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The American Library in Paris

LITERATURE | LEARNING | CULTURE | COMMUNITY

e-Libris 16 July 2020

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Summer News



Walls are coming down, and the Project 100 **expansion of the Children's Library and Teen Mezzanine** (plus the addition of a new, multi-purpose classroom for all ages) is progressing. Many thanks to the Library's Board of Trustees, donors, and supporters for making the expansion possible.

Please ask a staff member if you need help retrieving a book that is behind protective plastic sheeting.

Construction updates will be shared on the Library's social media, and we can't wait to unveil the results in the fall. #project100

- **Summer hours** will continue through July and August: Tue-Fri: 13h-18h | Sat: 11h-16h30.
- We're offering **extended borrowing** during July and August and will be happy to accommodate your holiday schedule. If you would like extensions on books you have borrowed, please come in and speak to our staff or email info@americanlibraryinparis.org and let us know how long you would like to keep your items.
- We're **excusing all fines for late books** through the end of the August.
- **e-Libris will be taking a summer break** after this issue and will return the last week of August. Have a fun and safe holiday, and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Library in September.



Century Gala

Last week the Library announced plans for our [Century Gala](#) on 8 October 2020. We're honored to invite you to the Library's centennial celebration. The Gala is the Library's most important fundraising event of the year, and your support is needed now more than ever.

You may have questions about this unique, hybrid virtual/in-person event: "What technology do I need to participate?" or "I'm not in Paris—may I still attend?"

We are happy to work with you individually to answer all your questions and discuss the best way for you to join this celebration of our century of service and support the Library. Please contact Morgan Wurzburger, the Library's Advancement Manager and your Century Gala Concierge.

To purchase tickets and to contact Morgan: gala@americanlibraryinparis.org

For more information about the Century Gala: americanlibraryinparis.org/gala



Summer Programming for Kids and Teens

KIDS' EVENTS

[Summer Reading Quest](#)

(all ages)

July and August 2020

Keep track of your reading over the summer, discover new books, and win prizes by completing our summer reading challenge!

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

[Indoor Dance Party \(Virtual\)](#)

[Toddler Time in the Park](#)

(ages 1-3)

Friday 24 July 2020 at 11h00

Join us in the park for a small group event featuring stories, songs, and rhymes in English for very young children and their grown-ups.

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

[Light and Illusions \(Virtual\)](#)

(all ages)

Saturday 18 July at 10h30

Sing, dance, and get some exercise indoors as librarians and volunteers lead you in songs such as "Go Bananas" and "The Princess Pat," plus a round of Freeze Dance.

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

Virtual Story Hour

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 22 July at 10h30

Join us for a virtual, interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English. This event is hosted by our librarians and volunteers.

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

Story Hour in the Park

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 22 July at 14h30

Join us for an interactive story time in the park featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English in a small group setting. This event is hosted by a librarian and a volunteer.

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

(ages 6–12)

Saturday 25 July at 11h00

Tune in for stories about light, illusions, and the scientists behind some important discoveries, then try an experiment or two of your own using supplies readily available in most homes.

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

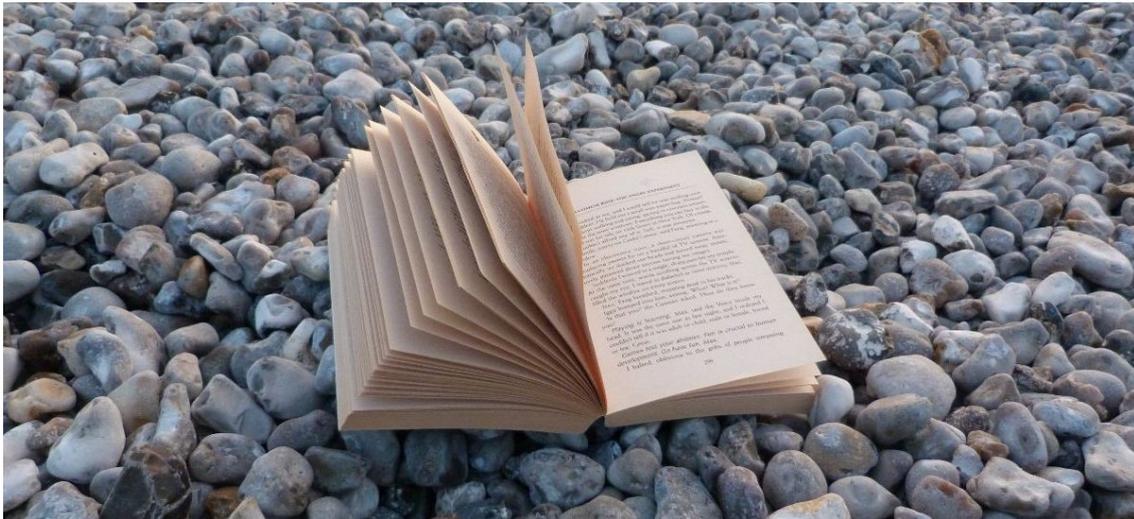
Kids Book Bonanza (Virtual)

