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*e-Libris 6 September 2022*

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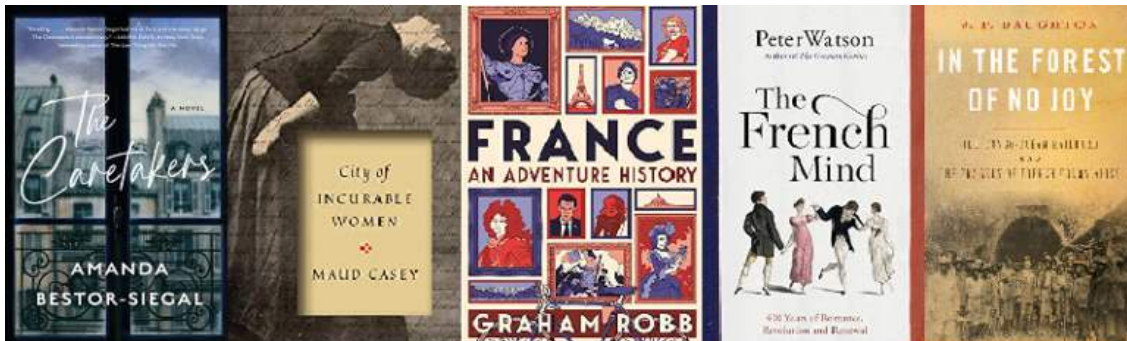
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Editor: Carolyn Dubol

**Save the Date: Book Award Ceremony 3 November**



The American Library in Paris Book Award ceremony returns to the Hôtel de Talleyrand on the evening of 3 November 2022. The prize's winner, chosen from a shortlist of five exceptional books, will be announced live during the Library's most important donor appreciation event of the year.

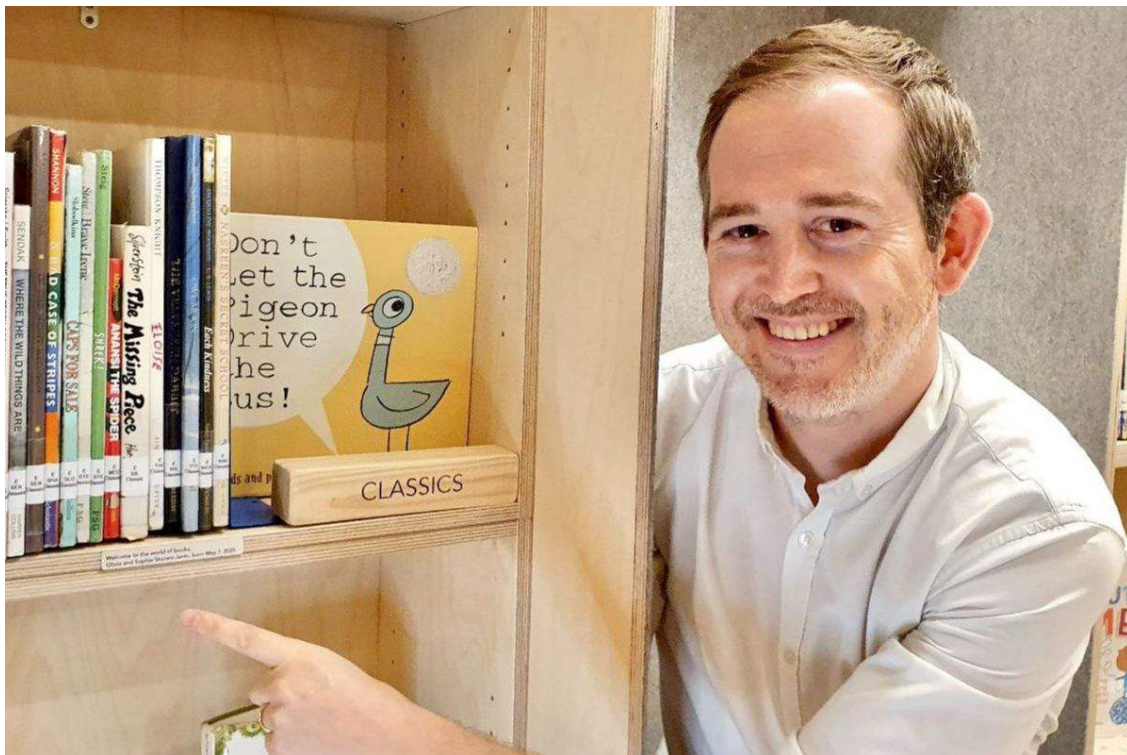
Invitations for the ceremony will be sent to all Library **supporters who have contributed 250€** over the past twelve months. If you have any questions about your eligibility, please contact Advancement Manager Morgan Wurzburger: [giving@americanlibraryinparis.org](mailto:giving@americanlibraryinparis.org).

