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**5 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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## John Burnham Schwartz Joins the Book Award

We are delighted to welcome John Burnham Schwartz as our new Book Award Administrator. Schwartz is the author of six acclaimed novels including *The Red Daughter*, *The Commoner*, and *Reservation Road*, the latter of which was made into a film based on his screenplay. He also brings considerable administrative experience as the longtime Literary Director of the Sun Valley Writers' Conference and an editor-at-large at Penguin Press. As Book Award Administrator, Burnham follows Charles Trueheart, former Library Director and founder of the award, and journalist Rachel Donadio, the 2022–2023 Administrator.



Schwartz is a recipient of a Lyndhurst Prize for mastery in the art of fiction, and his books have been translated into twenty languages. He has done extensive screen and television writing, including as screenwriter of HBO Films' *The Wizard of Lies*, starring Robert De Niro and Michelle Pfeiffer, for which he was nominated for a 2018 Writers Guild of America Award for Outstanding Writing.

In addition to his continuing role as Literary Director of the Sun Valley Writers' Conference and Editor-at-Large at Penguin Press, he hosts and co-produces the literary podcast *Beyond the Page: The Best of the Sun Valley Writers' Conference*. He lives in New York City with his wife, writer Aleksandra Crapanzano, and their son, Garrick.

The Book Award team is currently accepting [submissions](#) for the 2024 prize. The longlist will be announced in June, the shortlist in September, and the winner will be revealed at a special ceremony in November. You can find out more about past winners by visiting the Library's [website](#).

The Book Award is supported by a generous grant from the Florence Gould Foundation.

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## History Tours Continue in March and April

We've just opened signups for our free **History Tour talks on 5, 12, 19, and 26 April**. Register now and learn about the Library's 104 years of service in Paris, from our origins during WWI, the *années folles* of the 1920s, WWII, and all the way through to today.

**History Tour, 1920s Edition:** If you're interested in the Lost Generation of American writers in Paris between the wars, we still have spots available for our special 1920s-themed History Tours on **8, 15, and 22 March**. You'll learn about our origin story, the school that brought American innovations to French libraries, Gertrude Stein's penchant for mystery novels, and much more.



If you have purchased tickets our *Années Folles* at La Coupole party on 21 March, make sure you attend the 1920s History Tour to learn which famous authors perused our stacks during this exciting period in literary history.

## History Tour Signups

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## YAFF: Resources and Workshops for Young Writers



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.

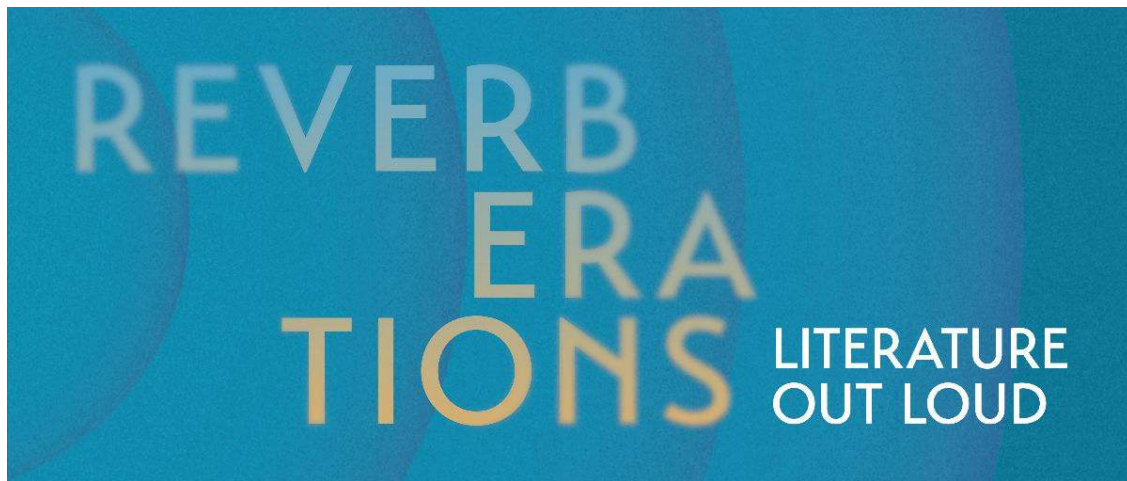
### Writing Resources for Young Authors Working on Their YAFF Submissions:

- If you're looking for inspiration, we encourage you to read our collection of **YAFF Celebration Booklets**, where we've published the winning stories from past years. Available at the Library. Read **digital versions of winning stories** in each grade level on our [website](#).
- Check out **short story collections** such as [Flying Lessons & Other Stories](#) and [Magic Has No Borders](#), and **writing guides** like [Writing Radar](#) and [How to Be A Young #Writer](#). Available at the Library.
- Keep an eye on the Library's **Facebook and Instagram** accounts for tips from our librarians, staff, and volunteers.
- **Writing Workshops:** [Teen Night: Write Your Short Story with Amy Plum](#) (Friday 22 March for ages 12–18) and [Word Wizards](#) (Saturday 30 March for ages 6–12).

