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The American Library in Paris

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Editor: Carolyn Dubol

Reading Recommendations for Library Members

Looking for a gripping read on a specific topic, but don't have an exact title in mind? Do you have a favorite author, and want to discover new writers with a similar style? Library members have exclusive access to **NovelList Plus**, a readers' advisory platform that recommends fiction and non-fiction titles for all ages.

The NoveList Plus database, built by professional librarians, prompts readers to mix-and-match appeal, genre, and theme keywords to receive a curated list of recommended titles. NoveList Plus links back to the Library's [catalog](#), so you can quickly see if the book you want is available to borrow.

What if the book you're looking for is already checked out? Just place a hold on the item, then click the "**Similar Titles Available Now**" link in our online catalog. You'll find "read-alikes" that are currently on our shelves.

To try out this resource, go to the [e-sources page](#) of the Library's catalog, then click on the NoveList icon.



YAFF 2023: Send in Your Short Stories!

The [Young Authors Fiction Festival \(YAFF\)](#), the Library's short story writing contest, is accepting applications now through **1 April 2023**. YAFF is free of charge and open to all students ages 5–18 who live in France and write in English.



Are you a young writer looking for inspiration? Children and teens who are working on their YAFF short stories can find writing prompts, advice from professionals, how-to guides, and more in the Library's collections. We're also offering workshops for young writers.

Visit the [Library's event calendar](#) to register for a writing workshop, and stop by the Children's and Teens' Services Desk to ask for resources to help you outline, edit, and refine your short story.



Children's and Teens' Services Manager Celeste Rhoads shares our resources for young writers.

Visiting Fellowship Now Accepting Applications



The Library's [Visiting Fellowship](#) is now accepting applications. The deadline to apply for the 2023–2024 cycle is **1 April 2023**.

The Visiting Fellowship was created in 2013 to nurture and sustain a heritage as old as the Library itself: deepening French-American understanding. The Visiting Fellowship offers writers, researchers, thinkers, and makers an opportunity to pursue a creative project in Paris for a month or longer, while participating actively in the life of the American Library.

[APPLY NOW](#)

The Visiting Fellowship is made possible through the generous support of The de Groot Foundation.

The Library is Hiring

The Library is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

**Communications and Marketing
Assistant
(CDD)**

**Start date: Immediately
Weekly hours: 17.5 hours**

**Development Assistant
(CDD)**

**Start date: Immediately
Weekly hours: 17.5 hours
Occasional evening hours**

Applications are being reviewed on a rolling basis, so interested candidates should apply quickly. You must have valid European working papers to apply. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an in-person interview.

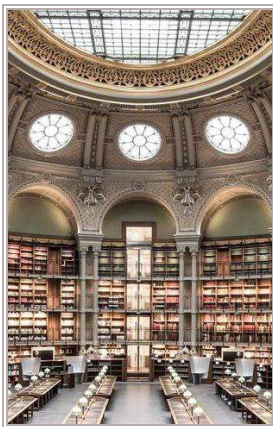
As always, if you are looking for work experience or would be willing to donate some of your time, we have a variety of [volunteer](#) opportunities.

If you are a student looking for an internship position at the Library, please have look at our current [internship](#) opportunities.

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.



TONIGHT

**Laurence Engel and Elaine Sciolino
on the Bibliothèque 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 Bibliothèque 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 Bibliothèque 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



[Breaking the Silence on Sex with Nana Darkoa Sekyiamah](#)

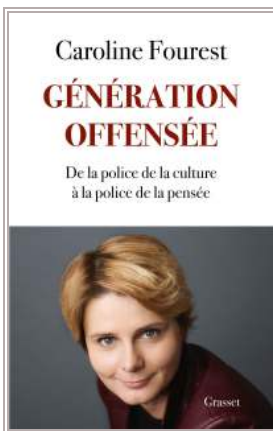
Online Event: Live on Zoom

Tuesday 14 February at 19h30 CET

In the groundbreaking work *The Sex Lives of African Women*, author and activist Nana Darkoa Sekyiamah does away with imposed silences and cultural taboos to investigate identity, gender, and expression through sex. Assembling interviews with Black and Afro-descendant women from a wide age range and over thirty countries, Sekyiamah creates a space for women to share their sexual experiences and walk a path toward self-discovery and sexual freedom.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



[Caroline Fourest on the "Offended Generation"](#)

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

Wednesday 15 February at 19h30 CET

In her polemic treatise *Génération Offensée*, author Caroline Fourest outlines the biggest threat currently facing the intellectual left: itself. From canceling Dostoevsky to firing professors at will, Fourest uncovers the self-cannibalizing instinct at the heart of leftism which, she argues, is eating the movement from the inside. This fight against offense has finally arrived in France, bringing with it its entourage of cultural-police-turned-thought-police. Rejecting nostalgia for the past, Fourest proposes a simultaneously feminist, antiracist, and universalist path forward.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



[Critical Conversations Meeting Four: Wonderment](#)

In Person at the Library

Thursday 16 February at 19h00 CET

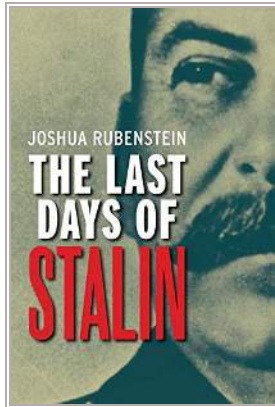
Please note the special start time for this event.

