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e-Libris 24 January 2023

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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

The Library Board of Trustees Welcomes ALA Representative Maggie Farrell



A warm welcome to Maggie Farrell, who has been selected by the American Library Association Executive Board to be the newest ALA representative to the American Library in Paris's Board of Trustees.

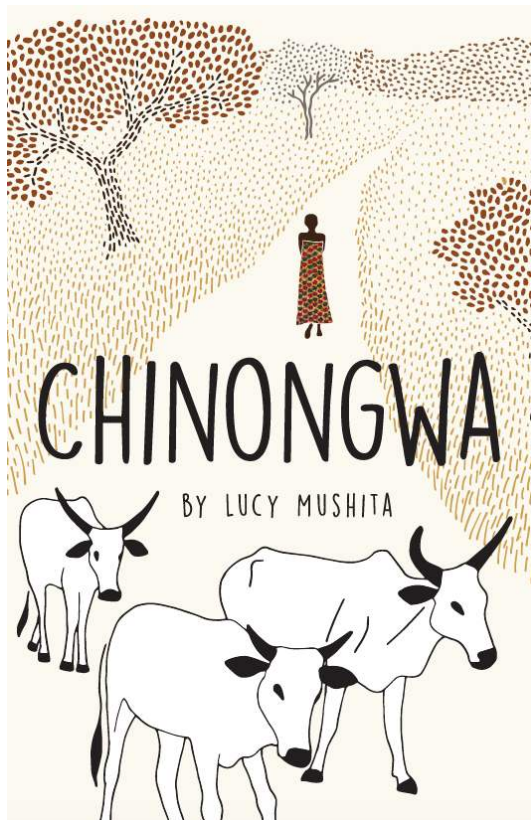
Farrell serves over 30,000 students in her current role as Dean of the University of Nevada Las Vegas Libraries. She also recently served as American Library Association (ALA) Treasurer. Previously, she was the Dean of Libraries at Clemson University and the University of Wyoming, and has had a long and distinguished international career along with her domestic roles and service to ALA.

Damon Austin, the American Library's outgoing ALA representative, served for two consecutive terms. During that time, he became a strong advocate for the Library and a great friend to our community. We are grateful for his efforts in raising the profile of the Library among our professional colleagues at ALA, as evidenced by the passing of an ALA Resolution honoring our centennial in 2020. Austin is Director of Library and Media Services at DeMatha Catholic High School in Maryland.



TONIGHT

Evenings with an Author presents **Zimbabwe Yesterday and Today**



Don't miss tonight's special event with author **Lucy Mushita**. She'll discuss her novel, *Chinongwa*. Set in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) in the 1920s, the book tells the story of a young girl sold into marriage to a much older man. The protagonist draws on her imagination and the landscape around her to endure her suffering and sustain her hope for a better future.

In conversation with journalist **Kidi Bebey**, Mushita will reflect on the writing of this riveting and raw coming-of-age story over a decade ago, and the state of her native Zimbabwe, then and now.

The discussion will be available both online and in person. While the conversation will happen in person (Mushita and Bebey will appear in the Reading Room), the Library will stream the conversation on Zoom for a live viewing experience. Both in-person and online attendees will be able to pose questions.

TONIGHT

[Zimbabwe Yesterday and Today](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 24 January at 19h30 CET
with Lucy Mushita and Kidi Bebey

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

Lucy Mushita grew up in a small village in Zimbabwe. Six years after the end of Zimbabwe's apartheid government in 1980, she settled in Nancy, France. She also taught business English in multinational corporations, universities, and *grandes écoles*.



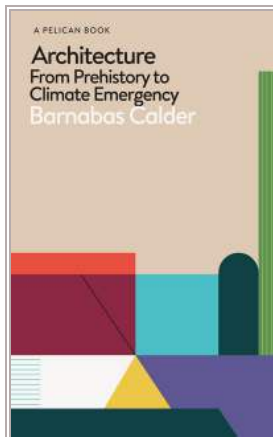
Kidi Bebey, born and raised in Paris, is the daughter of the late Cameroonian artist and composer Francis Bebey. A writer and journalist, her novel, *My Kingdom for a Guitar*, is inspired by her family history. Currently, Bebey writes online weekly chronicles on African literature in *Le Monde*.



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.



