



The
American
Library
in Paris

e-Libris

Dispatches from the Library

12 November 2024

Featured in this edition of e-Libris: Librarian of Congress, Book Award, board games coming to the Library, and a spotlight on Algerian art and literature.

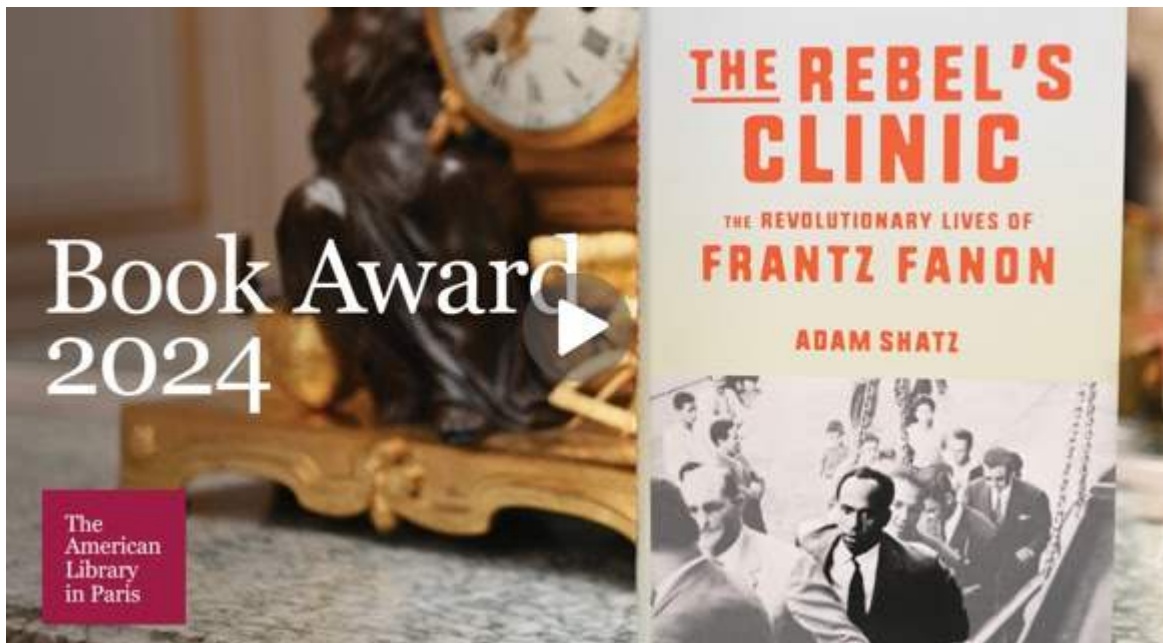
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Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden visits the Library

On 7 November, our Library had the immense honor of welcoming Dr. Carla Hayden, the 14th Librarian of Congress. Appointed by President Obama, Dr. Hayden is the highest-ranking librarian in the United States and overseer of the world's largest library.

Dr. Hayden spent the morning with our staff and Executive Director, Audrey Chapuis, engaging in dynamic discussions about the American Library in Paris's rich history and the future of librarianship. Dr. Hayden's visit was a beacon of hope, highlighting the vital role libraries play in empowering communities and fostering positive change.





2024 Book Award: Adam Shatz Honored for *The Rebel's Clinic*

We're thrilled to announce that Adam Shatz has won the **2024 American Library in Paris Book Award** for *The Rebel's Clinic: The Revolutionary Lives of Frantz Fanon*. Library supporters gathered at the George C. Marshall Center on 7 November for the ceremony, which included speeches from the Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden and our Executive Director Audrey Chapuis.

A resounding theme of the night was our Library's founding 1920 motto: "Out of the darkness of war, the light of books." Watch the [video highlights](#), view the [photo album](#), and [read more about the Book Award here](#).



Watch Executive Director Audrey Chapuis Discuss the Prix Goncourt on *France 24*

On 4 November, our [Executive Director Audrey Chapuis](#) appeared on [France 24](#) to discuss Kamel Daoud's *Houris*, the newly announced winner of the **Prix Goncourt**. Chapuis discussed Daoud's "challenging, intense take" on Algeria's 1990s civil war, highlighting his

"tight, journalistic prose and psychological insights" that offer a "deeply philosophical, psychological, and social exploration."

Interested in Daoud's work? Check out *The Meursault Investigation*, [available in our catalogue](#).

Cultural Programs

**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.



Our cultural programming is made possible by GRoW @ Annenberg, as well as The de Groot Foundation, the Florence Gould Foundation, and the enduring legacy of the American Center for Art & Culture.