(ages 6–12)

Saturday 1 August at 11h00

Join us for trivia, crafts, and games inspired by children's literature.

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



Whether you vacation on a pebbled beach or a craggy mountain, don't forget to bring along a stack of fun summer reads! Here's YA novel *Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment*, by James Patterson. Call Number: YA PAT

TEENS' EVENTS

Virtual YA Fantasy Book Club

(ages 12–18)

Friday 17 July at 16h00

Join fantasy fans to discuss new worlds and novels with like-minded readers. Bring along your current or most recent fantasy read to talk about with the group during our online meeting.

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

Capture the Flag Rematch

(ages 12–18)

Friday 24 July at 17h30

Join us for a game of capture the flag on the Champ de Mars (weather permitting). We'll meet at the Library to divide you into teams and go over the rules of the game, then we'll set out as a group to the Champ de Mars to play.

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

Virtual Ten Book Challenge for Teens

(ages 12-18)

July and August 2020

Keep track of your reading over the summer, try out new books, and win prizes by completing our Ten Book Challenge!

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

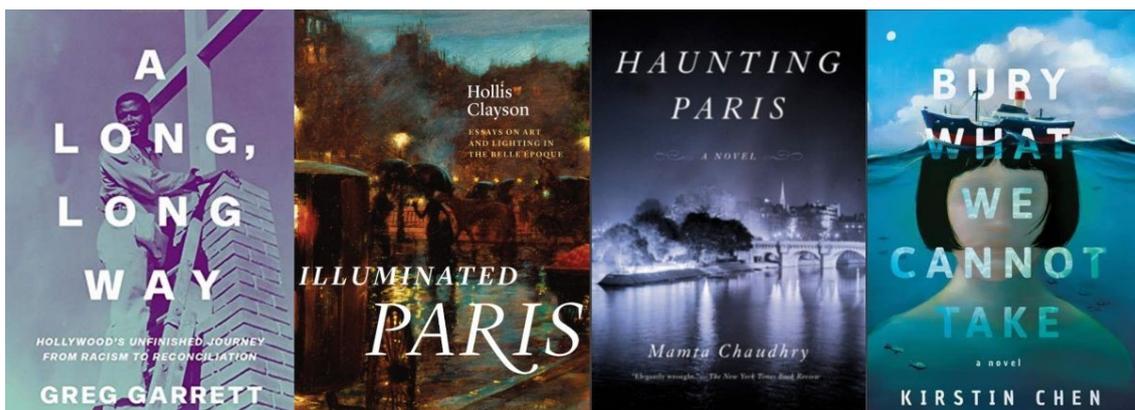
A message from Celeste Rhoads, Children's and Teens' Services Manager:

The past few weeks have been busy with preparations for the expansion of the Children's Library and Teen Mezzanine and the addition of a multi-purpose classroom, all slated for completion in the fall. It's been a whirlwind of moving furniture, books, and people, and since construction started in earnest, you'll notice the protective plastic sheeting and noise that inevitably accompanies an exciting project like this one. Staff has done their utmost to make sure that most of our collections remain accessible to members, but if you need help navigating the stacks, we're here to help.

