

The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris

17 February 2015

Four evenings not to miss

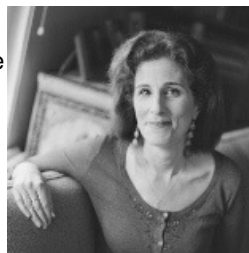
Tonight, join author and playwright Jake Lamar in conversation with curator Naida Culshaw as they explore the creative process behind his play, *Brothers in Exile*, the subject of an exhibition on display through Sunday 22 March. They will discuss the interwoven lives of three African-American writers - Richard Wright, James Baldwin and Chester Himes - who each decided to leave their homeland and live in Paris in the 1950s.



Tomorrow, Wednesday 18 February, Jonathan Beckman speaks about his entertaining historical inquiry shortlisted for the Library's 2014 Book Award: *How To Ruin a Queen: Marie Antoinette, the Stolen Diamonds and the Scandal that Shook the French Throne*. *The Guardian* describes it as a "terrific tale told with assurance and gusto" and *The Telegraph* called it "a rock-solid piece of scholarship, glistening with wit and insight."



On Tuesday 24 February, author Jessica Levine, who has been leading a creative writing workshop at the Library over the last few months, will be joined by her literary agent, April Eberhardt, as they discuss their relationship as writer and agent and the paths to publication. It promises to be an evening that is a practical guide to publishing as well as a look at the nuances of completing a manuscript and taking the next step.



Dana Thomas returns to the Library on Wednesday 4 March to speak about her latest book, *Gods and Kings: the Rise and Fall of Alexander McQueen and John Galliano*, exploring the complex lives of the two renowned fashion designers. In telling their stories, she reveals the relentless world of couture — and the price it demanded of the very ones who created it.



Teens



Rock U with Matt Black: That Thing You Do

Friday 6 March

19h00-21h30 (ages 12-18)

Join us for another Rock U night with Matt Black. We'll be showing the film *That Thing You Do!* Matt will teach you how to play an acoustic version of the hit song from the movie, so bring your instrument if you play one!

[Sign-up is required.](#)



Teen Writing Group

Saturday 7 March

17h00-18h30 (ages 12-18)

Join fellow aspiring writers in a relaxed and 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 with the group.

[Sign up is required.](#)

the price it demanded of the very ones who saved it.



The Library's first Mock Caldecott

Since 1938, the Caldecott Medal has been awarded annually to the "most distinguished American picture book for children" by the American Library Association. The Caldecott Medal is one of the two most prestigious awards for children's literature in America (along with the Newbery Medal).



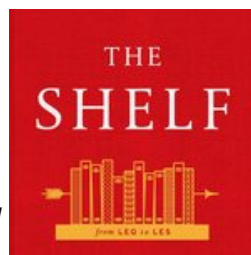
This year, the Library hosted an event to choose our own favorite picture book published in 2014. Our children's and teen services manager selected 25 picture books as our nominees, based on professional reviews and a careful examination of titles (there is no shortlist for the award). Throughout the month of January, these 25 picture books were available in the Children's Library, and visitors were invited to submit reviews for each book they read.

In February, the ALA awarded the 2015 Caldecott Medal to [*The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend*](#) by Dan Santat, which came in sixth place in our Mock Caldecott event. Library members (and visitors) selected a different choice for their favorite: [*The Baby Tree*](#) by Sophie Blackall. You can come and listen to each of these books at the [Library's Caldecott Party](#) on Saturday 21 February at 15h00, where we'll read the winners and then make our own picture books inspired by these works of art.

We love books about ... books

At the Library, we're a community of bibliophiles. What better way to honor our shared passion than highlighting books in our collection that...highlight books?

Some of the selected titles explore the pleasure of random reading, as in *The Shelf: From LEQ to LES* by Phyllis Rose, who randomly chose a shelf at a local library and read her way through it. Susan Hill engages in a similar exercise as she revisits some of the books, many long forgotten, in her own collection in *Howard's End is on the Landing: A year of reading from home*. As well, author Alberto Manguel, a true lover of books and reading, describes the extraordinary experience of reading to a blind Jorge Luis Borges during the mid-1960s in *With Borges*.



From *Libraries in the Ancient World* by Lionel Casson to *The Library of Congress, its Architecture and Decoration* by Herbert Small, there's no shortage of books written about libraries, past and present. *The Library Beyond the Book* by Jeffrey T. Schnapp and Matthew Battles investigates the historical role of libraries and their place in the digital future.

For a more visual feast, check out *The Library: A World History* by architectural historian James W. P. Campbell and photographer Will Pryce. They chart the evolution of libraries—both their function and design—in beautiful, full-color photographs. Their global sweep includes the remnants of



[Sign-up is required.](#)



Master Shot Film Club

Saturday 14 March

17h00-18h30 (ages 12-18)

Aspiring filmmakers are invited to join the 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.](#)

Kids



Caldecott Party

Saturday 21 February

15h00-16h30 (ages 5+)

Join us as we read the winner of the 2015 Caldecott medal, *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend*, as well as a few of the honor books. Then create your own story and picture book inspired by one of these works of art! No sign-up required! Parents welcome!



Family Game Day

Saturday 28 February

15h00-16h30 (all ages)

Challenge one of the Library's volunteers to a game of Scrabble, Boggle, Battleship, or Clue, or bring in your own

legendary libraries of antiquity, resplendent Victorian-era reading rooms, and modern marvels of technology, each a noble testament to the preservation of knowledge.



For our selected list of books about books, check out the [Library blog](#).

New Library evening event videos

The Library is regularly adding video of our recent events to our YouTube channel. The two talks by Visiting Fellow Ta-Nehisi Coates, both from [13 January](#) and [4 February](#), the panel discussion on [global terror](#), [Jake Lamar](#) on his new book, Clotilde Dusoulier and Alexander Lobrano [talking about food](#), and more. Have a look at the selection of videos on the Library YouTube Channel [here](#).



Upcoming Events

Tuesday 17 February | 19h30

Jake Lamar - Evenings with an Author

Author and playwright Jake Lamar will explore the creative process behind his play "Brothers in Exile" - the focus of this year's Black History Month exhibit at the Library.

Wednesday 18 February | 19h30

Jonathan Beckman - Evenings with an Author

Author Jonathan Beckman discusses mystery and intrigue in his latest book, *How to Ruin a Queen: Marie Antoinette, the Stolen Diamonds and the Scandal that Shook the French Throne*.

Tuesday 24 February | 19h30

Panel Discussion: Jessica Levine & April Eberhardt

Author Jessica Levine and her literary agent April Eberhardt speak about their relationship and the process of getting published.

Wednesday 4 February | 19h30

Dana Thomas - Evenings with an Author

Author Dana Thomas talks about the rise and fall of two fashion icons in *Gods and Kings: The Rise and Fall of Alexander McQueen and John Galliano*.

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.

team and use one of our board games.

No sign-up required!

Parents welcome!



Brains in Paint

Saturday 7 March

12h00-13h30 (ages 8-12)

Have you ever wondered how your brain really works? Join Shannon Connelly and discover how the brain works and then get creative by making your own brain art with our supplies.

[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)

19 February (10h30 full)

5 & 19 March

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's and teen's programs are free for Library members and 10 euros for non-members.

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

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