edit your story submissions for YAFF.

In the first workshop, Sarah will introduce you to the writing process and guide you in uncovering the many story ideas lurking at the back of your creative mind. Bring a blank writing journal and a pen or pencil and be prepared to dig for the bones of your future story.

In the second workshop of the series – drafting – you will take those bones and start assembling them into a story skeleton. In the third workshop, you will put flesh on those story bones, obtaining valuable advice on how to revise and improve your story draft. Finally, in the fourth workshop, Sarah will enable you and your peer authors to edit your revised story drafts and guide you in preparing them for submission to YAFF.

All YAFF writing workshops will take place in the Children's Library and registration is required. For a full schedule, please see [here](#) and contact Celeste Rhoads to [sign-up](#).

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## Give a gift to a book lover

The holiday season is just around the corner! For the real book addict, give the gift that keeps on giving the whole year through: a Library membership! [Annual memberships](#) start at



[Sign-up is required.](#)



**Saturday 7 December 17h00-18h30 (ages 12-18)**

### **Master Shot Film Club**

Aspiring filmmakers are invited to join the new Master Shot Film Club led by filmmaker and writer Clarence Tokley. This club allows budding filmmakers the opportunity to produce high quality short films.

[Sign-up is required.](#)



**Saturday 14 December 17h00-18h00 (ages 12-18)**

### **Teen Writing Group**

Join fellow aspiring writers in a relaxed and creative setting where you can share your ideas, get feedback and work on your technique.

Experienced writers and amateurs are all welcome to join these meetings.

[Sign-up is required.](#)

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## Kids



**Saturday 7 December 12h00-13h30 (ages 8-12)**

### **Young Authors Fiction Festival: Tips and Tricks with Sarah Towle**

Join Sarah Towle, Author and co-coordinator of YAFF for the

€82 for students, €110 for individuals and €170 for families.

Are you looking to give a literary gift with a personal touch? Come this weekend and browse our [Used Book Sale](#), where you'll find a selection of new, lightly used and well-loved books for all ages and interests. Pick out something special based on the recipient's interests, or give one of your favorite reads. For inspiration, check out our [Pinterest boards](#) featuring newly-added titles, staff picks, and thematic and seasonal selections.



Our Library [tote bags](#) make a great gift for the book lover in your life, whether given alone or filled with literary treats. The Library now offers five colors: black, burgundy, navy blue, red, and ivory. Fill up the bag with books from our Used Book Sale and you've got a ready-made gift!

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## Upcoming Events

**Saturday 7 December | 10h00 - 19h00**

**Sunday 8 December | 13h00 - 19h00**

### Used Book Sale

Just in time for your holiday shopping! Stop by and pick up some new books for everyone on your list at our ever-growing monthly book sale.

**Sunday 8 December | 17h00**

### Winter Wonderland

A seasonal event for all ages with a winter storytime, musical performance by Matt Black, carolling and a visit from Santa Claus! This event is free for members and €10 per person for non-members.

**Wednesday 11 December | 14h00**

### E-Writing and E-Publishing

The Library co-presents a panel discussion on e-writing and e-publishing at the Mona Bismarck American Center.

**Wednesday 11 December | 19h30**

### Being a first-time novelist

Three English-language novelists who live in France will speak about their three first novels and the processes they each went through of getting their books published at boutique publishing houses.

**Wednesday 18 November | 19h30**

### Piu Eatwell - *Evenings with an Author*

Piu Eatwell will explore many French clichés in her book *They Eat Horses, Don't They?*

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**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.**

Program dates and speakers are subject to change.

Please check the website for updates, see the [Events and Programs](#) page.

kick-off of a four-part writing workshop series dedicated to helping YOU discover, draft, revise, and edit YOUR story submissions for the YAFF. [Sign-up is required.](#)



**Saturday 7 December  
15h00-16h30 (ages 5+)**

### Bon Bon Voyage

Join the illustrator of *Bon Bon Voyage* and *That Hat's Fedorable*, Holly Wojahn, for an event filled with reading, singing, jello, and signing. She can't wait to share her stories with you!

*No sign-up necessary! Parents welcome!*



**Saturday 14 December  
15h00-16h30 (all ages)**

### Family Game Day

Stop by the Library for an afternoon of fun and games. Challenge Library volunteers to a game of Scrabble, Boggle or Battleship, or bring in your own team and use one of the Library's many board games.

*No sign-up necessary! Parents welcome!*

## And always...

**Wednesday Story Hour  
for children ages 3-5**

take place at 10h30 and 14h30.

Please [check here](#) for the full schedule.

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

**5, 12 December**

Rhymes, songs, and stories in English on Thursdays.

English on Tuesday or  
*All children must be  
accompanied by an adult lap  
and [registration is required](#).*

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**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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