



# The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris

18 December 2018

## Paris explorations, literary interior design, and more

Tonight, Annabel Simms's talk, "How to briefly escape from Paris to France," will outline her criteria for selecting daytrips in her original guidebook, *An Hour From Paris*, and its recent sequel, *Half An Hour From Paris*. She will explain why the Ile-de-France is one of the most accessible and rewarding regions in the country, still little-explored by many Parisians, let alone foreign visitors. She will illustrate her talk with a detailed look at one of the destinations in *Half An Hour From Paris*, including some of the experiences that went into writing it.



On Tuesday 8 January, Susan Harlan will discuss her new book, *Decorating a Room of One's Own*. What would *Little Women* be without the charms of the March family's cozy New England home? Or *Wuthering Heights* without its ghost-infested manor? Getting lost in the setting of a good book can be half the pleasure of reading, and *Decorating a Room of One's Own* brings literary backdrops to the foreground in a wryly affectionate satire of interior design reporting. English professor and humorist Susan Harlan spoofs decorating culture by reimagining its subject as

famous fictional homes and "interviews" the residents who reveal their true

## Teens



### Best Books Feedback Session

**Friday 21 December 17h00 - 18h30 (ages 11-18)**

We're soliciting feedback on the the nominees for the Best Fiction for Young Adults. Your comments will be shared with the rest of the members of the 15-person committee, and they will also help us determine which books to include in our collections.

[Sign-up is required](#)



### Music Exploration

**Saturday 22 December 15h00 - 16h00 (all ages)**

The Library is hosting a

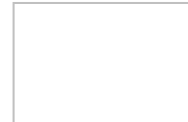
various national homes and interviews the residents who reveal their true tastes: Lady Macbeth's favorite room in the castle, or the design inspiration behind Jay Gatsby's McMansion of unfulfilled dreams.

On Wednesday 16 January, author Emilio Williams returns to the American Library in Paris to share more surprising stories of the 7th arrondissement. This time around, he will focus on Americans who lived in the area and their contribution to literature and the arts. We will discover, among many colorful American expats, a future Protestant First Daughter, visionary artists of the Belle Epoque, indomitable heiresses, party animals of the Lost Generation, the woman who taught America how to make a real French omelet and the ultimate muse of the French New Wave. Williams will offer recommendations for unexpected walks around the area, as well as further reading suggestions from the Library's collection.



The Library is hosting a special all-ages event when children and teens will present the instruments they play, and share a few songs. Join us to discover the range of talents at the Library and to learn a little bit about some lesser-known instruments, and a few you will recognize.

[Email in advance if you would like to perform](#)



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## Holiday closures

**Holiday closures: Tuesday 25 December to Tuesday 1 January inclusive**



Traveling over the holidays? Taking Library books with you? If you need an extended borrowing period, you can bypass the self-service kiosks and bring your selection straight to the Member Services desk. We can set a specific due date for you so your book won't come due while you're away.

If you're looking for gift recommendations for a young bookworm, we have a list of books we think they'll love [here](#). Why not wrap them up in a Library tote bag?

### Teen Writing Group

**Saturday 22 December**

**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.

**This group is full**



### The Art of the Short Story

**Friday 11 January**

**19h00 - 21h00 (ages 12-18)**

Work on your craft in a fun, creative atmosphere with other young writers! Each participant will leave with a list of resources for places where they can submit short stories, as well as information about the Library's 2019 Young Authors Fiction Festival.

[Sign-up is required](#)

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## Best of 2018 books available on OverDrive

The Library has just replenished its OverDrive e-book collection with over one hundred of 2018's hottest titles. We selected the best in recent fiction and non-fiction, and threw in a few bestsellers from this past year so you have plenty of new titles to choose from.



Library members can download any of these titles by logging into the catalog, and clicking out to OverDrive from the e-sources page.

Be sure to download the OverDrive app on all your devices so you can read offline.

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## Kids



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## 2019 Young Authors Fiction Festival

The American Library in Paris is proud to be the organizer of the Young Authors Fiction Festival (YAFF). YAFF is a city-wide writing initiative that aims to strengthen community in the Paris area through the art and craft of storytelling.



YAFF is free to enter, and is open to all students ages 5-18, in the greater Paris area who write in English. Entries can be submitted from 1 February 2019 online via the American Library in Paris's [YAFF page](#). The deadline for submissions is 1 April 2019 by 22h00. Further information about the festival along with the submission guidelines can be found [here](#).

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## Calling all writers: work on your project as a Visiting Fellow at the Library

The Library is now accepting applications for Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 Visiting Fellows.

The fellowship offers writers and researchers an opportunity to pursue a creative project in Paris for a month or longer while participating actively in the life of the American Library. Applicants should be working on a book project, fiction or non-fiction, or a feature-length documentary film, that contributes to cross-cultural discourse.

Particular attention will be paid to an applicant's ability to offer the Library community a variety of opportunities for exploring a topic. In addition to the stipend, the Library will connect the fellow to resources and individuals in Paris that could be helpful to his or her project. The fellowship is open to all nationalities, though the proposed project must be in English.

Please see the [Library website](#) for further details. This application cycle will close on 15 February 2019.

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## December Ex Libris available now

The December issue of the Library's quarterly print newsletter, *Ex Libris*, is now out. Pick up a copy at the Library, or read it online [here](#).

### Music Exploration

**Saturday 22 December 15h00 - 16h00 (all ages)**

The Library is hosting a special all ages event when children and teens will present the instruments they play, and share a few songs. Join us to discover the range of talents at the Library and to learn a little bit about some lesser-known instruments, and a few you will recognize.

[Email in advance if you would like to perform](#)

## 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!*

### Toddler Time

**10h30-11h00 and 17h00-17h30**

**(ages 1-3)**

Rhymes, songs, and stories in English.

**20 December and 10 January**

*All children must be accompanied by an adult lap. [Sign-up is required.](#)*

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**Unless otherwise stated, all children's and teens' programs are free for Library members and 10 euros for non-members.**

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

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## 2019 Book Groups

Our 2019 Book Groups are taking shape. Stay tuned for more details in our upcoming special e-libris at the beginning of January.



General information about our book groups can be found [here](#).

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## Winter Wonderland

Our Winter Wonderland event will be held on **Saturday 26 January 2019** this year, with fun games, readings, and crafts for kids of all ages.



Stay tuned for more info about this winter celebration!

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### Upcoming Events

#### Tuesday 18 December | 19h30

Evenings with an author  
Annabel Simms, *How to briefly escape from Paris to France*

#### Tuesday 8 January | 19h30

Evenings with an author  
Susan Harlan, *Decorating a Room of One's Own*

#### Tuesday 15 January | 19h30

Evenings with an author  
Michelle Richmond, *The Marriage Pact*

#### Wednesday 16 January | 19h30

Evenings with an author  
Emilio Williams, *The Untold Stories of Americans in the 7th Arrondissement*

**All evening events at the Library are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. We are grateful to GRoW @ Annenberg at the Annenberg Foundation for its continuing support of Evenings with an Author.**

Program dates and speakers are subject to change.  
Please check the [Events and Programs](#) page for updates.

Doors open at 19h00 for evening events.

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