

The
American
Library
in Paris

PARTNER
WITH OUR
NEW VISION

“Perhaps no other thing possesses that mystic faculty of a book to make people see a little bit with other people’s eyes.”

Dorothy Reeder, Director of
The American Library in Paris, 1936



Mission

As the American Library in Paris approaches its 105th anniversary, we stand at a pivotal moment in our history. With Vision 2027, our ambitious new strategic plan, we honor our storied past while charting a course for an even brighter future. This plan, made possible by the historic support of The American Center for Art and Culture, represents our commitment to deepening cultural connections, expanding access to knowledge, and inspiring creativity as a home for the thoughtful and curious in Paris and beyond.

Vision 2027 is built on four pillars: *Illuminate*, *Champion*, *Empower*, and *Ignite*. These pillars will guide us as we bring history to life through expanded archives and exhibits, foster cross-disciplinary cultural dialogues with new partnerships and fellowships, increase access to our resources for underserved communities, and spark lifelong learning through programs for readers and writers of all ages.

Bringing Vision 2027 to life requires the support of individuals and organizations who share our passion for the power of stories, ideas, and cultural exchange. As we embark on this next chapter, we are actively seeking sponsors and partners who believe in the Library's mission and wish to support these initiatives.

Your generosity can make a lasting impact. By sponsoring Vision 2027, you can help us expand programs like the Young Authors Fiction Festival, support emerging artists and writers through fellowships, and ensure access to the Library's world-class resources.

We invite you to join us in this new chapter. Together, we can *Illuminate*, *Champion*, *Empower*, and *Ignite* a vibrant future for the American Library in Paris.

Audrey Chapuis,
Executive Director



Jill Le Grand,
Chair of the Board of Trustees



1920

During the closing years of World War I, when the United States entered the conflict, hundreds of American libraries launched the Library War Service, a massive project to send books to the soldiers fighting in the trenches. In 1920, with a core collection of those wartime books, the American Library in Paris was founded with the motto: *Atrum post bellum, ex libris lux: After the darkness of war, the light of books.*

Today

Over 100 years later, the Library has since grown into the largest English-language lending library on the European continent, with more than 100,000 print books and periodicals, an extensive offering of digital resources, over 5,000 members, and 300 events throughout the year.

2027

In September 2024, the American Library in Paris unveiled Vision 2027, a three-year strategic plan to enhance the Library's impact and outreach from now to 2027. The plan centers on four key streams of action: *Illuminate*, *Champion*, *Empower*, and *Ignite*—each aimed at deepening the Library's connection with its local and global communities, fostering greater engagement, and expanding access to its services.



Partner with the American Library in Paris Vision 2027

Promote philanthropic goodwill within our community and make a real difference.

The Library receives no regular government funding, so your sponsorship will make a direct impact on the programs and resources that the Library can offer.

Align your values with an organization that promotes youth literacy and education.

As the largest English-language lending library on the European continent, the Library hosts over 200 programs for youth and has partnerships with over 50 Paris-based schools.

Work with the Library team to support a creative project that is unique to our Vision 2027 plan.

The three-year strategic plan features new initiatives for enhancing the American Library in Paris's impact and outreach. Become one of the first headlining sponsors for these new events and programs.

Market your organization to an international, Anglophone, and culturally engaged audience.

The Library has over 5,000 members, a mix of American, French, and global citizens. With over 83,000 visits to the Library each year, sponsorship will allow you to engage with our active and dedicated members.

Tax Benefits

France: The American Library in Paris is an *organisme d'intérêt général* for French tax purposes. Donations are eligible for a tax credit as provided for by French *CGI articles 200 and 238 bis*.

USA: The American Library in Paris Incorporated is a public charity under IRS section 501(c)(3). All contributions are deductible for U.S. income tax purposes.





VISION ILLUMINATE
2027 CHAMPION
EMPOWER
IGNITE

EXPANDING HORIZONS FOR THE AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS

This vision is made possible by a transformative gift from the American Center for Art and Culture, enabling us to expand our conversations, reach new audiences, and instill a love of lifelong learning, literature, and culture among an ever-expanding local and global community.

ILLUMINATE

Archives & Immersive Exhibits

*Make history accessible and engaging
for everyone*



HISTORY TOURS

Become a naming sponsor of our History Tours, allowing us to build upon their success by increasing the frequency and diversifying the themes of these educational, interactive talks. Sponsoring the Tours aligns your brand with education and cultural enrichment, and connects with diverse audiences who appreciate Franco-American history.

CURATED EXHIBITS

Play a crucial role in publicly showcasing historical narratives and cultural artifacts, providing educational and inspiring experiences for our community.

LIBRARY'S ARCHIVAL DIGITIZATION

Help digitize and protect important documents and photographs, making them available to scholars, students, and the public for generations to come.

CHAMPION

Cross-Disciplinary Cultural
Programming and Fellowships

Expand the reach of cultural programming



CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

Support the next generation of cultural leaders by contributing to our Cultural Fellowship Endowment Fund. Foster innovation among artists, writers, and thinkers, and help shape the cultural conversation in Paris and beyond. Your sponsorship ensures that our cultural programming remains dynamic and thought-provoking for years to come.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOPS

Bringing together the worlds of literature, visual arts, cinema, Library workshops engage audiences in innovative ways and provide a platform for diverse voices.

CURATOR'S CIRCLE: PREMIER CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

Help shape the cultural dialogue by funding high-profile events that attract internationally renowned authors, artists, and thinkers.



