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**19 March 2024**

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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.

Editor: Carolyn Dubol

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## Honoring our 1920s Heritage



This month we honor our 1920s heritage and the people, events, and writing that made this decade such a dazzling period in history.

Drop by our Members' Lounge to peruse our **display of literature from *Les Années Folles***, including Gertrude Stein and Ernest Hemingway's best-known works. We've also curated books inspired by the 1920s, including histories and even cocktail recipe books.

Our **22 March History Tour** will focus on the 1920s. Join us at 11h00 to learn all about the American Library's origin story, the famous writers of the period who explored our stacks, and the Library School that transformed French and European libraries with American innovations.

And if you've bought a ticket to our sold-out Les Années Folles at La Coupole party on 21 March, we look forward to celebrating with you, accompanied by a live jazz quartet, dancing, food, and drink!

## Last Call for YAFF Stories and Visiting Fellowship Submissions: Deadline 1 April

Are you a researcher, journalist, writer (fiction and nonfiction), poet, screenwriter, playwright, or documentary filmmaker? Are you seeing an opportunity to pursue a creative project in Paris for a month or longer? Would you like to integrate the vibrant intellectual community of the American Library in Paris?

**The application cycle for the 2024–2025 Visiting Fellowship will close on 1 April**, so don't wait to apply! Visit our [website](#) to find out more about the Fellowship and the application process.

The Visiting Fellowship is generously supported by The de Groot Foundation.





The Young Authors Fiction Festival deadline is fast approaching! **All stories must be submitted online by 1 April at 22h00.** YAFF is free to enter and open to writers ages 5–18 who live in France and write in English. Visit the [website](#) for submission guidelines, and to enter your story via the web form.

If you've been working on your story, review our handy [checklist](#) to make sure you're ready to submit.

**Would you like to support YAFF 2024?** Apply to be a volunteer judge or festival sponsor: [yaff@americanlibraryinparis.org](mailto:yaff@americanlibraryinparis.org)

## Programs for Adults

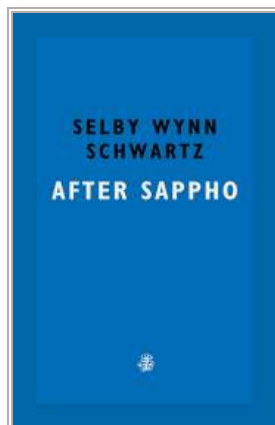
### Evenings with an Author, sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg

Evenings with an Author and other evening programs are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted. You must RSVP to attend our programs, whether you join us in person or via Zoom.

We thank the following for their support: the Florence Gould Foundation, The de Groot Foundation, and the American Center for Art & Culture.

#### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME REMINDER:

Clocks moved forward in the US on 10 March, but do not move forward in France until 31 March: If you are attending a hybrid program virtually from a US time zone, the time difference will be one hour less between 10 March and 30 March, and will return to normal on 31 March.



#### TONIGHT

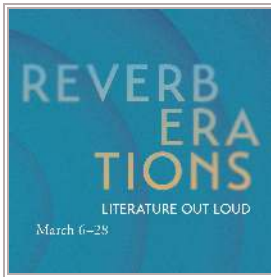
#### [The Female Khoros with Selby Wynn Schwartz](#)

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Tuesday 19 March at 19h30 CET**

What if women's lives and relationships were at the center of history? What kinds of stories would we have access to if our historical record were not dominated by male voices?

In her Booker Prize-longlisted debut novel, *After Sappho*, Selby Wynn Schwartz recovers biographical fragments about queer feminist women from history and weaves them together with imagined details. Schwartz breathes life into the stories of these writers, philosophers, and artists, melding their voices together to create a kaleidoscope of women's experience.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



### TOMORROW

**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**  
**Roundtable: The State of the Arts**  
**with Missy Mazzoli, Royce Vavrek, and Nia Franklin**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 20 March at 19h30 CET**

This event brings together three lynchpin guests of the Reverberations festival: Cultural Fellows Missy Mazzoli (composer) and Royce Vavrek (librettist), and Composer-in-Residence Nia Franklin (singer and composer).