If you would like to make a donation, please click below:

[Donate](#)

The Book Award is generously sponsored by the Florence Gould Foundation.

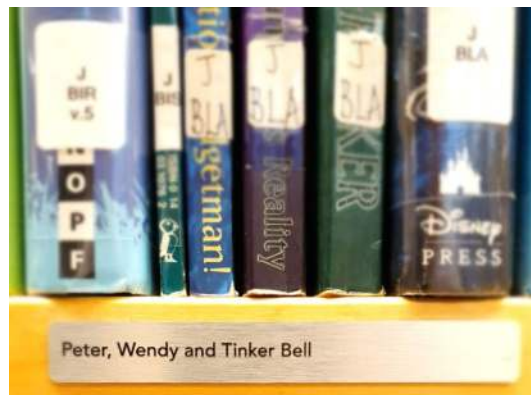
## Support the Library with a Plaque in the Stacks



Dedication plaques have started to appear in the stacks!

Personalized shelf dedications are still available with a 500€ donation to the Library. If you know a bibliophile who you would like to honor with a special plaque, please contact Advancement Manager Morgan Wurzburger to discuss your gift and your message:

[giving@americanlibraryinparis.org](mailto:giving@americanlibraryinparis.org)



## Fall Book Groups

If you are interested in joining one of our book groups, the following are accepting new members. Spots are limited, so please sign up soon.

For detailed information about all book groups, as well as **instructions on how to register**, please visit the [Library's website](#).

### The American Library in Paris Book Award

This group looks to past winners of the American Library in Paris Book Award. Exploring the perennially relevant relationship between the United States and France, the books will span many genres: fiction, historical fiction, and non-fiction.



### The Art of Reading: Norse, Nin, & Friends

The Art of Reading brings the spoken word to the fore. This group will explore a series of dialogues between Harold Norse's poetry and Anaïs Nin's prose.



### The Art of Writing: Look. Look Again... or Baldwin par Delaney

James Baldwin, a writer, and Beauford Delaney, a painter, were both relieved—to some extent—of the burden of their identities as 'Black' and 'queer' upon relocating to Paris from New York. This book group will consider Baldwin's Paris period through the lens of Delaney's portraits.



### Prize-Winning American and British Plays

Through reading and discussing plays, we confront characters and their dilemmas, societal problems, and the human condition. This group reads and discusses award-winning works of American and British theater.



### Explorations at the Limits of our Knowledge

This group will discuss texts that chronicle explorations outside of day-to-day human activities. Participants will delve into topics such as scientific discovery, the problem of consciousness, the origins of life on earth, and our responsibility to nature.



### French and American Encounters

This group reads non-fiction works about French and American history, and how the two countries have influenced each other. This fall we will read about environmental, geographic, and social history.



### Strangers in a Strange Land

Why do people journey into the unknown? Deliberate flight? Pursuit of a dream? Misfortune? This group reads novels in which the protagonists are geographically and/or spiritually far from home, exploring what prompted their journeys, and how the new lands shape the characters' lives.



### Contemporary French Fiction

This book group reads contemporary French fiction, not yet translated into English, as well as one 20th century French classic novel per term. Author talks and regular outings to see new French plays are also organized.



