

The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris

17 December 2013

What the holidays mean for the Library

The end of the year is always a time of joy, reflection, and thanksgiving. The Library wishes you all three in this exceptional season.



All of us here – staff, volunteers, trustees – have reason to be joyous at the strength and creativity of our Library and its dynamic community: the 5,000 people who read this e-letter every two weeks, the 4,000 who attended our free programs during the year, and our membership of 2,500 families and individuals.

We have reason to be reflective as readers and citizens, about the great changes taking place in the world the Library inhabits, physically and virtually. In the age of the e-reader and the Internet, in a city unmatched for edification and diversion, how can this nearly century-old institution find ways to serve new generations with new habits and expectations?

Finally we have reason to be grateful to all of you who give so much to keep the Library vibrant and strong. We've been heartened by the response of so many to our fall appeal for donations thus far. Just as it is in your lives, the holiday season is a key moment in the Library's year: the time when all the enthusiasm and appreciation we are so proud to hear year-round are given substance by donations, small and large.

On behalf of the Library, thank you in advance for yours. Et *bonne année!*

Charles Trueheart, Director

Art as Story: Celebrating the Graphic Novel

exhibit

The Library is pleased to present our new exhibit *Art as Story: Celebrating the Graphic Novel* on display through 2 February 2014. The [exhibit](#) showcases images and covers from some



Teens



Saturday 11 January 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.](#)



Friday 17 January 19h00-21h30 (ages 12-18)

Rock-U with Matt Black

Join us for an evening of rock in the Library. We'll watch the Beatles' first film, *A Hard Day's Night*, and then

musician and teacher Matt Black will teach you how to play a song from the movie.

[Sign-up is required.](#)

of the best examples of this medium from the Library collection, which contains nearly 350 graphic novels and comics. Many of the graphic novels displayed in the exhibit have won numerous awards, have been adapted into feature films and continue to inspire a strong fan base of all ages.



For a recommended list of graphic novels selected by Library staff for the exhibit, [download](#) "30 Great Graphic Novels" and start checking them out from the Library collection. To discover more, check out our "Notable Graphic Novels" board on the Library's [Pinterest](#) and read our [blog post](#) on why graphic novels matter.

Great reads of 2013 by Library staff

As can be imagined, our Library staff members are avid readers of all genres. We each have different tastes and opinions about books, and you can learn a lot about each staff member by the books he or she reads. The Library [staff has written reviews](#) of some of the finest books we've read this past year. Not all were published in 2013, so it's not quite the best books of 2013, but these were the books that we remembered the most. With the year coming to a close, we would like to share them and hope that you all find the time to check them out for yourselves at the Library. Happy reading!

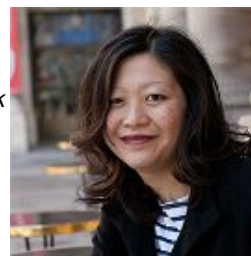
Program highlights for 2014

The new year kicks off with our monthly Used Book Sale on 4 and 5 January. Come browse through our selection of new, lightly used and well-loved books for all ages and interests.

We have a special partnership for the January Used Book Sale as part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. Buy a book at the book sale and donate it - on the spot - to the U.S. Charity Books for Africa. The Union of Overseas Voters will be on hand to collect your donated books. The Union's Paris-wide book drive will continue through 20 January and you can find out more by visiting [here](#).



Among the highlights in Library programs in the coming weeks include [Alexander Maksik](#) speaking on 15 January about his novel *A Marker to Measure Drift*, listed amongst *The New York Times* 100 Notable Books of 2013.



We will also welcome Library staff alum Ann Mah, who has a new book about eating in France, on a [panel](#) with famed

cookbook author Patricia Wells on 5 February. A week later Josée Kamoun and Geneviève Doze, the [French translators](#) of Philip Roth, Richard Ford, John Irving and Alice Munro, will discuss bringing great English literature into French.

Be sure to check our [calendar of events](#) for the full listing and details.

Holiday closures

The Library will be closed on the following days during the holiday season:



Saturday 18 January 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.](#)

Kids



**Saturday 4 January
15h00-16h00 (ages 5+)**

Winter Tales

Join superstar volunteers Cecily and Gabriella for a special winter storytime all about snow and snowmen.

No sign-up necessary! Parents welcome!



**Saturday 11 January
12h00-13h30 (ages 8-12)**

Ordinary/Extraordinary with Ann Nesbet

Participants will work hand-in-hand with author Anne Nesbet in exploring ways to find the extraordinary in everyday objects, places and people. Then, try your hand at bringing extraordinary elements to life.

[Sign-up is required.](#)

- Tuesday, 24 December
- Wednesday, 25 December
- Tuesday, 31 December
- Wednesday 1 January

For more information about our Library opening hours and holiday closures, please visit our [website](#).

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 18 December | 19h30

Piu Eatwell - *Evenings with an Author*

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

Saturday 4 January | 10h00 - 19h00

Sunday 5 January | 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.

Wednesday 15 January | 19h30

Alexander Maksik - *Evenings with an Author*

Alexander Maksik tracks the haunting story of a survivor of Charles Taylor's Liberia in *A Marker to Measure Drift*.

Tuesday 28 January | 19h30

Selden Edwards - *Evenings with an Author*

Selden Edwards will speak about both *The Little Book* and its sequel *The Lost Prince*.

Wednesday 29 January | 19h30

Mary Louise Roberts - *Evenings with an Author*

Mary Louise Roberts explores the unblinking truth about U.S. soldiers and sexual predation during WWII in *What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American GI in World War II France*.

Tuesday 4 February | 19h30

Art for Art's Sake? The Impact of Arts Education

A panel discussion on the impact and importance of arts education in collaboration with OECD.

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.



**Saturday 18 January
15h00-16h00 (ages 5+)**

Happy Birthday Martin Luther King, Jr.!

Don't know much about Martin Luther King, Jr? Join us for some great stories about this important American figure. We'll also talk about what you can do for the MLK day of service.

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)

9, 23 January

Rhymes, songs, and stories in English on Thursdays.

All children must be accompanied by an adult lap and [registration is required](#).

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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