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The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris 5 May 2020

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In the event that this *e-Libris* is cut short by your email service, please click the link at the bottom of the email to see the newsletter in its entirety.

Update: The First Phase of Reopening

Last week, French authorities announced that libraries will be in the first wave of the country's progressive deconfinement. We are working on a plan that will respect the safety of members, staff, and the wider community and ensure access to Library materials. We are awaiting final word from officials on Thursday 7 May about the initial phase of deconfinement and will share information about a gradual reopening and restoration of lending services in e-Libris and on our website. Please stay tuned over the coming week.

At Home with the Library



The history of the American Library is interwoven with those of the writers who have made Paris their home, however briefly. Lawrence Ferlinghetti composed poems while wandering the stacks. Henry Miller wrote letters to the librarian asking for books on Zen Buddhism. Mary McCarthy complained to the director that we didn't have enough copies of her books. Sylvia Beach donated books to the Library. We cherish these stories as much as the volumes on our shelves.

In honor of the Library's 100th birthday this year, stars from the stage and the page are reading snippets from the works of these writers on video, all filmed at home. You'll enjoy the words of Richard Wright, Julia Child, and Colette, all frequent guests at the Library, being brought to life by such luminaries as Claire Messud, Alan Cumming, Hala Alyan, and Blythe Danner. At Home with the Library is designed to help you discover or rediscover authors as you might when browsing the shelves, picking up a book, flipping to a page, and being carried away.

Every few days in May (our birthday month), a new reading will be launched on our [Instagram account](#) via IGTV and on our [Youtube channel](#). Make sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), Instagram, and YouTube for the latest updates.

A special thanks to Denis O'Hare for his inspiration and leadership on the project.



Virtual Evenings with an Author



[Whitney Scharer](#)

Tuesday 5 May at 17h via Zoom

We're pleased to present author Whitney Scharer, author of *The Age of Light*. Her absorbing debut tells a fictionalized account of Lee Miller's life, focusing on the years she spent in Paris and her tumultuous relationship with Surrealist artist Man Ray. An icon during her own time, Miller's bold vision and fearlessness still serve today as a template for a life lived fully. In Whitney's novel, we follow Lee through her time as a model, Surrealist photographer, fashion photographer, war correspondent, and gourmet chef. Whitney will discuss her book, as well as provide us with updates about its reception and translation.

Free and open to the public via Zoom. [RSVP required](#).



[Dana Thomas](#)

Wednesday 20 May at 17h via Facebook Live

A virtual book talk by *New York Times* bestselling author and journalist Dana Thomas, author of *Fashionopolis: The Price of Fast Fashion and the Future of Clothes*.

Dana's account investigates the damage wrought by the colossal clothing industry – and the grassroots, high-tech, international movement fighting to reform it. Tune in to hear more about the book and how Dana's views have developed in the current climate.

Free and open to the public via Facebook Live. **No RSVP required.**

Simply head to our [Facebook page](#) to tune in live at 17h on Wednesday 20 May.

(The event will be recorded and a video will be available for viewing after the event.)

Now on Youtube:

Author and journalist Elaine Sciolino joined a live audience on Zoom on 21 April for our first-ever virtual Evening with an Author. If you missed the program or would like to watch it again, [the video is now available](#) on our Youtube channel.



Find videos of past Library programs on YouTube.



Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author.

Virtual Programming for Kids and Teens



Join the next Indoor Dance Party on Friday 15 May!

Curated online resources for [kids](#) and [teens](#).

eBooks for kids and teens: Find your next great read by heading to our [online catalog](#). Below the Quick Search bar, you'll see recommendations for children's graphic novels, picture books, children's novels, and more. Our staff is available to assist you remotely if you need help accessing our online resources.

Literature Quizzes: Children and parents can try their hand at our Children's Literature Quizzes. Teens can try our YA Lit Quiz featuring questions from our last annual Literary Reaping.

- [Children's Literature Quiz \(for ages 8+\), Part 1](#)
- [Children's Literature Quiz \(for ages 8+\), Part 2](#)
- [YA Lit Quiz](#)

KIDS

[Workshop: Descriptive Writing](#)

(ages 9-12)

Tuesday 5 May at 14h30

Participate in a virtual workshop dedicated to descriptive writing.

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

[Story Hour](#)

(ages 3-5)

Wednesday 6 May at 10h30

Join us for an interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English from our children's and teens' services librarians and volunteers!

TEENS

[YA Fantasy Book Club](#)

(ages 12-adult)

Thursday 14 May at 16h30

Join fantasy fans to discuss new worlds and novels with like-minded readers.

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

[Master Shot Film Club meeting \(FULL\)](#)

(ages 12-18)

Saturday 16 May at 17h

Explore script-writing, camera work, directing, editing and more.

This club is full.

[Find out how to apply for 2020-2021](#)

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

Toddler Time

(ages 1-3)

Thursday 7 May at 10h30

Join us for an interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

Story Hour: Into the Deep

(ages 3-5)

Wednesday 13 May at 10h30

Join us for an interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English, all about the ocean!

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

Indoor Dance Party

(all ages)

Friday 15 May at 10h30.

Sing, dance, and get some exercise indoors as librarians and volunteers lead you in songs such as "Go Bananas" and "I'm a Believer."

Free and open to the public. [RSVP required.](#)

DIY Crafts

(ages 6-12)

Saturday 16 May at 11h

Create your own cool crafts during this interactive workshop with our librarians and volunteers.

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

Teen Night: 8th Annual Literary Reaping, Part 1

(ages 12-18)

Friday 22 May at 18h

Join us for an evening of trivia, challenges, and surprises. This event will feature special guests and will require participants to work in teams. Participants will be asked to provide materials from a short list of items which are readily available in most homes.

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

Renew your membership and consider a gift

As an independent, non-profit institution, we rely on the support and generosity of our community. How can you help the American Library in Paris during this challenging time? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, and tell your friends about the Library.

[RENEW](#)

[DONATE](#)

The American Library in Paris is an independent, non-profit institution that receives no regular government funding. Your generosity is essential in keeping the Library vibrant and creative.

All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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