### Tackling Proust

*In Search of Lost Time*, Proust's masterpiece, has a reputation for difficulty that stops many from giving it a serious try. This group reads Volume I, *Swann's Way*, learning to navigate long sentences and cascading metaphors, and savoring Proust's delicious humor and intellect.




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## Back to School Book Display



Always wanted to learn to play chess? Interested in coding? Inspired to repair your kitchen faucet?

Come explore our book display in the Members' Lounge, celebrating the start of a new academic year. Member Services Assistant Claire has curated a selection of DIY and crafting manuals, cookbooks, histories, and technical guides from the Library's collection, to spark learning and creativity all year long.

As always, all displayed books are available for checkout.

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## 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.

Interested in helping the Library while you enjoy our evening events?

If you're available on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings, we invite you to apply online to become a Programs volunteer.



## TONIGHT

**Daniel Levin Becker**

**on *What's Good: Notes on Rap and Language***

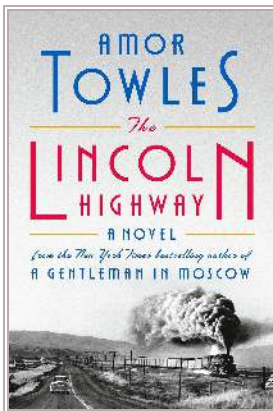
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**

**Tuesday 6 September at 19h30 CEST**

A life-long fan of hip-hop and a professional music critic, writer Daniel Levin Becker dives into the complex world of hip-hop in his newest book *What's Good: Notes on Rap and Language*. Analyzing lines of famous (and sometimes infamous) songs through cultural, philosophical, and historical lenses, Levin Becker reveals the complicated web of influences that go into crafting a rap single and explores topics ranging from misogyny and “hashtag rap” to drug dealing and the aesthetics of cool.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



**Amor Towles on *The Lincoln Highway***

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

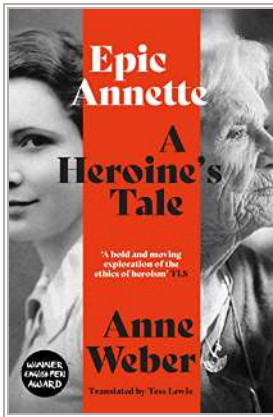
**Thursday 8 September at 19h30 CEST**

**Reception at the Library following the event**

Amor Towles's latest novel, *The Lincoln Highway*, is populated by a charming ensemble of misfits. When troubled teenager Emmett and his brother Billy make plans to leave their Nebraska farm behind for California, the road ahead quickly twists and deviates. Unexpected companions, petty crime, and a youthful spirit of adventure combine to transform a simple road trip into a high-stakes railway pursuit across the country.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



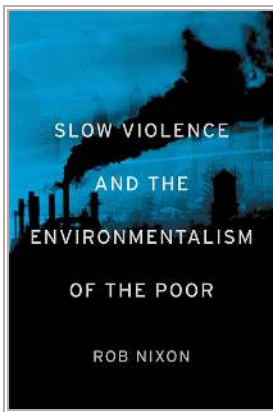
### [Anne Weber on \*Epic Annette\*](#)

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom**  
**Tuesday 13 September at 19h30 CEST**

*Epic Annette: A Heroine's Tale* details the miraculous and harrowing story of Annette Beaumanoir, a medical student whose involvement with the French Resistance during World War II and the Algerian FLN cemented her name in history. Weber seizes on Beaumanoir's gripping personal tale, including her exile from France and separation from her children, to explore the tragic conflict between political activism and familial obligation. Anne Weber will be in conversation with Tess Lewis, the English translator of her book.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



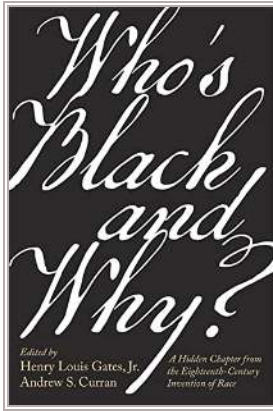
### [Rob Nixon on \*Environmental Justice and Slow Violence\*](#)