As with adult programs, we are still hosting virtual events for children and teens. We have offered over fifty online events for young people since March, with the help of our dedicated team of volunteers. Over 200 people tuned in for our virtual celebration ceremony for the Young Authors Fiction Festival (YAFF), and our Indoor Dance Parties during the confinement had scores of dancers tuning in from across France. Virtual events will continue through August, complemented by a few small, in-person events held in the park on the Champ de Mars (registration required) in July.

A special thank you to volunteers Jack and Mary Wessels, Clarence Tokley, Heidi Wayne, Amy Plum, Peregrine Olander, Pauline Charruyer, Olena Anikieieva-Crevel, Briana Seftel, Jean Ravelet, Libby Harris, Rebecca Lim, Carly Bisek, and our entire YAFF committee. Thanks also to all of the families who have sent messages of appreciation for our events, shared their artwork, and stopped by in person to say hello since the Library reopened to the public!

Virtual Programs for Adults



Fall Preview:

Adult events are on hiatus now through August and will pick up again on 1 September. Programs will remain virtual through the month of September. Starting 1 September, our workshops and *Evenings with an Author* offerings will move back to their standard time slots at 19h00 and 19h30 Central European Time, respectively.

- Hollis Clayson on her latest book, *Illuminated Paris: Essays on Art and Lighting in the Belle Epoque* (1 September)
- Greg Garrett talking about *A Long, Long Way: Hollywood's Unfinished Journey from Racism to Reconciliation* (2 September)
- Alice Jardine presenting *At the Risk of Thinking: An Intellectual Biography of Julia Kristeva* (8 September)
- Tony Maniaty on the intersection between cinema and writing in his journalism career (9 September)
- Mamta Chaudhry on her debut novel *Haunting Paris* (16 September)
- Clara Oropeza speaking on *Anaïs Nin: A Myth of Her Own* (22 September)
- Kirstin Chen bringing us to Hong Kong with *Bury What We Cannot Take* (30 September)

You may begin to register for these events via our [website](#) beginning in mid-August. We'll share a sign-up reminder in *e-Libris* at the end of August.

A message from Catherine Olien, Programs Manager:

This spring the Library swiftly adapted to the challenges of confinement and shifted its programming to online spaces. We were overjoyed at the response. Many of you made the digital leap with us and found meaningful connection, reliable information, and relaxing entertainment in this new era of social distancing.

Members and new faces alike attended our virtual events during the months of April, May, June, and July. Our adult programs became completely free of charge, including the five virtual workshops we hosted during this period, with topics ranging from introductions to Nia Dance to painting with watercolors to processing the confinement experience through writing.

Evenings with an Author moved from the Florence Gould Reading Room to Zoom, where thirteen public events attracted a majority of non-members, with attendees tuning in almost evenly from the US and France. We reached over 500 people live through these meetings and many more via our podcast and YouTube channel, where videos of past events can be found. Many book group leaders likewise took their discussions to online platforms, allowing members to gather from all over the world and continue to share and celebrate their love of reading and books.

The Library has reopened for browsing, but, for now, all adult events will remain virtual to ensure the safety of our community. We are heartened by your enthusiastic participation and support throughout these past months, and we hope you will continue to log in on online until we can welcome you back in person. An announcement will be made in *e-Libris* as soon as programming can resume at the Library.



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



Past Programs on YouTube

- [Lindsey Tramuta, in conversation with Thomas Chatterton Williams](#) about Lindsey's latest book, *The New Parisienne: The Women & Ideas Shaping Paris*
- [Alex Beam](#) speaks about his latest book, *Broken Glass: Mies van der Rohe, Edith Farnsworth, and the Fight over a Modernist Masterpiece*
- [Ask the Doctor with Dr. Rob Murphy](#)—A COVID-19 update from a global health specialist

Evenings with an Author podcast: Recorded live at the American Library in Paris (or on Zoom!) during *Evenings with an Author* events. Available on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Stitcher](#), or wherever you get your podcasts.

Evenings with an Author events are supported by generous donations from GRoW @ Annenberg, Library members, and those who attend programs.

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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 throughout the year? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, and tell your friends about the Library.

RENEW

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

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The American Library in Paris
10 rue du Général Camou
Paris, France 75007
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