TOMORROW

[Barnabas Calder on Architecture and Energy](#)

Online Event: Live on Zoom

Wednesday 25 January at 19h30 CET

A central question in the climate debate today is that of energy. Yet the problem of energy—how to acquire it, how to wield it—is as old as human civilization. Behind every building, from the Colosseum to the modern home, lies the energy technology used to build it. Barnabas Calder's project in *Architecture: From Prehistory to Climate Emergency* is to trace out the history of architecture from this perspective. From manual labor and the Parthenon to coal's impact on Victorian building styles, Calder maps out transformations in built space along the timeline of industrialization. Leading us all the way to the present day, he proposes a new approach to energy, seeking to revolutionize architecture and lead us away from environmental collapse.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



[Ecologues: What is the Climate Crisis?](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom

Thursday 26 January at 19h CET

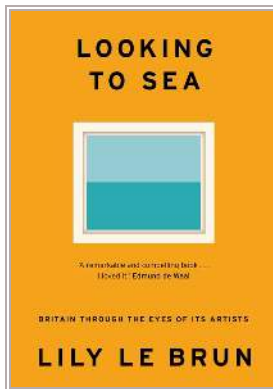
Please note the special start time for this event.

Speakers Alister Doyle, Matthew Pye, and Rahmina Paulette will join us virtually and in person to discuss: **What is happening to the earth, the sky, and the oceans? How did we get here, and where are we going?**

[Ecologues](#) is the Library's new series of interactive webinars featuring experts on the environmental crisis. The series is presented in partnership with News Decoder and The Climate Academy. The Library's contribution to this joint program is supported by the Florence Gould Foundation and the American Center for Arts and Culture.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



[Lily Le Brun on *Looking to Sea*](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom

Tuesday 31 January at 19h30 CET

The sea—an instrument of both imperial expansion and isolation, a place of both leisure and work, representing both refuge and danger—has served as muse to British artists across centuries. Lily Le Brun's innovative book *Looking to Sea* examines the central motif of the ocean across artists' representations of modern British life. Join her at the Library to discuss navigating the troubled waters of identity and ways of seeing oneself through the sea.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



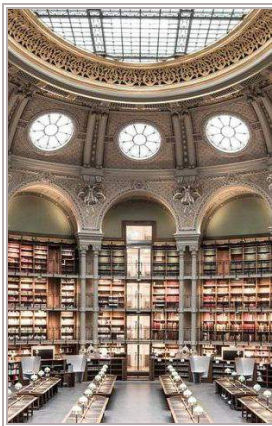
Toni Ann Johnson and Robinne Lee
on *Light Skin Gone to Waste*

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 1 February at 19h30 CET

When a middle class Black family moves to an all-white suburb, fantasies of class ascension and racial transcendence clash with cruel realities. *Light Skin Gone to Waste*, by Toni Ann Johnson, is an honest and devastating account of an already-fractured family's collapse under the prism of a racialized world. This story of intergenerational trauma, cycles of abuse, childhood, marriage, lofty aspirations and high prices paid, lays bare the multiple networks of pain which have racism at their core. Johnson will be in conversation with author and actor Robinne Lee.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



Laurence Engel and Elaine Sciolino
on the Biblioth que Nationale de France

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 7 February at 19h30 CET

After twelve years of construction, the reopening of the 18th-century Biblioth que nationale de France Richelieu site has been hailed as a triumph. From a museum exhibiting Greek vases, rare coins, and diverse costumes; to a lavish public reading room; to a peerless collection of manuscripts ranging from Pascal to Proust; the library serves as both a sumptuous celebration of French intellectual history and an inspiring community space for the French intellectual present. Join Biblioth que nationale de France president Laurence Engel, in conversation with *New York Times* journalist Elaine Sciolino, to discuss the role of the BnF in the French cultural landscape.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



Past programs are on YouTube, including Martin Rees on How Science Can Save Us, Jean D'Am rique on A Sun to Be Sewn, Akil Kumarasamy on Radical Compassion, and Natasha Brown on Assembly.



GROW
ANNENBERG

Evenings with an Author and other weeknight programs at the Library 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



**Award-winning children's and teens' literature,
Lunar New Year reads, and great novels from the 1990s!**

Programming Highlights for Children and Teens:

Our events offer young Library members a way to connect with other English speakers their age.

Join one of our upcoming **Toddler Time** programs (ages 1–3) or **Story Hours** (ages 3–5) to connect with other children and their caregivers. Readers ages 8–12 will meet to discuss *Flying Lessons & Other Stories* at the [Bookworms Book Club](#) on Saturday 25 February, while teens (ages 12–18) can enjoy our [90s Movie Night](#) on Friday 3 February.

Visit our online [calendar](#) today to discover all of our events, and to sign up!

How Can You Help the American 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? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, become a volunteer, and tell your friends about the Library.

RENEW

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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.

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