Does the efficiency underpinning a digital lifestyle invite or hinder the wide-eyed state we call wonder? Most would agree that wonderment is a state of mind which cannot be called up at will. But do certain conditions encourage or obstruct it? Is wonderment harder to come by in modernity, as we move away from traditions of magic and mystery? Join Critical Conversations, the Library's expert-led discussion series, as we ponder the

Calling All Writers! Visiting Fellowship and YAFF Submissions Open
most important issues of our time.

Registration required.

[Register for Critical Conversations](#)



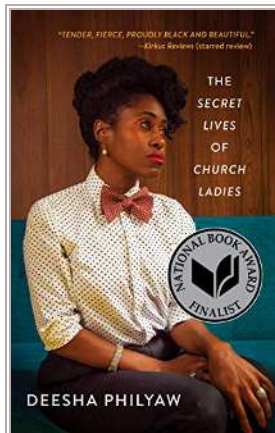
[Joshua Rubenstein on *The Last Days of Stalin*](#)

Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Tuesday 21 February at 19h30 CET

In 1952, Stalin terrorized the USSR with his seemingly limitless power. Within three months of 1953, he was dead. In *The Last Days of Stalin*, historian Joshua Rubenstein uncovers Stalin's final months and the surprising policy shifts and missed diplomatic opportunities between the Eisenhower administration and the Soviet regime in the post-Stalin era. The author will be in conversation with Russia expert Peter Conradi.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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



[Deesha Philyaw on *The Secret Lives of Church Ladies*](#)

Online Event: Live on Zoom
Wednesday 22 February at 19h30 CET

The Secret Lives of Church Ladies, the debut short story collection from Deesha Philyaw, places Black female desire on proud display. Currently being adapted for television by HBO Max, the work is populated by a rich cast of voices spanning multiple generations in the American South. Exploring the varied intersections of religion and sexuality, from trysts with pastors to suppressed queer attraction, the stories celebrate women who learn what it means to want.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

[RSVP to attend on Zoom](#)



Ecologues Meeting Two: Environmental Justice

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

Thursday 23 February at 19h00 CET

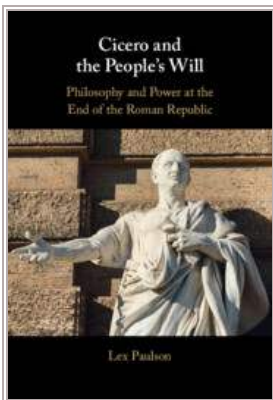
Please note the special start time for this event.

What is environmental justice? How do we ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies?

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



Lex Paulson on Philosophy and Power

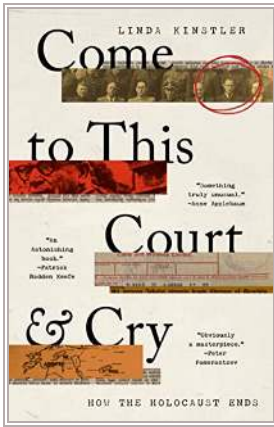
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom

Tuesday 28 February at 19h30 CET

At the center of Western philosophy stands the fraught notion of will. What does it mean to will something? What is the will's relation to action, power, good, and evil? Are we masters of our wills, or does the will master us? Historian Lex Paulson has identified an overlooked moment in the development of the concept of will: Cicero's adaptation of Greek philosophy to the Roman state. Confronting political turmoil and a changing social landscape, Cicero revolutionized the idea of will, providing new channels for understanding human nature, freedom, and politics.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

RSVP to attend in person or on Zoom





[Linda Kinstler on the Haunting of History](#)
Hybrid Event: In Person at the Library; Live on Zoom
Wednesday 1 March at 19h30 CET

In Linda Kinstler’s *Come to This Court and Cry*, family and international history intertwine in an investigation of a Latvian Nazi killing squad. Kinstler, the granddaughter of a member of this group, denounces the decades of revisionism which have tried to erase historical reality and shows the world’s failure to reckon with the Holocaust. Kinstler will appear in conversation with journalist Madeleine Schwartz.

Free and open to the public. Registration required.

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

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 Past programs are on YouTube, including Ann Johnson and Robinne Lee on *Light Skin Gone to Waste*; Looking to Sea with Lily Le Brun; *Ecologues: What is the Climate Crisis?*; Barnabas Calder on *Architecture and Energy*; and *Zimbabwe Yesterday and Today* with Lucy Mushita and Kidi Bebey.



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



Need help picking your next read? Children's and Teens' Assistant Librarian Jason Hazard shares tips on choosing your next book!

Children's Event Highlights:

[D.I.Y. Valentines](#) ❤️

(ages 3–12) Saturday 11 February at 11h00

[This is Not a Box](#) (ages 0–12) Saturday 18 February at 11h00

[Bookworms Book Club:](#)

Flying Lessons & Other Stories (ages 9–12) Saturday 25 February at 11h00

Upcoming Teen Events:

[Crash Course in Researching](#) (ages 12–18) Sunday 12 February at 14h00

[Dystopian Worlds: A Book Club](#) (ages 12–18) Saturday 18 February at 14h00

[Pizza and Game Night](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 3 March at 19h00

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



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