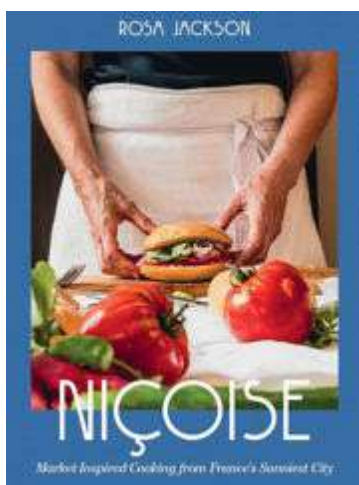


Giraffe Mania: Paris as City of Natural History with Scholar of Note A. Kendra Greene

Hybrid: In-Person at the Library or Live on Zoom
Wednesday, 13 November at 19h30 CEST

As we near the 200th anniversary of the journey to Paris from Africa of Zarafa, the first giraffe in Europe since the time of the Medicis, join writer and illustrator **A. Kendra Greene** for an essayist's illumination of curiosity and encounter, from medieval reports of the camelopard to the first photographic evidence of ghost giraffes.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom



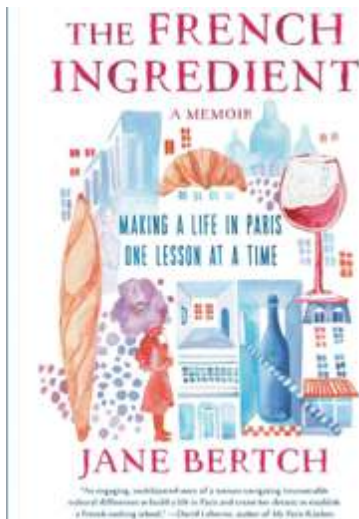
French Cooking with an American Touch with Rosa Jackson, Jane Bertch, and Alec Lobrano

Hybrid: In-Person at the Library or Live on Zoom
Tuesday, 19 November at 19h30 CEST

After working as a food journalist, **Rosa Jackson** moved to Paris in 1995 and began the city's first company to offer tours of Parisian food markets. She has lived in Nice since 2004, choosing the city for its unique culinary culture. Her new cookbook, *Niçoise*, explores the beauty and bounty of food between the Alps and the Mediterranean.

Having spent more than a decade working in the financial services industry, including several years in the Paris office, **Jane Bertch** decided to pursue entrepreneurial endeavors. In 2009 she founded one of the largest nonprofessional culinary schools in France, La Cuisine Paris. Her new memoir, *The French Ingredient*, documents her audacity, as an American, to begin a cooking school in Paris.

This conversation will be moderated by **Alec Lobrano**.



RSVP for In-Person or Zoom



The Body Is a Battleground with Fernanda Eberstadt and Benjamin Moser

Hybrid: In-Person at the Library or Live on Zoom
Wednesday, 20 November at 19h30 CEST

Part memoir, part history, *Bite Your Friends: Stories of the Body Militant* explores the lives of a handful of outrageously brave men and women—saints, philosophers, artists—who have used their own wounded or stigmatized bodies to challenge society.

From the time of the Ancient Greek thinkers, to anti-Putin demonstrators, and even in the life of the author's mother, **Fernanda Eberstadt** investigates how advocates have literally put their bodies on the line to further their causes.

This event will be moderated by **Benjamin Moser**.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom



Wiseman's Ex Libris: The New York Public Library

In-Person at the Library
Tuesday, 26 November at 18h00 CEST

As part of "**Frederick Wiseman**, nos humanités • Chapitre 1", a retrospective with la Bibliothèque publique d'information du Centre Pompidou, join us for a screening of *Ex Libris*, Wiseman's renowned film on the New York Public Library.

Behind the scenes of one of the greatest knowledge institutions in the world: the New York Public Library. The Library strives to inspire learning, advance knowledge and strengthen communities. It is one of the most democratic institutions in America - everyone is welcome.

RSVP



The Real Fictional Housewives of Silicon Valley with novelists Kirstin Chen and Colombe Schneck

Hybrid: In-Person at the Library or Live on Zoom

Wednesday, 27 November at 19h30 CEST

Delve into the myth of genius perpetuated by the tech industry and its destructive consequences. This discussion will explore themes of sanctioned vs. unsanctioned criminality, the complicity of tech wives in their partners' dominance, and our collective roles as consumers of technology, highlighting the urgent need to resist the unchecked power of Big Tech.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom



Roundtable: Takeaways of the U.S. Election

Hybrid: In-Person at the Library or Live on Zoom

Tuesday, 3 December at 19h00 CEST

A panel of four top journalists from the United States and France parse the results of the U.S. elections. This event is in partnership with the Overseas Press Club.

