Jury named for 2016 Book Award

Three distinguished writers, two of them past winners of the American Library in Paris Book Award, have agreed to serve as the jury for the 2016 Award.

They are Laura Auricchio, whose biography *The Marquis: Lafayette Reconsidered*, won the 2015 prize; Robert Harris, whose novel about the Dreyfus affair, *An Officer and a Spy*, won the 2014 award; and Robert O. Paxton, the American historian renowned for his groundbreaking work on France during the Nazi occupation.

The jury, chaired by Auricchio, will consider a shortlist of books selected by a Paris-based screening committee during the late spring. The $5,000 prize, supported by a gift from the Florence Gould Foundation, will be presented to the author of the winning book – the best of the year, in English, about France or the French-American experience – at a ceremony in Paris in November 2016.

Submissions for the 2016 Book Award are being accepted now, and a reduced entry fee is available for books submitted before 29 February. Details can be found on the Library website.

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John Irving at the 2016 Gala Dinner

The Library is delighted to announce that John Irving, one of America’s best-loved and best-selling novelists, will be the guest of honor at the 2016 Gala Dinner, this year on Tuesday 17 May 2016 at the Automobile Club de France.

John Irving is the author of fifteen novels, including *The World According to Garp*, *The Cider House Rules*, *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, *A Widow for One Year*, and *In One Person*. His latest novel, *Avenue of Mysteries*, was published last fall.

The Gala Dinner is the Library’s principal fundraising event of the year, drawing more than 200 members and supporters to an evening celebration of writers and libraries. Invitations to the Gala Dinner will be mailed in March. For more information, see here.

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Teens

Telling a Story with Portraits

Friday 12 February
19h00-21h00 (ages 12-18)
In this workshop, we will explore the best ways to make photographs of people, whether they are friends or strangers. Get ready to use camera techniques, props, and settings to reveal the real personalities of your subjects. Don't forget to bring your camera!

Sign-up is required.

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Teen Writing Group

Saturday 13 February
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.

This workshop is full.
Programs on forgotten black heroes, Proust as graphic novel, and a timeless love story

Tonight at 19h30, join author Linda Hervieux for a discussion of her book Forgotten: The Untold Story of D-Day's Black Heroes, at Home and at War, a military and social history that recounts the exploits of the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion, a unit of African-American soldiers, that landed on the beaches of France on D-Day.

On Wednesday 10 February at 19h30, French illustrator Stéphane Heuet presents his graphic novel adaptation of Proust’s masterwork, In Search of Lost Time: Swann’s Way (translated by Arthur Goldhammer). Heuet will discuss the process of adapting such a book to the form of a graphic novel and the controversy around the endeavor when it first came out in France.

On Wednesday 17 February on 19h30, Sebastian Faulks, the 2012 Library gala speaker, presents his latest novel Where My Heart Used to Beat, about an English doctor who has seen the best and the worst of the twentieth century and is forced to confront the events that made up his life. The search takes us through the war in Italy in 1944 to the idealistic days of the 1960s and back into the trenches of the Western Front.

On Saturday 20 February at 14h00, join Gail Noyer, author of Voltaire’s Revolution: Writings from His Campaign to Free Laws from Religion for a discussion on Voltaire and his relevance to the meaning of free speech today. RSVP to rosenberg@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Workshops on still-life drawing and biodynamic wines

Artist Amélie Barthélemy will lead a still-life drawing workshop on Saturday 6 February at 16h00. Barthélemy will share various drawing techniques in this hands-on art workshop. Participants are asked to bring small objects collected from voyages to the workshop. A still-life composition will be created from these objects and participants will draw from it using charcoal, pencil, ink and colors.

This still-life workshop is free for Library members and non-members with a day pass. RSVP to lemasson@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Kids

Read-A-Thon Kick-off Party!
Saturday 6 February
15h00-16h30 (all ages)
Join us for the kick-off to the Read-A-Thon - and help raise funds for new books and to support the Room to Read charity! We’ll have a few fun games, quizzes, and surprises in store.
No sign-up necessary!
Parents welcome!

Hearts Galore: Valentine's Day Jubilee!
Saturday 13 February
15h00-16h30 (ages 5+)
Celebrate Valentine's Day in the Children's Library with some great stories, fun games, and sweet treats, then make your own handmade cards to give to friends and family. We’ll have all the supplies you need!
No sign-up necessary!
Parents welcome!
On Tuesday 23 February at 19h30, Joshua Adler returns to the Library to talk and share wine. This time we will be tasting and discussing biodynamic wines and process of making them and how they differ from conventionally-produced wines.

The cost for the wine workshop is 45€ per person for the wine, cheese, and charcuterie. RSVP to rosenberg@americanlibraryinparis.org.

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Read-A-Thon kick-off party!

The Library and Message Paris are teaming up again to organize a Read-A-Thon to encourage reading while raising funds to help buy new books for the Children's Library and raise funds for the literacy charity Room to Read.

Open to all in the Paris community, the kick-off party will be held in the Children's Library on Saturday 6 February from 15h00-16h30. We'll discuss the rules of the Read-A-Thon and the benefits of reading for fun. Read-A-Thon packets will be handed out to all interested kids and teens.

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday 2 February | 19h30
Linda Hervieux - Evenings with an author
Linda Hervieux discusses the exploits of the 320th Barrage Balloon Battalion in her book Forgotten: The Untold Story of D-Day's Black Heroes, at Home and at War.

Saturday 6 February | 10h00-19h00
Sunday 7 February | 13h00-19h00
Used Book Sale
The Library's monthly book sales are one way we keep our collection lean and help fund purchases of new books to add to the collection. Come and pick up a title or three.

Saturday 6 February | 16h00
Still-life drawing workshop
Artist Amélie Barthélemy will lead a still-life drawing workshop using items brought in by participants. RSVP to lemasson@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Wednesday 10 February | 19h30
Stéphane Heuet - Evenings with an author
French illustrator Stéphane Heuet presents his graphic novel adaptation of Proust's famous work, In Search of Lost Time: Swann's Way.

Wednesday 17 February | 19h30
Sebastian Faulks - Evenings with an author
Sebastian Faulks talks about his latest book Where My Heart Used to Beat.
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.

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