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

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## Reverberations: Don't Miss these March Programs



Tomorrow night we kick off Reverberations, in partnership with the Opéra Comique and with the generous support of Festival Napa Valley and the Florence Gould Foundation. This musical month begins with a [special concert and talk](#) celebrating the work of poet **John Ashbery**. Please note, this event is offsite at the showroom of Kawai France: [11 Pl. de la Bataille de Stalingrad, 75010 Paris](#)

We're also offering classical concerts at the Library this month: [A Performance by Composer-in-Residence Nia Imani Franklin](#) on Tuesday 12 March and [An Evening of Music with Cultural Fellows Missy Mazzoli and Royce Vavrek](#) on Thursday 14 March. These events are in-person only and will not be broadcast on Zoom.

If you're an opera librettist, composer, or lyricist, we're offering our first-ever [Opera Masterclass](#) with Cultural Fellows Missy Mazzoli and Royce Vavrek on Saturday 16 March. This two-hour experience is free, but you must submit an application and be accepted to attend.

You're also invited to two events with Writer-in-Residence Patricia Lockwood. The author of *No One Is Talking About This* and *Priestdaddy* will join us for a [conversation on writing](#) on Tuesday 26 March and an [interactive seminar](#) about how the internet affects writing and language on Wednesday 27 March.

Our capstone party, [Les Années Folles at La Coupole](#) promises jazz, dancing, 1920s glamor, and Lost Generation literary history. We still have a few spots remaining, but please don't wait to purchase your tickets; the event is expected to sell out.

Finally, Reverberations partner the **Opéra Comique is celebrating French composer Maurice Ravel** this month, and they're offering generous discounts to the Library community on opera performances and experiences. These special ticket prices are only available by clicking the below link.

#### Opéra Comique Tickets

##### **Atelier de chant participatif**

Friday 8 March at 10h00  
Special ticket price for the Library community:  
5€

##### **Pulcinella/L'Heure espagnole**

Saturday 9 March at 20h00  
Tickets for the Library community start at:  
6€

##### **Nocturne L'Heure Espagnol**

Friday 15 March at 22h30  
Special ticket price for the Library community:  
10€

##### **Voyage au pays de Maurice Ravel**

Saturday 23 March at 20h00  
Special ticket price for the Library community:  
15€

## TimesMachine from the *New York Times* Online

The *New York Times* online is our most popular digital resource, and is free with your Library membership.

Once you log in through your online Library account, you can explore the American "newspaper of record's" archives in two ways:

**1) The *New York Times* Article Search** allows you to search for and read recent and archived articles from 1851 through today.



**2) The TimesMachine** is a browser-based digital replica of all issues of the *New York Times* from 1851–2002. This means that you'll be able to view the paper as it was originally laid out in print. With TimesMachine, subscribers can browse scanned issues of the *New York Times*, download up to 100 PDFs per month, and share issues and pages with other *New York Times* digital subscribers.

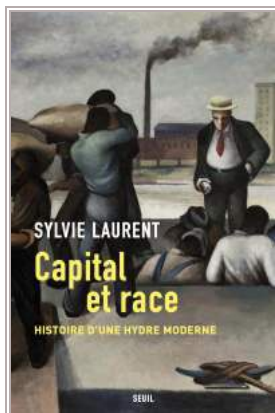
If you have questions about how to use TimesMachine or your *New York Times* digital subscription, please ask our staff at the Member Services desk.

## 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.



**TONIGHT: OFFSITE EVENT**

**[Capital et race en Amérique avec Sylvie Laurent](#)**

**In Person at [mk2 Bibliothèque](#)**

**Tuesday 5 March at 20h00 CET**

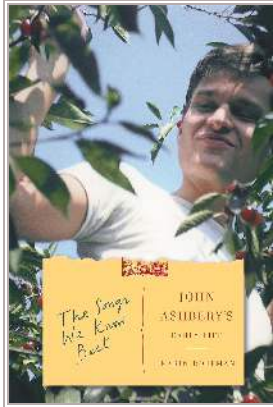
**Conversation in French**

Historian Sophie Laurent contends that Christopher Columbus's discovery of America in 1492 ushered in a new system of what she describes as "racial capitalism," with the economy dependent on one race's domination over others.

