Happy holidays from the Library

All of us at the American Library in Paris – the staff and trustees, the volunteers and interns – wish our members, friends and supporters a joyful holiday season. At this time of year, we count our blessings, and among them is a literate, eclectic, curious, and dynamic membership. Thank you for your presence at the Library and, member or not, your generous response to our appeals for donations - especially right now.

Please remember that the Library will be closed during the holidays. The last day of operation before the break is Friday 23 December (with an early closing at 19h00 the day before, Thursday 22 December). The Library will re-open on Tuesday 3 January 2017.

Need a last-minute gift? A Library membership for 2016 is always appreciated, and it’s a gift that keeps giving all year. An all-cotton American Library in Paris tote bag is another inexpensive way to please a loved one and share your enthusiasm for this indispensable institution.

See you at the Library in the New Year!

Charles Trueheart, Director

New book groups are here!

Spring book groups have been announced, and there are lots of new offerings this season. We have rock star memoirs, America and Vichy, Scandinavian literature, Shakespeare's plays, France through American eyes, and several groups exploring growing populism and Trump's America.

Teens

Teen Night with Pedro de Alcantara
Friday 13 January
19h00-21h00 (ages 12-18)
Join us for two hours of nonsense and improvisation with musician, author and performer Pedro de Alcantara. Sign-up is required.

Teen Writing Group
Saturday 21 January
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 club is full.
There is no additional fee for the book groups, but you must be a member of the Library. Consult the reading lists and meet times on our website. To sign up for a book group, send an email to rosenberg@americanlibraryinparis.org.

Program highlights for early 2017

The first program of 2017 is on Tuesday 10 January when Chris Boïcos discusses the themes of the exhibition The Color Line: African-American Artists and Segregation on display at the Musée du Quai Branly - Jacques Chirac. Boïcos explores the struggles and empowerment of African Americans through a stunning trove of books, posters, and paintings presented in the exhibition, which traces the origins of the "color line."

The following night, on Wednesday 11 January, we have a panel discussion about writing thrillers and mysteries with an international angle. It promises to be an evening to encounter new authors and also a practical look at how they plot, write, and how they came to be published. This panel features writers D-L Nelson, Angus Morrison, and Andrew Cairn.

On Wednesday 18 January, the celebrated author Hisham Matar speaks about his memoir detailing the search for his political dissident father years after he was abducted and turned over to Libyan security forces in The Return: Fathers, Sons and the Land in Between. The book is not so much about politics, but rather about family and love and loss. The Return was selected as one of the ten best books of 2016 by The New York Times book editors.

Join us on Friday 20 January at 18h00 for a broadcast in the Library reading room of the U.S. Presidential Inauguration as Donald J. Trump becomes the 45th president of the United States.

Library e-resources 24/7

Library members have uninterrupted remote access to our entire range of online resources during the holiday season. Our e-resources can be consulted 24/7 through our catalog.

Read a bestseller on OverDrive, browse new magazines on Zinio, learn a language with Mango Languages, research journal articles on JSTOR and EBSCO, download a business e-book on ebrary, or consult the WorldBook encyclopedia.

We've got the 10 best books of 2016

Game Day
Saturday 7 January
15h00-16h00 (all ages)
Stop by the Library for an afternoon of fun and games. Challenge the children's librarian or one of the Library’s volunteers to a game of Scrabble, Boggle, Battleship, Bananagrams or Clue, or bring in your own team and use one of the Library’s many fun board games. You can even challenge us to a game of Twister!
No sign-up necessary!
Parents welcome!

Silly Songs with Matt Black
Sunday 14 January
15h00-16h00 (all ages)
Join popular performer Matt Black for a fun afternoon of music at the Library. Some of the songs we'll sing are childhood classics, others are Matt's own original creations, but they're all sure to be hits with kids and parents alike!
No sign-up necessary!
Parents welcome!

And always...

Wednesday Story Hour for children ages 3-5
NOTE: Story Hour takes place at 10h30 and 14h30 every Wednesday.
Please check here for the full schedule and details.
No sign-up necessary!
We've got the 10 best books of 2016

The Book Review editors of The New York Times have selected their 10 best books of 2016, and the Library is pleased to have all of them in our collection (some are on order). Our reference and collections librarians Abigail Altman and Audrey Chapuis, with the help of retiree-turned-volunteer Simon Gallo, diligently read through the many reviews of new books as part of their process of choosing which titles to add to our collection.

It's likely many of these books are already checked out, but Library members can place holds on their favorite titles and perhaps be lucky to have them just in time for the holidays. Read more about these selected titles on the Library blog. Happy reading!

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 10 January | 19h30
Art Talk on "The Color Line: African-American Artists and Segregation" exhibit
Chris Boïcos will explore the themes of struggle and empowerment in the exhibition about African-American artists and segregation.

Wednesday 11 January | 19h30
Panel discussion on writing international thrillers and mysteries
Three novelists will discuss writing, plotting, and publishing thrillers and mysteries from an international perspective.

Tuesday 18 January | 19h30
Hisham Matar - Evenings with an Author
Hisham Matar talks about his memoir The Return: Fathers, Sons, and the Land in Between.

Friday 20 January | 18h00
Live broadcast of the U.S. Presidential Inauguration
The Library will broadcast live the inauguration of Donald J. Trump as the 45th president of the United States.

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.

Toddler Time
10h30 and 17h00
(ages 1-3)
Rhymes, songs, and stories in English two Thursdays a month.
5 & 19 January
All children must be accompanied by an adult lap. Sign-up 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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