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The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris 19 February 2019



Library events at a glance

Tuesday 19 February 19h30

[Ann Mah on the legacy and future of winemaking](#)

Wednesday 20 February 19h30

[Discuss the highs and lows of language learning and bilingualism](#)

Tuesday 12 March 19h30

[Robert Rorke explores 1970s Brooklyn in *Car Trouble*](#)

Wednesday 13 March 19h30

[Susan Ronald on the life of philanthropist Florence Gould](#)

All evening events at the Library are free and open to the public unless otherwise stated. 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 our Programs Calendar for updates.

Doors open at 19h00 for evening events.

Library events: winemaking, language learning, Brooklyn nostalgia, and a dangerous woman

[Tonight](#), food and travel writer Ann Mah presents her new novel, *The Lost Vintage*, about an ancestral vineyard, a lost diary, an unknown relative, and a family secret kept since World War II. Ann will be in conversation with Christian Holthausen, from the champagne house AR Lenoble, where Ann volunteered at the annual grape harvest that inspired her to write *The Lost Vintage*.

[Tomorrow night](#), the Library is pleased to partner with Message Paris on a discussion about the advantages and difficulties of learning a second language. Nowadays, a child may learn one language at home and another at school. But sometimes bilingualism is a choice, and parents may wish to expose their child to another language, even if they do not speak a second language themselves. Our three panelists—Derek Ferguson, Yasmine Adèle Lesire, and Charles Brasart—will engage in a fascinating debate on bilingualism and learning languages as children and adults.

On [Tuesday 12 March](#), author Robert Rorke talks about his new novel *Car Trouble*, a witty, moving, and inspirational coming-of-age debut novel set in 1970s Brooklyn about a teenager and his abusive father whose obsession with broken-down vintage cars careens wildly out of control.

On [Wednesday 13 March](#), biographer Susan Ronald will be speaking about her book, *A Dangerous Woman: American Beauty, Noted Philanthropist, Nazi Collaborator—The Life of Florence Gould*, a meticulously well-researched look at a complicated, seductive, and utterly amoral woman operating in fraught political times.

Finding Yourself in Paris writing workshop



"Finding Yourself in Paris" is a writing workshop led by Lucienne Mc Kirdy for the newly transplanted inhabitants of the city as well as seasoned residents who are interested in reflecting upon their journey in Paris. Participants are asked to read the introduction to Natalie Goldberg's *Writing Down the Bones* and the first three chapters of George Orwell's *Down and Out in Paris and London* before the workshop.

During the workshop, participants will discuss the readings, our encounters with the city, the people we have met over the course of our time in Paris, the lessons we have learned, the ways in which one event has led to another, what we wish that we had known earlier, and the what the city will

present to us in years to come. We will do some free-writing exercises to write down our first thoughts and then work to refine a more detailed introduction that can be built upon after the workshop.

This workshop takes place on [Thursday 14 March](#) from 19h00-21h00. Space is limited and registration is required. It is open to Library members (fee of 15€) and non-members (fee of 25€).

Bon voyage! Buen viaje! Buon viaggio!

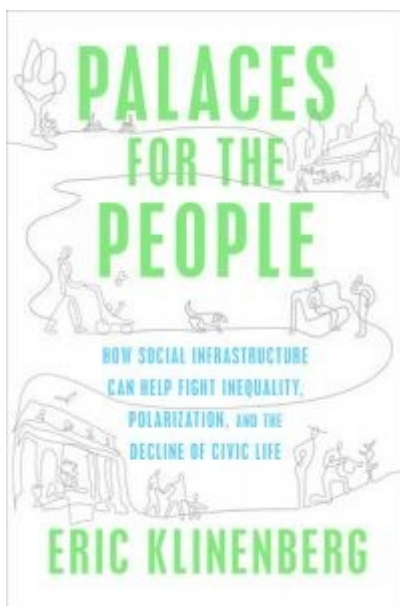


Did this weekend's respite from the cold, grey weather get you thinking about your next vacation? A wide selection of new travel guides has recently arrived for destinations far and wide. We have guidebooks for all seven continents- even Antarctica. Besides updated editions from publishers like Michelin, DK Eyewitness, Bradt, Lonely Planet, and Rick Steves, we have specialized books for driving and cycling tours, wine-tasting, and hiking. Travelogues and literary collections are shelved with the guidebooks, to help travelers get an in-depth feel for a city, country, or culture.

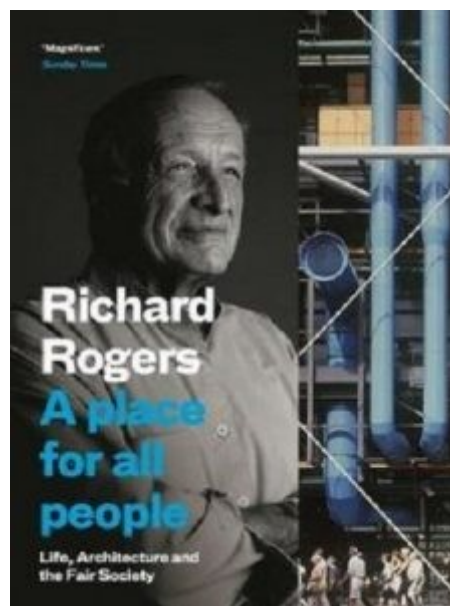
If you're planning to travel abroad, and want to pick up a few essential foreign-language phrases before you leave, try out [Mango Languages](#). This e-resource is available only to Library members, and offers introductory courses in over 70 languages. Mango Languages features native speakers in its online lessons, and can help you learn the everyday communication skills you'll need for real-life interactions during your next trip.