Americanist Laurent is renowned for her analyses of the social and racial issues that run deep through the history of the United States. Her new book, *Capital et race*, explores how this political and financial system has permeated American culture and politics to this day.

The conversation will be moderated in French by Olivier Pascal-Moussellard (Télérama), followed by a sale and signing of Laurent's book.

In-person tickets 5,90€ to 25€



**TOMORROW: OFFSITE EVENT**

**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**

**John Ashbery's Poetic World in Music: A Talk and Performance with Karin Roffman and Sharon Roffman**

**In Person at 11 Pl. de la Bataille de Stalingrad, 75010 Paris**

**Wednesday 6 March at 19h30 CET**

Iconic American poet John Ashbery was well-known in Paris, where he lived while working as an art critic for the *International Herald Tribune* and publishing his first books of poetry. Music was essential to his writing process throughout his prolific career.

In this combination talk and performance, Karin Roffman (the poet's biographer) and Sharon Roffman (violin) will weave poetry, biography, and musical excerpts together to offer a tour of the soundscape of Ashbery's life and work.

[Reverberations](#) is organized in partnership with the Opéra Comique and with the generous support of Festival Napa Valley and the Florence Gould Foundation.

[RSVP to attend in person at Kawai France](#)



**OFFSITE EVENT**

**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**

**Voix en Partage: Ravel's *L'Heure espagnole***

**In Person at the Opéra Comique**

**Friday 8 March at 10h00 CET**

**Ages 6+**

From 9 to 19 March 2024, [Reverberations](#) partner the Opéra Comique is presenting a dual production of Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* and Ravel's *L'Heure espagnole*. If you'd like to get to know Ravel's opera more intimately, the Opera Comique is offering the Library community special 5€ tickets to a sing-along of music from *L'Heure espagnole*.

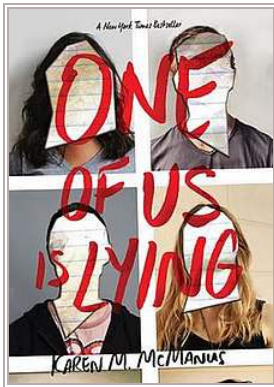
All ages (6+) are welcome. You do not have to be an accomplished singer to participate. To receive the discounted ticket price, you must reserve through the link in the button below.

[Reserve 5€ tickets to Voix en Partage](#)

**OFFSITE EVENT****REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud****[Pulcinella/L'Heure espagnole](#)****In Person at the [Opéra Comique](#)****Saturday 9 March at 20h00 CET**

From 9 to 19 March 2024, [Reverberations](#) partner the Opéra Comique is presenting a dual production of Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* and Ravel's *L'Heure espagnole*.

Tickets to the 9 March performance are available to the Library community starting at 6€ (restricted view) and 15€ (catégorie G) for an unobstructed view. This is a fabulous opportunity to discover this historic company founded in 1714.

**Tickets 6€ and up****[Mysteries, Secrets, and Lies with Karen McManus](#)****In Person at the Library****Sunday 10 March at 14h00 CET****Ages 12–adult**

Karen McManus is a *New York Times* and international best-selling author of young adult thrillers. Her work includes the *One of Us...* series, which was turned into a television show on Peacock and Netflix, as well as the novels *Two Can Keep a Secret*, *The Cousins*, *You'll Be the Death of Me*, and *Nothing More to Tell*.

McManus will be interviewed by a panel of teen Library members who will address her writing process, her complex characters, and the importance of young adult literature. A Q&A, book sale, and signing will follow the conversation.

Book sale after the event, thanks to [Smith&Son](#).

Free for members; 15€ at the door for non-members. RSVP required.

**RSVP to attend in person****REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud****[A Performance by Composer-in-Residence Nia Imani Franklin](#)****In Person at the Library****Tuesday 12 March at 19h30 CET**

Nia Imani Franklin is a classical composer and singer whose music has been performed by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Friction Quartet, Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and many others. In 2019 she won the title of Miss America and devoted her year of service to arts education advocacy.

Franklin is the inaugural Composer-in-Residence at the American Library in Paris.

[Reverberations](#) is organized in partnership with the Opéra Comique and with the generous support of Festival Napa Valley and the Florence Gould Foundation.

**RSVP to attend in person**



**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**  
**[Journeys in Sound and Sight](#)**  
**with [Dimitris Lyacos](#) and [Vanessa Onwuemezi](#)**  
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 13 March at 19h30 CET**

Join us for an evening of exchange between two contemporary poets: Dimitris Lyacos, author of the highly-esteemed *Poena Damni* trilogy and Vanessa Onwuemezi, Scholar of Note at the American Library in Paris. The conversation, moderated by writer Nafkote Tamirat, will explore the overlaps and divergences between Lyacos and Onwuemezi's poetic approaches and will center upon topics such as style, rhythm, setting, and musicality.