Together, Mazzoli, Vavrek, and Franklin will consider art in, about, and for the 21st century. They'll also discuss the challenges that artists and art institutions face.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



### OFFSITE EVENT

**Utopia and the City at the London Library**  
**In Person at the London Library and livestreamed on YouTube**  
**Thursday 21 March at 19h30 GMT**

In partnership with the London Library, an independent library founded in 1841, the American Library's Programs Manager Emilie Biggs travels to the English capital to discuss the revolutionary histories of Paris and London.

Biggs will moderate a conversation with Niall Kishtainy, author of the non-fiction *The Infinite City: Utopian Dreams on the Streets of London*, and Adam Thirlwell, whose recent historical novel, *The Future, Future*, begins in Paris in 1775.

Please note that this event will stream at 19h30 GMT, not CET (Paris).

[Click for online and in-person tickets: £3 – £12.50](#)

**OFFSITE EVENT****REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud****[Voyage au pays de Maurice Ravel](#)****In Person at the [Opéra Comique](#)****Saturday 23 March at 20h00 CET**

This month Reverberations partner the Opéra Comique is celebrating French composer Maurice Ravel. On Saturday 23 March, you are invited to a special night of Ravel's music, including "Ma Mère l'Oye," "Chansons madécasses," "Cinq mélodies populaires grecques," and more. The Library community can purchase 15€ tickets for this one-night-only event.

To receive the discounted ticket price, you must reserve through the link in the button below.

[Reserve your 15€ tickets to Voyage au pays de Maurice Ravel](#)

**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud****[Writing Now: A Conversation with Patricia Lockwood](#)****Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom****Tuesday 26 March at 19h30 CET**

Join us for a conversation with acclaimed Writer-in-Residence Patricia Lockwood. Her 2021 novel *No One Is Talking About This* is an international bestseller, winner of the Dylan Thomas Prize, and finalist for the Booker Prize. Her memoir, *Priestdaddy*, won the Thurber Prize for American Humor and was named one of the Guardian's 100 best books of the 21st century.

Lockwood has written two poetry collections, *Motherland Fatherland* and *Homelandsexuals* and *Balloon Pop Outlaw Black*. Her work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, and the London Review of Books, where she is a contributing editor.

The event will be followed by a cocktail reception, thanks to Writer-in-Residence program sponsor The de Groot Foundation.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**  
**Seminar: In Three Lines (or less) with Patricia Lockwood**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 27 March at 19h30 CET**

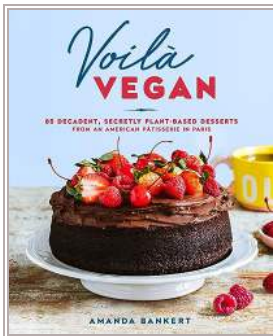
How does being online change one's voice? How does the internet and its constraints and character limits affect language? Join us for an interactive seminar on how the internet affects writing and language with Patricia Lockwood.

Following the conversation, we'll provide a series of prompts for audience members to write and respond within a set character limit.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME REMINDER:**

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**Plant-Based Paris: The Future of Vegan Cuisine**  
**with Amanda Bankert and David Lebovitz**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Tuesday 2 April at 19h30 CEST**

In 2015, Amanda Bankert opened Boneshaker Donuts and Coffee in Paris. Her donuts, like the rest of her baking, are entirely vegan: Bankert draws from her judicious sweet tooth and her Le Cordon Bleu training to create mouth-watering, plant-based desserts without sacrificing an ounce of quality. Her new cookbook, *Voilà Vegan*, experiments with a blend of French and American techniques.

Bankert will appear at the Library in conversation with internationally acclaimed food writer David Lebovitz.

Want a taste before the event? We'll be hosting a Boneshaker pop-up at the Library all day on 2 April. Stop by to sample mini versions of their famous donuts and purchase a copy of *Voilà Vegan*, while supplies last!