**Virtual Event: Streamed Live on Zoom**  
**Wednesday 14 September at 19h30 CEST**

From flooded Kentucky streets to a Portugal engulfed in flames, images of the climate crisis are used to underscore its urgency and communicate the scale of its devastation. Princeton scholar Rob Nixon, is equally interested in manifestations of climate change that are largely invisible and unspectacular. In his seminal 2011 work *Slow Violence and the Environmentalism of the Poor*, Nixon encourages us to look at the gradual processes of environmental harm which lead to catastrophic events. When we consider the unseen alongside the seen, new strategies for the fight against climate change emerge, and environmental justice becomes a more attainable goal.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



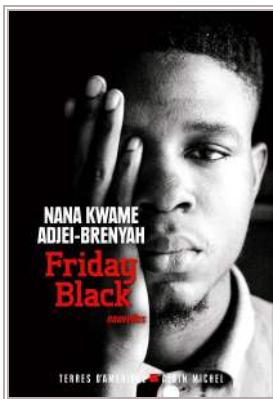
### [Andrew Curran on \*Who's Black and Why?\*](#)

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Tuesday 20 September at 19h30 CEST**

In 1739 the Bordeaux Royal Academy of Sciences held an essay competition on the scientific cause of 'blackness.' They received sixteen submissions. In 2022 editors Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Andrew S. Curran published these never-before-seen documents alongside a study of the birth of 'scientific racism.' Curran will be speaking at the Library on this curious 18th century competition, the history of race and racism, the relationship between science and the Enlightenment, and how these ideas relate to present day concepts of race.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



### [Festival America: Invisibles et Très Visibles with Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah and Viet Thanh Nguyen](#)

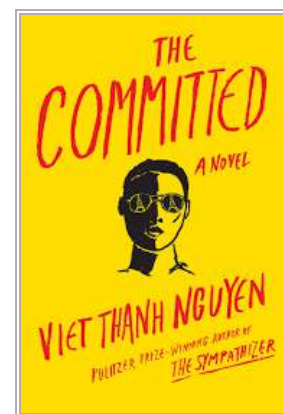
**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Wednesday 21 September at 19h30 CEST**

In partnership with Festival America, the Library will welcome authors Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah and Viet Thanh Nguyen for a discussion on visibility and invisibility in literature. Invisible as minorities, visible as stereotypes, and highly visible as threats, Asian Americans, like Black Americans, like First Nations Americans, constantly slip in and out of sight, rarely seen for who they are. How can literature disrupt this slippage? How can writing authentically illuminate the overlooked corners of society?

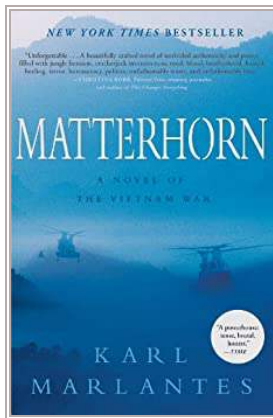
Equipped with humor and violence, theory and experience, the best literature exposes not only the hidden tensions of the world, but the hidden tensions of the reader herself. In exposing depths and wounds, literature which makes the invisible visible can be seen as a type of cure.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

This event is held in partnership with Festival America.



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



**Festival America: Politique de la Littérature**  
**with Jonathan Franzen, Karl Marlantes and Viet Thanh Nguyen**  
**In Person at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Vincennes**  
**Saturday 24 September at 18h15 CEST**

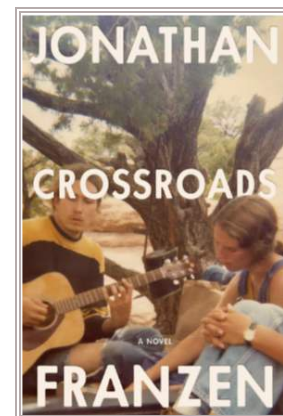
Note the special start time and location for this event.

