Circulation updates before Library closure

The collections on the mezzanine and main floor will be available for extended checkout beginning today with a due date of 23 August. Please note that no late fees will be charged between 23 August and 1 September.

If vacations or other schedule conflicts prevent members from returning books on 23 August, please let circulation staff know at check-out. Members who need to return books over the summer while the Library is closed for renovation can do so through the book drop by the front entrance until 20 July. The book drop will be unavailable between 21 July and 23 August while renovations of the Library’s façade are under way.

Beginning 23 August, members may also renew items that have not yet been renewed through their accounts or by contacting circulation staff by phone or email at alcircul@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Holds may be picked up from the circulation desk until the Library closes on 15 May. Holds and hold requests will carry over after we reopen on 23 August. For more circulation updates related to the Library closure, please check the website.

Programs at the Library and Reid Hall

Our final event at the Library before we close for renovation is tomorrow night, when former director of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Bruno Racine, presents (in English) his latest book (in French) which is a personal, poetic reflection on his relationship with his American mother, entitled La voix de ma Mère. Racine waited 25 years after her death to write about...
Racine waited 25 years after her death to write about her and to ask the question: what was her voice?

NOTE: After the Library closes for renovation on 16 May, our evening programs will be held off-site at Reid Hall, home of Columbia Global Centers, in the Montparnasse neighborhood, located here. These off-site Library events are free and open to the public, although donations are welcome.

Our first event at Reid Hall will be on Tuesday 10 May at 19h30, in a talk entitled “Karma and Consequences of Human Migration,” author Isabel Wilkerson speaks about her Pulitzer Prize-winning book The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration and its resonance today. She will expand on the book’s cautionary tale of the Great Migration in light of current events in the US and ongoing migrations into Europe.

On Tuesday 24 May at 19h30 at Reid Hall, art historian Chris Boïcos will give his latest art talk and slide presentation, this time about Swiss-German artist Paul Klee. Boïcos will discuss a selection of the 250 works of this major figure in modern art through the prism of irony. An exhibition of Paul Klee is currently at the Centre Pompidou through 1 August.

The future of the Library’s DVD collection

The Library DVD collection, while only 3 percent of our complete holdings, has always been a popular section. However, the Library can no longer offer DVDs to our patrons. French intellectual property law prohibits the Library from circulating any donated DVDs, which comprise the vast majority of our collection, as they do not carry the legal right to be lent by an institution to its members.

The Library is actively investigating a replacement service, although our current considerations are cost prohibitive. We aim to have more information for our members shortly after we reopen.

In the meantime, as we dissolve the collection, we invite members to take home (permanently and for free) up to 20 DVDs from our current collection. Please drop by between Tuesday 3 May and Saturday 14 May (inclusive) to make your selections.

RSVP now for Word for Word

Reservations for Word for Word performances are quickly filling up. The San Francisco-based theatre group will perform two short stories: Emma Donoghue’s “Night Vision” from The Woman Who Gave Birth To Rabbits and Colm Tóibín’s “Silence,” from The Empty Family.

Both performances will be held at the Théâtre Adyar (a block from the Library) on Tuesday 3 May and Wednesday 4 May at 20h00. Following the
performance at the théâtre on 3 May, join us for a special reception at the Library with the cast and crew.

Reservations can be made by using this [online form](#) from the Library’s website. Please note that all seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no reserved seating. Suggested donation at the door: 20€ (10€ students).

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**Gala 2016 with John Irving**

Only few places remain for the [2016 Gala Dinner](#) on Tuesday 17 May at the Automobile Club de France. This year's guest of honor and principal speaker is John Irving, one of America's best-loved and best-selling authors. The gala dinner is the Library’s main fundraising event of the year, drawing more than 200 members and supporters to an evening celebrating writers and libraries.

To reserve places, contact development manager Krista Faurie at gala@americanlibraryinparis.org.

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**Upcoming Events**

**Wednesday 27 April | 19h30**
**Bruno Racine - Evenings with an author**
Bruno Racine will discuss his latest book *La voix de ma Mère* about his American mother.

**Tuesday 10 May | 19h30 (at REID HALL)**
**Isabel Wilkerson - Evenings with an author**
Isabel Wilkerson will talk about her Pulitzer Prize-winning book *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration.*

**Tuesday 24 May | 19h30 (at REID HALL)**
**Chris Boïcos - Evenings with an art historian**
Chris Boïcos will do an art talk and slide presentation of Swiss-German artist Paul Klee.

**Wednesday 1 June | 19h30 (at REID HALL)**
**Joshua Hammer - Evenings with an art historian**
Joshua Hammer speaks about his book *The Badass Librarians of Timbuktu,* which recounts the story of the people who raced to save precious Arabic text of antiquity from the destruction by al Qaeda militants.

**Wednesday 15 June | 19h30 (at REID HALL)**
**Bloomsday Celebration**
In honor of Bloomsday the following day, which marks the day that the novel *Ulysses* takes place, The Paris Bloomsday Group will celebrate James Joyce and perform readings and songs from his work.
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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