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)

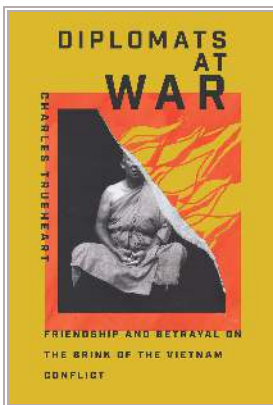


**[Brown Diaspora: An Evening with Moon Charania](#)  
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Wednesday 3 April at 19h30 CEST**

Moon Charania is a writer and scholar whose work explores race, gender, and diasporic studies. In her new book, *Archive of Tongues: An Intimate History of Brownness*, Charania uses her own mother's story as a prism to refract the broader experiences of brown women around the world. The book invites us to reconsider the foundational assumptions of feminist, queer, and postcolonial studies. The author will appear in conversation with Sandeep Bakshi, a lecturer in postcolonial and queer literatures.

This conversation is part of the International Library, an event series launched in collaboration with the [Center for Fiction](#) in Brooklyn and the [Center for the Art of Translation](#) in San Francisco.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)

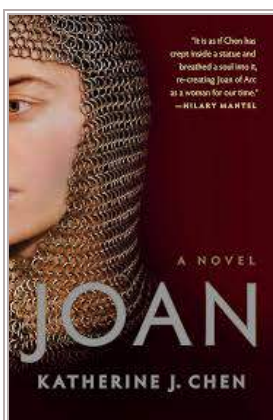


**[Charles Trueheart presents Diplomats at War](#)  
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Thursday 4 April at 19h30 CEST**

The Library is delighted to welcome former American Library in Paris Director, and current Trustee, Charles Trueheart, who will present his new memoir, *Diplomats at War*.

Charles Trueheart's godfather, Frederick "Fritz" Nolting, was US ambassador to South Vietnam from 1961 to 1963. His father, William Trueheart, was Nolting's second-in-command. The author draws from personal memory, family records, and his decades of experience as a political reporter to chart the breakdown of his father and Nolting's friendship, alongside the story of the US's involvement in Vietnam.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



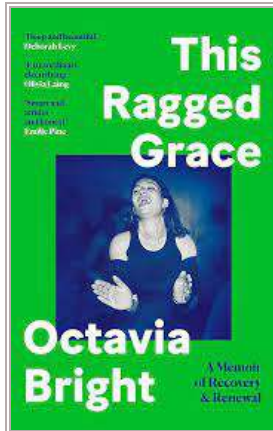
**[Heroines and Historical Fiction with Katherine J. Chen](#)  
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Tuesday 9 April at 19h30 CEST**

Katherine J. Chen, winner of the 2023 American Library in Paris Book Award, returns to the Library to discuss her account of the life of Joan of Arc, *Joan: Novel*. Chen delves into the complexities of Joan's character, presenting her not just as a martyr and saint, but as a flesh-and-blood young woman with fears, ambitions, and a formidable sense of purpose. Combining meticulous research with imaginative storytelling, *Joan* offers a nuanced exploration of faith, power, and gender dynamics in medieval France.

The author will appear in conversation with Patricia Dailey, a medieval scholar who focuses on histories of gender and sexuality.

The American Library in Paris Book Award is generously supported by the Florence Gould Foundation.

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



**[Recovery and Renewal with Octavia Bright](#)**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 10 April at 19h30 CEST**

In her memoir *This Ragged Grace*, writer and broadcaster Octavia Bright explores two events from her life that coincided in the same period: her recovery from addiction and her father's descent into dementia. Her work challenges conventional narratives around grief, putting forward a more nuanced understanding that embraces its messy, nonlinear process.

In this program, Bright will reflect upon her approach to writing memoir, her multi-faceted perspectives on grief and sobriety, and the roles that literature, philosophy, and art have played in her recovery.

Bright is the co-host of the popular podcast [Literary Friction](#).

[RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom](#)



**[Crafting Histories with Katherine J. Chen:](#)**  
**[A Two-part Writing Workshop](#)**  
**In Person at the Library**  
**Thursday 11 April at 19h00 CEST (Session 1)**  
**Saturday 13 April at 15h00 CEST (Session 2)**

Join Book Award Winner Katherine J. Chen for a two-part workshop and conversation with on the craft of writing. This workshop is open to participants who are interested in having either their fiction or creative nonfiction read and discussed in a supportive environment; it is a space to ask questions, to circulate ideas, and to have an open, seminar-like discussion. Katherine will also share her own research and writing process.