ANNUAL GALA

The annual Gala dinner is the Library's most important event of the year and, as a fundraiser, accounts for half of our annual donations. Over 250 supporters come together to celebrate the Library during an evening featuring a cocktail reception, a dinner, and a lineup of speakers discussing literature, journalism, and their love of the written word. Previous Gala speakers include Salman Rushdie, Maureen Dowd, Zadie Smith, Andrew Sean Greer, Ann Patchett, Martin Amis, Stacy Schiff, John Irving, Joyce Carol Oates, Michael Chabon and Ayelet Waldman.



BOOK AWARD CEREMONY

The American Library in Paris Book Award was launched in 2013 and honors a title that best realizes new and intellectually significant ideas about France, the French people, or encounters with French culture. The winner of the Book Award is announced annually at the Book Award ceremony in November. This event is the Library's most important donor appreciation event of the year and brings together our community of supporters, partners, board members, and writers.





LES ANNÉES FOLLES

An annual party that celebrates the Library's 100+ year history in Paris and the literary legends of the Lost Generation. The Library's most entertaining night of the year, guests enter the iconic La Coupole dance hall, and are transported back to the 1920s with a live jazz quartet, dancing, and entertainment. Guests rub elbows with writers and historians specialized in the era's literary history, and learn more about the Library's storied relationships with Lost Generation writers and artists.



EVENINGS WITH AN AUTHOR

Evenings with an Author, sponsored by GRoW @ Annenberg, is a virtual and in-person conversation series that provides a platform for a diverse range of scholars, intellectuals, authors, and artists. These programs reflect the American Library's commitment to open dialogue and lifelong learning, as well as to bridging the conversation between Europe and the United States. Annually, nearly 5,000 people attend over 100 events held both in the Library and offsite. We are proud to regularly partner with organizations such as the London Library, Opera Comique, Columbia Global Centers | Paris, the Institute for Ideas and Imagination, the Overseas Press Club, and the Center for Fiction.



EMPOWER

Community Outreach & Social Impact

Increase access for underserved communities



SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE "ON THE ROAD" IMPACT PARTNERSHIP

You can support the extension of our "On the Road" program through our first impact partnership. This initiative will bring the Library's rich programming to new audiences outside of Paris who will benefit from English-language materials and the expertise of our dedicated librarians, artists, and writers. The partnership will focus on collaborating with local organizations, offering a range of activities from writing and art workshops in English to engaging author talks.

EMPOWERING VOICES: SPONSORED MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Connect emerging writers, scholars, and thinkers with essential Library services. Donors can directly contribute to a thriving community where everyone has the opportunity to access our rich array of resources and cultural programs.

IGNITE

Lifelong Learning & Creative Enrichment

*Support educational offerings that
promote a love of learning*



YOUNG AUTHORS FICTION FESTIVAL

YAFF stands alone as the only creative writing initiative aiming to strengthen the English-speaking community through the art and craft of storytelling. Entry is free of charge and open to all students ages 5-18 who live in France and write in English. In 2024, YAFF received over 1,000 submissions from 65 schools.

As a sponsor, you will directly impact the reach of this event, providing essential resources for young writers. Your investment will help nurture emerging literary talents, offering them a platform to develop and showcase their creativity. Your support ensures that these young authors receive the recognition and encouragement they need to pursue their writing endeavors.

LIBRARIAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Enable our librarians to learn from their peers in the US, which will facilitate professional development, provide our team with valuable insights, and maintain a high standard of service at the Library.

BOOK FUND PROGRAM

Directly fund the purchase of books in specific subject areas, ensuring our collection remains current and diverse. Your support keeps our library vibrant and responsive to the ever-changing needs of our patrons.



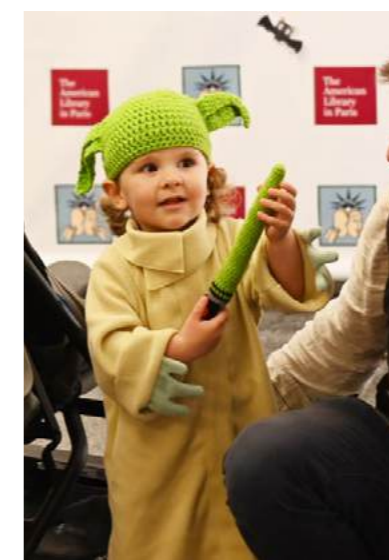
STORY HOUR

One of the Library's most popular programs for children is our Story Hour, where children and their parents join the Library staff for an hour of fiction, facts, and fun. Entirely in English, without translation, this interactive program actively engages children with stories the librarian reads aloud, sings, and hand-rhymes. The Library's child programming is attended by members over 5,000 times per year, and is at full capacity for nearly every program.



HALLOWEEN

The biggest community event of the year, the Library's Halloween Extravaganza is a day-long event that spreads across much of the 7th arrondissement. Attended by over 1,000 children and adults, the event includes a neighborhood trick-or-treat, live musical performances, a haunted Library, a silent disco, as well as games and surprises throughout the day. This celebration is considered by many as the best Halloween party in Paris.





“In addition to scholarly writing, my time at the Library was hugely enriching and productive for the conversations and other opportunities it made possible. I met activists, philosophers, students, library colleagues and others whose conversations continue to revisit and inspire me. I was continuously impressed by what a vibrant centre for cultural events and intercultural conversations the American Library is.”

Kate Kirkpatrick,
2022—23 Visiting Fellow



“As someone who writes often, having an external motivator to write a short story with specific parameters such as YAFF is extremely helpful for me. Being able to have my work judged and published was also a really amazing experience for me; seeing my short story in a book on the library shelves was hugely motivating and it was very encouraging to know that people enjoyed my writing.”

Zara Reid Hodson,
2024 YAFF 1st place prize

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