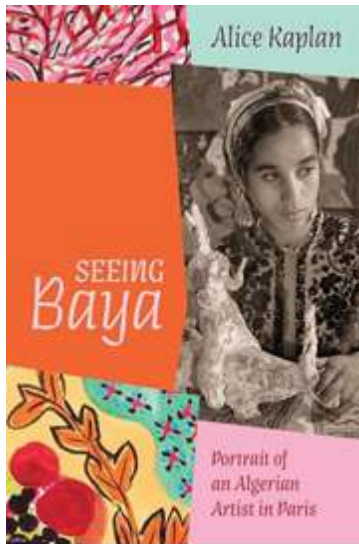
About the moderator:

Vivienne Walt is a Paris correspondent for *TIME Magazine* and *Fortune Magazine* who has covered French right-wing politics, including *TIME* profiles on Jordan Bardella and Marine Le Pen. Her work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *National Geographic*, *BusinessWeek*, and more. She is a governor of the Overseas Press Club of America.

About the Overseas Press Club:

The Overseas Press Club of America is the nation's oldest and largest association of journalists engaged in international news. Every year, it awards the most prestigious prizes devoted exclusively to international news coverage. It was founded in 1939 by nine foreign correspondents in New York City, and has grown to nearly 400 members worldwide. The club's mission is to uphold the highest standards in news reporting, advance press freedom and promote good fellowship among colleagues while educating a new generation of journalists.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom



Baya, an Algerian Outsider Artist in Post-War Paris with Alice Kaplan and James McAuley

Hybrid: In-Person at the Library or Live on Zoom

Wednesday, 11 December at 19h30 CEST

In the first biography of Baya, Yale professor **Alice Kaplan** recounts how this young woman seemingly trapped in subsistence farming became a sensation in Paris in 1947, then mysteriously faded from the history of modern art—only to reemerge after independence as an icon of Algerian artistic heritage.

This event will be moderated by Marshall Scholar and D.Phil. Candidate at the University of Oxford **James McAuley**.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom



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

History Tours for November and December



The Library's popular expert-led History Tours continue this fall!

Sign up now for our Tours on 15 November, 22 November (1920s Edition), 6 December, and 13 December, all Fridays at 11h00. Please don't wait to register, as the Tours will fill up quickly.

Tours are free and open to the public, and will take you on a deep dive into the Library's fascinating 104-year history. Follow the librarians who distributed books to the Doughboys fighting alongside Allied troops in WWI; learn about the famous writers of the Lost Generation who explored our stacks during their time in Paris; and discover the true stories of the brave staff who kept the Library open during the Occupation of WWII.

[Attend a History Tour](#)

Support Vision 2027: Plan Your End-of-Year Gift Now

Support the Library and [Vision 2027](#) with end-of-year giving. Vision 2027 is the Library's ambitious three-year plan to expand access to knowledge, foster cultural exchange, and inspire creativity.

You may wish to donate with a Donor-Advised Fund. Setting up these charitable investment accounts and transferring shares of stock may take some time, so contact Morgan Wurzburger at giving@americanlibraryinparis.org for guidance on how to take advantage of this program.

[Donate](#)

[Vision 2027](#)

Board Games Coming Your Way

Board games are coming to the American Library in Paris! From 26 November, members will be able to borrow a game from our circulating collection to take home and play. From classics such as *Clue*, *Scrabble* and *Catan*, to fun party games like *Exploding Kittens* and *Really Loud Librarians*, come and see what takes your fancy. Ask at the Member Services desk for information about borrowing limits and loan periods.



Children and Teens



Cardboard Constructions

Who makes up a community? Participants in last Saturday's workshop on cardboard sculptures discussed this question with Children's and Teens' Services Intern Zara Lees. After the group discussion, children varying in age from 6 through 12 designed structures from space centers to pharmacies as they created a model of a community on a small scale using recycled materials. We are happy to report that libraries took a central role in the community for these young citizens!

Children's event highlights

[Story Hour: Science and Scientists \(ages 3–5\)](#) Wednesday 13 November at 14h30
[Silly Songs with Matt Black \(all ages\)](#) Saturday 16 November at 11h00
[Story Hour: Thanksgiving \(ages 3–5\)](#) Wednesday 20 November at 14h30
[Toddler Time \(ages 1–3\)](#) Thursday 21 November at 11h00
[Story Hour: Knock, Knock! \(ages 3–5\)](#) Wednesday 27 November at 14h30
[Music Together with Stacey Pavesi Debré \(ages 0–5\)](#) Saturday 30 November at 14h00

Teen event highlights (for ages 12–18)

[Messy Art Night \(ages 12–18\)](#) Friday 15 November at 19h00
[Writing a College Admission Essay with Cathy Altman Noquet \(ages 14–18\)](#) Sunday 17 November at 15h00
[Free Write: A Creative Writing Workshop \(ages 12–18\)](#) Saturday 14 December at 14h00



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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American Library in Paris

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