



The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris

18 March 2014

A biography of Jesus, the 2012 PISA studies, and Library wine-tasting

It's a rare book that has something new and compelling to add to the conversation about the origins of Christianity, yet religion scholar and author [Reza Aslan](#) has written a great one. He will present his critically-acclaimed and controversial book, *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth* on Sunday 23 March at 19h30. Note the special day of this author event. Suggested donation: 10€ (5€ for students).

On Tuesday 1 April at 19h30, the OECD explores the results of the widely-discussed [2012 PISA studies](#). "What is important for citizens to know and be able to do?" That is the question that underlies the triennial survey of over 500,000 15-year-old students from 65 countries around the world undertaken by the OECD. The assessment, which focuses on reading, mathematics, science and problem-solving, does not just ascertain whether students possess the knowledge; it also examines how well students can extrapolate from what they have learned and apply that knowledge in unfamiliar settings. Read what *The New York Times* wrote about the [implications of the 2012 PISA studies](#), and come join in on the conversation.



Back by popular demand: there are still openings available for both nights of Joshua Adler's wine workshop/degustations back-to-back on Thursday 3 April and Friday 4 April at 19h30pm. Adler, the former wine manager at the acclaimed restaurant Spring, is also the founder of the Paris Wine Company. His last workshop focused on Loire wines, and this time he will be offering tastings from the new generation of Burgundy vintners, with an emphasis on natural and biodynamic wines. Cost: 35€ per person for the wine, cheese and charcuterie. To reserve a spot, send an email to rsvp@americanlibraryinparis.org.



Books and Us: Photographs by Henri Zerdoun

The Library is pleased to present an exhibit of photographs by

Teens



[Bad Music Night](#)

Friday 21 March 19h00-21h00 (ages 12-18)

Fans of music, noise and fun are welcome to join. There's no need to play an instrument or be a professional music critic to join this event. We'll have all the supplies you need – you just have to bring your creativity!

[Sign-up is required.](#)



[Teen Writing Group](#)

Saturday 22 March 17h00-18h00 (ages 12-18)

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

Participants are asked to bring in a sample of their writing to share.

[Sign-up is required.](#)



The Library is pleased to present an exhibit of photographs by Paris-based photographer [Henri Zerdoun](#). The exhibit [Books and Us](#) showcases portraits of people in the midst of reading and will be on display through Sunday 11 May 2014.



Henri had always been fascinated by the act of reading. As a child, he had always wondered what people did in their homes with the windows opened and the lights turned on - he imagined them reading and he would've wanted to observe them. Henri looked for "readers" in all the cities and countries that he visited.

Of all the photographs that he took, only two were posed. Instead, he would encourage people to simply keep on reading as he took their portraits. Discreet, almost invisible, but with his eyes in perpetual motion, Henri is a poet of the image. His photos are infused with emotion and offers dreamlike reflections on what books and the act of reading means to all of us.

As always, access to Library exhibits is free to members as well as guests with a Library day or week pass.

Save the date for the Library gala: Monday 26 May

Invitations to the [annual gala dinner](#), this year featuring historian Antony Beevor, will be going out in two weeks. In the meantime, please mark your calendars for the Annual Gala on Monday 26 May at the Automobile Club de France.

Final reminder for Word for Word

[Word for Word returns](#) to the American Library in Paris for the 19th year to present *In Friendship* by Zona Gale, a comedy of American small-town mores and manners. Don't miss the two performances in Paris on 27 and 28 March, which take place at the [Théâtre Adyar](#). The Thursday 27 March performance is sponsored by the Fondation Jeanine Manuel and the Friday 28 March performance is sponsored by the Library. A suggested donation of 20€ (10€ for students) at the door helps us sustain this creative partnership. An informal reception with cast and crew of *In Friendship* follows the 28 March performance at the Library.



Reservations are now open and growing quickly. Seating is on first-come-first-served basis. There is no reserved seating. To make a reservation, send an [email](#) to: rsvp@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Calling all young writers in Paris: YAFF deadline on 1 April

Young authors all over the greater Paris area are fine-tuning their stories in preparation for the [2014 Young Authors Fiction Festival \(YAFF\)](#), co-sponsored by Time Traveler Tours and the



Rock U with Matt Black: The Blues Brothers

Friday 4 April 19h00-21h00 (ages 12-18)

Join us for an evening of acoustic rock in the Library. We'll watch one of the greatest music movies of all time, *Blues Brothers*, and then teacher and musician Matt Black will work with participants on the techniques of crafting a live band performance.

[Sign-up is required.](#)

Kids



Young Authors Fiction Festival: Tips and Tricks with Sarah Towle

Saturday 22 March

12h00-13h30 (ages 8-11)

15h00-16h30 (ages 10-14)

Note: 12h00 full

Join Sarah Towle, author and co-coordinator of YAFF, for the final workshop of a four-part series dedicated to helping YOU discover, draft, revise, and edit YOUR story submissions for the YAFF.

[Sign-up is required.](#)



Outlaws

Saturday 22 March 15h00-16h00 (ages 5+)

Join us for some tall tales from America and a few true stories about outlaws, bandits and

[Festival \(YAFF\)](#), co-sponsored by Time Traveler Tours and the American Library in Paris. The deadline for YAFF submissions is 1 April 2014.

Join Sarah Towle, co-director of YAFF, for the [final writing workshop](#) for writers ages 8-14 on Saturday 22 March and get tips on how to edit and prepare your story for submission. Space is limited and reservations can be made to Celeste Rhoads at rhoads@americanlibraryinparis.org.



Upcoming Events

Tuesday 18 March | 19h30

Mo Willems - *Evenings with an Author*

Mo Willems uncovers the process behind his illustrations and writing for his award-winning children's books.

Sunday 23 March | 19h30

Reza Aslan - *Evenings with an Author*

Reza Aslan will discuss his latest book *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth*, a thought-provoking biography with the pulse of a fast-paced novel.

Tuesday 1 April | 19h30

PISA 2012 Results: Creative Problem Solving (vol. V)

OECD discusses the results of the PISA 2012 studies given to more than 500,000 students from 65 countries.

Saturday 5 April | 10h00 - 19h00

Sunday 6 April | 13h00 - 19h00

Used Book Sale

Support the Library and pick up some new books for yourself and the bookworms in your life.

Tuesday 8 April | 19h30

Diane Johnson and Laura Furman on *Portrait of a Lady*

Diane Johnson and Laura Furman convene a special discussion of Henry James' *The Portrait of a Lady*.

Wednesday 9 April | 19h00

David Lebovitz - *Evenings with an Author*

David Lebovitz presents his latest book *My Paris Kitchen*, which features over 100 of his favorite recipes that he makes in his kitchen in Paris.

All evening events at the Library are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. 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.

other troublemakers of the wild west! We'll wrap up the afternoon with a wild west-inspired craft project that you can take home and keep. *No sign-up necessary! Parents welcome!*



Superheroes: a comic workshop

Saturday 29 March 12h00-14h00 (ages 9-12)

Inspired by the *Superheroes* exhibition at the Mona Bismark American Center, this workshop will allow participants to explore different techniques used in the creation of comics under the guidance of author/illustrator Thomas Gosselin of St Germain des Arts.

[Sign-up is required.](#)

And always...

Wednesday Story Hour for children ages 3-5

Story Hour takes place at 10h30 and 14h30 every Wednesday.

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

No sign-up necessary!

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

20 March (10h30 full)

3, 17 April

Rhymes, songs, and stories in English two Thursdays a month.

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

members.

Find out how to [become a member](#).

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