In partnership with Festival America, we invite you to join Jonathan Franzen, Karl Marlantes, and Viet Thanh Nguyen for a panel on politics in literature. Writing a novel can be an eminently political gesture, whether one is denouncing infamy, reporting on unjust living conditions, or recounting a fight for justice. Like John Dos Passos, John Steinbeck, or Toni Morrison, writers of this camp do not intend to write to entertain, but rather to help open our eyes to the world as it is.

The authors will appear **in person** at the [Centre Georges Pompidou at 142 rue de Fontenay 94300 Vincennes](#).

This event requires the **advance purchase of a one- or two-day Pass** through the Festival America website.

Presented in partnership with Festival America.



[Purchase Festival America Pass](#)



**Festival America: L'Empire des sens**  
**with Marcial Gala, Brandon Taylor, and Bryan Washington**  
**In Person at the Maison des Associations in Vincennes**  
**Sunday 25 September at 15h45 CEST**

Note the special start time and location for this event.

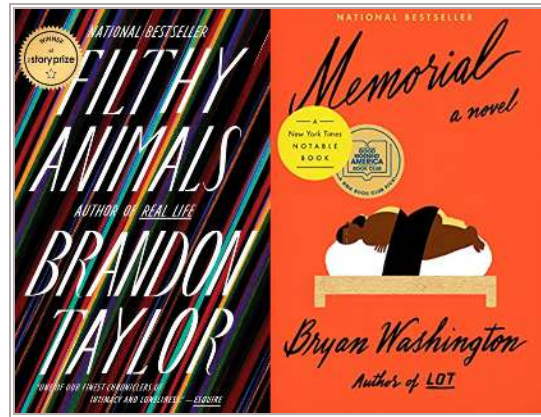
Festival America and the American Library in Paris invite you to join writers Marcial Gala, Brandon Taylor, and Bryan Washington as they discuss desire and the body in literature. From the famous denial of the senses performed by Descartes (in order to doubt his own identity) to the modern day, the relationship between sensation, embodiment, and writing has been at the center of literature and philosophy. How does writing give flesh to sensation? What is the bodily experience of writing?



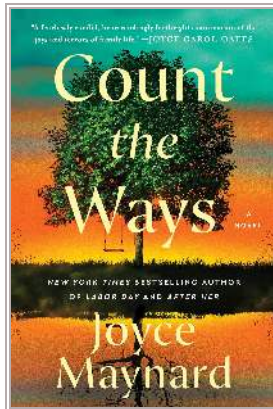
The authors will appear **in person** at the [Maison des Associations at 41 rue Raymond du Temple, 94300 Vincennes](#)

This event requires the **advance purchase of a one- or two-day Pass** through the Festival America website.

Presented in partnership with Festival America.



[Purchase Festival America Pass](#)



### [An Evening with Joyce Maynard](#)

**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Tuesday 27 September at 19h30 CEST**

Joyce Maynard is a renowned American author celebrated for her cool voice, clear gaze, and stylistic breadth. Over the course of her prolific career, she has authored eighteen books and has worked as a print and radio journalist, a syndicated columnist, a performer with The Moth, and a contributor to *Vogue*, the *New York Times Magazine*, and others. Her most recent novel is *Count the Ways*, published in 2021. She will speak to her writing process, the trajectory of her work, and a life dedicated to the written word.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



### [Who Lost Russia? with Peter Conradi](#)




**Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom  
Wednesday 28 September at 19h30 CEST**


In 2017 author and journalist Peter Conradi released *Who Lost Russia? How the World Entered a New Cold War*. The book offered expert analysis of Western policies toward Russia following the fall of the USSR and drew a straight line from the political and economic isolation of Russia to Putin's rise and determination to rebuild the Soviet empire. In 2022, with the invasion of Ukraine, Conradi saw his prediction confirmed. In an updated edition of the book, the author examines the war in the

context of Russia's post-Soviet history and Putin's authoritarian regime, considering the consequences for Europe and the world.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)

-  Past programs are on YouTube, including Visiting Fellow Ian Williams on Racialization and Disorientation and Colm Tóibín and Patrick Hastings on James Joyce's Ulysses.
-  Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.
-  Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming events and Evenings with an Author sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg.