Considered a front-runner for a Nobel Prize in literature, Lyacos is among the most-translated contemporary Greek writers. Onwuemezi is both a poet and a prose fiction writer. During her time as a Scholar of Note at the American Library in Paris, Onwuemezi is conducting research into Antillean poetry and philosophy.



[Reverberations](#) is organized in partnership with the Opéra Comique and with the generous support of Festival Napa Valley and the Florence Gould Foundation.

**RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom**



**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**  
**[Strange Dreams: An Evening of Music](#)**  
**with Cultural Fellows [Missy Mazzoli](#) and [Royce Vavrek](#)**  
**In Person at the Library**  
**Thursday 14 March at 19h30 CET**

Following the success of their opera *Breaking the Waves*, which made its French debut at Opéra Comique last spring, Grammy-nominated composer Missy Mazzoli and Pulitzer Prize-winning librettist Royce Vavrek return to Paris as American Library in Paris Cultural Fellows.



In this exclusive preview concert, Mazzoli and Vavrek will present their compositions and speak about current projects. Soprano Amelia Watkins will perform arias from Mazzoli and Vavrek's last four operas, accompanied by Benjamin Alunni.

[Reverberations](#) is organized in partnership with the Opéra Comique and with the generous support of Festival Napa Valley and the Florence Gould Foundation.



[RSVP to attend in person](#)



**OFFSITE EVENT**

**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**  
[Ravel's \*L'Heure espagnole: Nocturne\*](#)  
 In Person at the [Opéra Comique](#)  
 Friday 15 March at 22h30 CET

From 9 to 19 March 2024, Reverberations partner the Opéra Comique is presenting a dual production of Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* and Ravel's *L'Heure espagnole*. The Opera Comique is offering the Library community special 10€ tickets to a *nocturne* performance of *L'Heure Espagnole* on Friday 15 March.

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

[Reserve your 10€ tickets to L'Heure Espagnole: Nocturne](#)



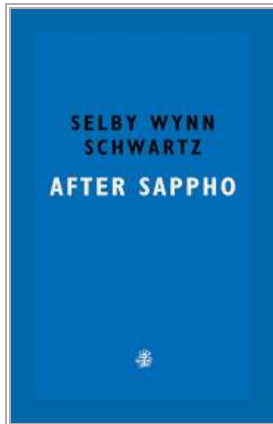
**REVERBERATIONS: Literature Out Loud**  
[An Opera Masterclass](#)  
[with Cultural Fellows Missy Mazzoli and Royce Vavrek](#)  
 In Person at the Library  
 Saturday 16 March at 15h00 CET

CALLING ALL COMPOSERS, LYRICISTS AND LIBRETTISTS IN PARIS!

Join Grammy-nominated composer Missy Mazzoli and Pulitzer Prize-winning librettist Royce Vavrek for a two-hour masterclass exploring theatrical writing for the voice. Artists working in contemporary opera, musical theater, art song, and performance art are welcome to apply.

- Composers should submit a score and/or documentation of one or two works that include voice. Audio files, video, YouTube videos, and Soundcloud links will be accepted.
- Lyricists and Librettists should submit up to ten pages of a libretto, or a collection of up to five stand-alone lyrics.

Free of charge. Open to all ages and experience levels. Class will be conducted in English. You must receive an acceptance email to attend.

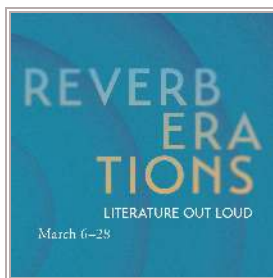
[Click to apply](#)

**[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](#)



**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 discuss the ongoing vitality of art and the challenges 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 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](#)



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

- How to Make Space with Kirsty Bell
- Vanessa Onwuezezi 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

### Children's Event Highlights

Open to Library members. Advance registration required.

[Story Hour: Bees and Butterflies](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 6 March at 14h30

[Toddler Time](#) (ages 1–3) Thursday 7 March at 11h00

[Counting Kindness with Hollis Kurman](#) (ages 0–12) Saturday 9 March at 11h00

[Story Hour: Go Green](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 13 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

### Event Highlights for Teens

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

[Teen Night: Classic Movie Night](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 8 March at 19h00

[Karen McManus on Writing Thrillers](#) (ages 12–adult) Sunday 10 March at 14h00

[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

[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.



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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.

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



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