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The American Library in Paris

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e-Libris 27 October 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.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- We will be celebrating Halloween on Saturday 31 October. No study space will be available that day. While members are welcome to pick up and return books, please be prepared for a festive atmosphere.
- The Library will be closed Sunday 1 November for La Toussaint and Wednesday 11 November for Armistice Day.

Programs for Adults

All programs, including *Evenings with an Author*, book groups, and workshops, will continue virtually for the present time.



[Pre-Election Panel: Reflections on the American Dream Today](#)
Tuesday 27 October at 19h30 via Zoom

Only one week away from the 2020 US elections, we'll explore how the French are interpreting signals coming from the United States that provide insight into the health of the American Dream. We'll discuss how drastically these factors have changed in recent years, especially under Presidents Obama and Trump. This panel will feature Dr. Lauric Henneton and Dr. Guillaume Marche, French scholars of the United States, and will be moderated by journalist Anne-Elisabeth Moutet.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



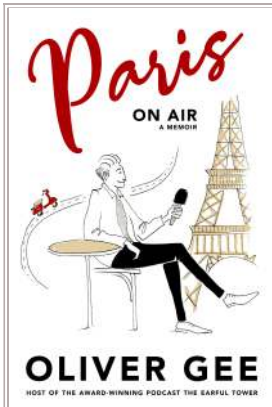
[Writers Reading During the Pandemic: A Panel with Joyce Carol Oates, Edmund White, and Sheila Kohler](#)

Thursday 29 October at 19h30 via Zoom

Please join us for a very special panel with acclaimed authors Joyce Carol Oates, Edmund White, and Sheila Kohler. They'll discuss what they have been reading in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic and how it has shaped their responses to the outbreak of the virus and its resulting challenges, including illness, confinement and quarantine, isolation and loneliness, anxiety about the health of our loved ones, and frustration stemming from the responses of our leaders.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



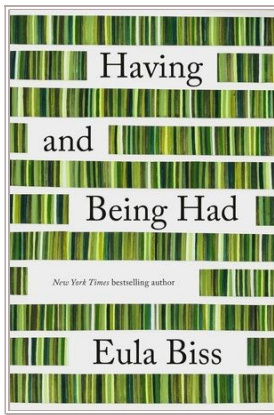
[Evenings with an Author: Oliver Gee](#)

Wednesday 4 November at 19h30 via Zoom

Oliver Gee is an Australian who's been in Paris since 2015. He arrived as a journalist and now makes a living as the host of the hugely popular Paris travel podcast *The Earful Tower*. This year he released his laugh-out-loud memoir *Paris On Air*. Oliver will deliver an entertaining performance during which he'll talk about publishing a book during a lockdown and the perks and perils of life as a podcaster in the City of Light.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



[Evenings with an Author: Eula Biss in conversation with Susan Harlan](#)

Tuesday 10 November at 19h30 via Zoom

Join us for a conversation between Eula Biss and Susan Harlan about Eula's latest book, *Having and Being Had*. Having just purchased her first home, the poet and essayist embarks on a provocative exploration of the value system she has bought into. Through a series of engaging exchanges—in libraries and laundromats, over barstools and backyard fences—she examines our assumptions about class and property and the ways we internalize the demands of capitalism.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.

Critical Conversations

Only a few spots remain for [Critical Conversations: "Race in America,"](#) starting 5 November. This new expert-led discussion series, exclusively for Library members, will allow participants to delve deeper into pressing topics during three meetings in November. Dr. Tarani Merriweather will lead the series.

If you're interested in participating, please [sign up now](#); we expect *Critical Conversations* to fill up in the coming days.

Meetings will be held via Zoom on 5, 12, and 19 November 2020, 19h00-20h30 Paris time.

Regular rate: 50€ per participant

Reduced rate: 25€ (students/seniors/unemployed/disabled)

Visit our [website](#) for more information.

This series is made possible by the generous support of the Heather and Robert Keane Family Foundation.

Programs on our Podcast, Facebook, and YouTube



Past programs on YouTube, including recent Evenings with William Drozdiak and Elaine Sciolino; Dalia Sofer; and Harriet Welty Rochefort and Alan Riding.



Listen to our podcast, *Evenings with an Author*, available wherever you get your podcasts.



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

Programming for Kids and Teens



KIDS' AND TEENS' EVENTS

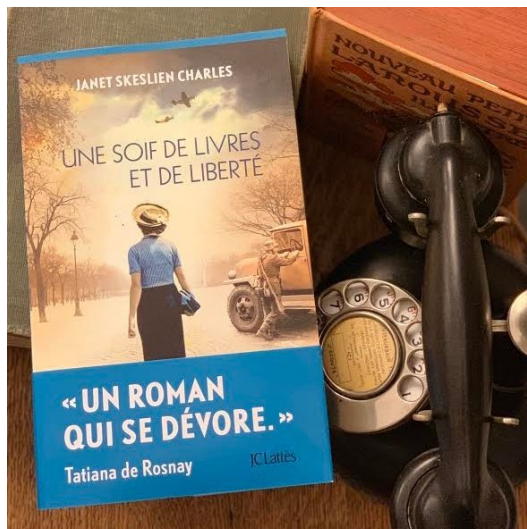
- All of the in-person, small-group events for our Halloween Extravaganza on Saturday 31 October are now full, but you can still participate in our [Virtual Halloween Song Fest](#) (at 10h) or the [Virtual Halloween Finale and Costume Contest](#) (at 17h). Registration is required to participate and all ages are welcome. You must be a Library member.
- If you are interested in trick-or-treating on the 31st, [reserve your map](#) to participate.
- Halloween Fun Packs, filled with activities and sweet treats, are still available, [by reservation](#).
- Programs for children and teens continue virtually in November. Small in-person activities for toddlers are also planned. See our [website calendar](#) for details.
- Save the date for a virtual reading with actor Denis O'Hare and [Monster Dance](#) creator Eva Lou on Saturday 5 December (ages 3–8).

TEEN NIGHTS: Teens ages 12-18 can meet other bookworms and English-speakers in Paris at one of our many Friday night Teen Nights, which are still happening—virtually. We have a [Rock'n'Roll Quiz Night with Rock U](#). coming up, as well as a [workshop with novelist Amy Plum](#).

Press Room

Former staff member Janet Skeslien Charles captures both the history and the spirit of the American Library in Paris in her new historical novel *The Paris Library*, set during WWII and inspired by the real-life characters that worked at the Library during that time. Stay tuned for the original English-language edition, which will be published in February 2021.

The French translation, *Une soif de livres et de liberté*, was just released this month by JC Lattès and is available now. The novel, and the Library, were featured in *Le Figaro* last weekend. The article is [available online](#) to the newspaper's subscribers.



Janet delved deeply into various archives to research the novel. (Below, she presents her favorite historical photos from the Library's collection to journalists at the launch of the French edition.)



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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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