Recommended reading by Olga Ospina

As a Library volunteer helping with collections, bibliophile Olga Ospina regularly recommends books to read. Here she has selected two books that advocate for the creation of public spaces that generate social connection, community building, and civic participation. For her full reviews, read the [Library blog](#).



The title of Eric Klinenberg's book, *Palaces for the People*, was inspired by the phrase used by Andrew Carnegie to describe the libraries that he



In the book *In a Place for All People*, the author and architect Richard Rogers advocates for public spaces and access to nature as basic human

built around the world. Klinenberg writes about the importance of libraries in holding us all together. The author explores the benefits of libraries in the lives of older people who can find activities where they mix with different generations, or teenagers who find a safe place to interact with each other. An important read for anyone who believes in the civic impact of social infrastructure.

rights. For this urban thinker, architecture is both social and political where the best buildings seek to answer broader social questions. His socially minded designs blend private use with public use, having an impact on civic life. This highly readable book is rich in anecdotes with a beautiful compilation of pictures, sketches, and plans.

An interview with Penelope Fletcher of The Red Wheelbarrow Bookstore



The Library recently interviewed Penelope Fletcher, owner of recently reopened The Red Wheelbarrow Bookstore, about her thoughts on bookselling, how she got started, and the books she's reading and enjoying now. Although she loved playing shop as a child and organized many an adult's book collection, including her parents', Penelope didn't always know she was going to be a bookseller in Paris. Her bookstore is located near the *Jardin du Luxembourg* in the 6th arrondissement on a street with several French booksellers. The Red Wheelbarrow regularly provides the books for the Library's Evenings with an Author events. Read the full interview on the [Library blog](#).

Teen events (ages 12-18)

Friday 1 March 19h00-21h00

The Art of the Novel with Donna Cooner and Katherine Longshore

Young adult authors [Donna Cooner](#) and [Katherine Longshore](#) will share a candid look at their paths to publication in this interactive presentation. [Sign-up is required](#).

Saturday 16 March 17h00-18h30

Teen Writing Group (FULL)

Experienced writers and amateurs are all welcome to join these meetings, share their work, and get to know other writers in our community.

Saturday 23 March 10h30-12h00

Young Writers Literary Club (FULL)

Saturday 2 March 17h00-18h30

Writing from the Heart: Flash Fiction with Jane Mobbille

Join Jane Mobbille for a workshop on writing flash fiction, a complete story written in as little as six, and no more than 1000, words. It contains the four elements of short story—protagonist, conflict, complication, and resolution—but sometimes they remain unwritten and are just implied. [Sign-up is required.](#)

Saturday 9 March 17h00-18h30

Master Shot Film Club (FULL)

Led by Paris-based filmmaker and writer Clarence Tokley, the purpose of this club is to allow budding filmmakers the opportunity to produce high-quality short films.

These workshops hosted by Laura Hershey are a combination of lessons, exercises, games, and group discussions to introduce students to the literary greats of English-language literature.

Saturday 23 March 16h00-17h30

College Goals: Understanding the American University Application Process

College Goals' counselor, Andrea van Niekerk, will address the complexities of the American university application system, with special attention to the process and mechanics. She will also take questions about applications to the US, UK, and Canada. [Sign-up is required.](#)

Children's events (ages 0-12)

Tuesday 19 February 16h30-18h00

Lady the Reading Dog (ages 6+)

Lady the Reading Dog is a vet-approved reading dog, and she absolutely loves being read to! Children who would like to come in and read to Lady must sign up in advance for a 15-minute slot. [Sign-up is required.](#)

Saturday 23 February 15h00-16h30

100 Books to Read Before You Grow Up (ages 6-12)

We'll read excerpts from classic children's novels and picture books from the US, the UK, Canada, and Australia, and you can try to guess the character, author, place, and plot in our classics quiz. We'll have a costume contest for those who dress up like their favorite book character: one

Saturday 16 March 15h00-16h30

In the French Kitchen with Mardi Michels (ages 6-10)

Come meet Mardi Michels, author of *In the French Kitchen with Kids!*, who will be chatting about ways to involve kids in the kitchen, the process of writing a cookbook, and developing child-friendly recipes. She'll also make a simple breakfast recipe from her book.

Sunday 17 March 14h00-15h00

Editing and Revising: Writing Workshop (ages 8-12)

In time for the Young Authors Fiction Festival (YAFF) deadline, join us for a workshop in editing and revising stories. We will learn some new skills to edit and revise stories. Bring along

for adults and one for children.

your own story if you have one, but your own story isn't required to take part! [Sign-up is required.](#)

And always... Story Hour and Toddler Time



Wednesday Story Hour (ages 3-5)

10h30 and 14h30

Story Hour takes place at 10h30 and 14h30 every Wednesday. Please check the [Library website](#) for the full schedule and details. No sign-up is necessary!

Toddler Time (ages 1-3)

Thursday 21 February, 7 and 21 March

10h30 and 17h00

Our Toddler Time is for children ages 1-3 and their guardians. The program lasts 30 minutes and features songs, hand-rhymes, and short stories in English. [Sign-up is required.](#)

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