Only 15 spots available  
 Library member rate: 40€  
 Non-member rate: 60€

You must submit a manuscript when registering in order to participate (20 pages max). Please click below and carefully review the workshop description before registering.

**Deadline to Register is 3 April.**

[Register to attend in person](#)



Find recordings of past programs on our [YouTube](#) channel:



- Lessons from Language with Brian Dillon
- How to Make Space with Kirsty Bell
- Writing Home with Vanessa Onwuemezi and Thea Lenarduzzi
- Translation Slam with Daniel Levin Becker, Tess Lewis, and Bill François
- Dickens in Appalachia with Barbara Kingsolver



Evenings with an Author are free and open to the public (with a 10€ suggested donation) thanks to support from GROW @ Annenberg, our members, and those who attend programs.



## Children's and Teens' News



Are you working on a short story for YAFF?  
Check out these writing tips for young authors from Paris-based writers!

### Children's Event Highlights

Open to Library members. Advance registration required.

[Story Hour: Feelings](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 20 March at 14h30

**Toddler Time** (ages 1–3) Thursday 21 March at 11h00

**Music Together with Stacey Pavesi Debré** (ages 0–5) Saturday 23 March at 16h00

**Story Hour: Spring Days** (ages 3–5) Wednesday 27 March at 14h30

**Saturday Series: Word Wizards** (ages 6–12) Saturday 30 March at 11h00

**Story Hour: What Do Artists Do?** (ages 3–5) Wednesday 3 April at 14h30

**Saturday Series: Create a Comic** (ages 6–12) Saturday 13 April at 11h00

### Event Highlights for Teens

Ages 12–18. Free for members. 15€ for non-members. Advance registration required.

**Teen Night: Write Your Short Story w/ Amy Plum** (ages 12–18) Friday 22 March at 19h00

**Vocabulary of U.S. College Admissions** (ages 14–adult) Saturday 23 March at 14h00

**Teen Night: Music Trivia Tournament w/ Rock U.** (ages 12–18) Friday 29 March at 19h00

**Focus on Paris: Creating Zines** (ages 12–18) Saturday 6 April at 16h00

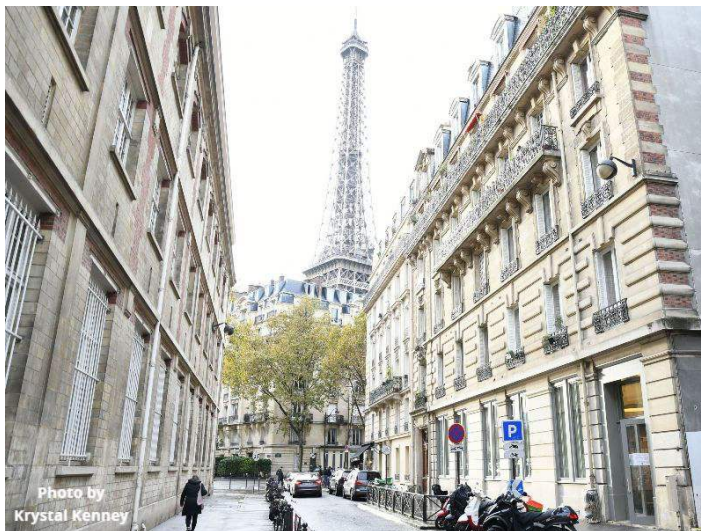
**Teen Night: Capture the Flag** (ages 12–18) Friday 12 April at 19h00

**Teen Night: Candlestick in the Library** (ages 12–18) Friday 19 April at 19h00

**Writing A College Admission Essay** (ages 14–18) Saturday 27 April at 14h00

**Great Value Programs, Degrees, & Experiences** (ages 14–adult) Sunday 28 April at 14h00

## How Can You Help the Library?



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? [Become a member](#) or [renew](#) your Library membership, make an online [donation](#), become a [volunteer](#), and tell your friends about the Library.



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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