**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.

## Kids' and Teens' News



Musician Matt Black of Rock U comes to the Library this fall!

## Programs for Children ages 0–12

We're excited to announce a full fall season of Story Hours, crafts, sing alongs, book groups, research workshops, and more.

Registration is required to attend any program, and attendees must be Library members to attend programs for children. To find out what's coming up next, check our [children's events calendar](#) and register early!

Caregivers should familiarize themselves with our [Children in the Library](#) policy.

### Upcoming events for kids:

- **Toddler Times** (ages 1–3), two Thursdays a month
- **Story Hours** (ages 3–5), Wednesday afternoons
- **Autumn Craft-Making** (ages 6–12), Saturday 10 September
- **Research Skills Workshop** (ages 8–12), Sunday 19 September
- **Bookworms Book Club** (ages 9–12), *The Last Cuentista*, Saturday 24 September
- **Silly Songs with Matt Black** (all ages), Saturday 24 September

### Writing Workshop for Middle School Students (ages 11–15) with *New York Times*-bestselling author Rosemary Wells

**When:** Wednesday 2 November through  
Saturday 5 November  
10h00–13h30 each day over four days  
during the Toussaint school break

**Location:** The American Library in Paris

**Cost:** 300 €

**Register:** Contact Barbara Moross:  
[barbaramoross@gmail.com](mailto:barbaramoross@gmail.com)



This special, multi-day workshop is ideal for middle school students who want to improve their writing skills, as well as for accomplished student writers who just love to write.

Award-winning children's author and illustrator Rosemary Wells will be assisted by educator Barbara Moross, former Principal of the Lower School, American Section—Lycée International, and currently a reading and writing tutor.

The workshop is limited to 10 participants.  
Sign-up is open exclusively to American Library members until 15 September.

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## Programs for Teens ages 12–18

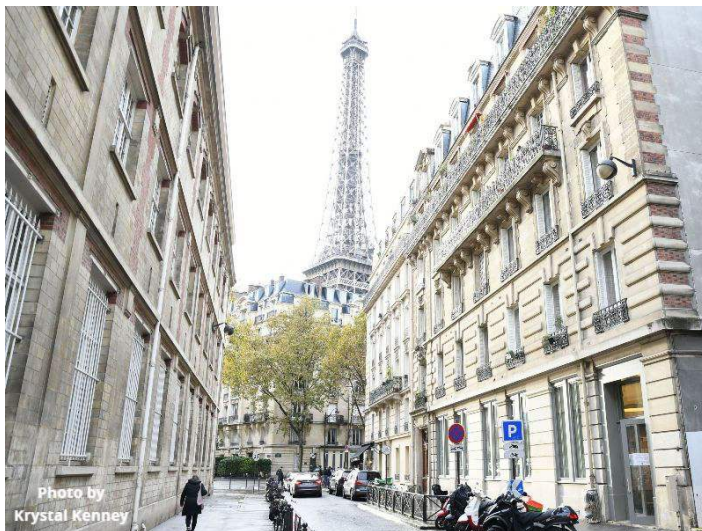
- **Rock Trivia with Matt Black** on Friday 9 September
- **Paper Cutting Workshop with Shaline Laval** on Friday 16 September
- **Scrap Poetry Workshop** on Saturday 17 September

Visit our website to see our full [teen events calendar](#)!

If you're just looking for a space to hang out, teen members can make themselves comfortable on our expanded [Teen Mezzanine](#), browse the hundreds of titles in our Young Adult collections, or study in the Atelier.

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## 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

DONATE

VOLUNTEER

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.

**BECOME A LIBRARY MEMBER**

**[www.americanlibraryinparis.org](http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org)**



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