



The
American
Library
in Paris

e-Libris

Dispatches from the Library

4 February 2025

Featured in this edition of e-Libris: *Ways of Seeing*, Visiting Fellowship, *Les Années Folles* and History Tours, Young Authors Fiction Festival, and more.

Vision 2027: *Seeing Through Stories*



At a recent Evening with an Author, Maylis de Kerangal shared something that has stayed with me: “I need novels to see.” As readers know, fiction isn’t just entertainment—it’s a lens, a map, a way of understanding the world. “Fiction is always alive,” she said, and “we need novels to access knowledge.” Her words deeply resonate with the work we do at the Library—curating collections, nurturing writers, and creating spaces where literature shapes how we see.

This season, that mission is unfolding in powerful ways.

Last week, the demand for literary exploration was undeniable—our [Ways of Seeing launch](#) sold out in just 90 minutes. If you missed out, don’t worry—this is just the beginning of this [core initiative of Vision 2027](#). Keep an eye out for more *Ways of Seeing* events in the coming months.

Meanwhile, there’s still time to join us for a night of 1920s glamour at [Les Années Folles on 20 March](#), and our [2025 Visiting Fellowship](#) and [Young Authors Fiction Festival](#) are now open for submissions. To help bring YAFF to even more young storytellers, we’re seeking sponsors—[please reach out if you or your organization can help make this happen](#).

With gratitude,
Audrey Chapuis, Executive Director

2025–26 Visiting Fellowship: Apply Now



Writers, researchers, and creators—your chance to spend a month in Paris developing your creative project at the American Library is here!

Applications are now open for the 2025–26 American Library in Paris Visiting Fellowship, made possible through the generous support of The de Groot Foundation.

Fellows receive a \$5,000 stipend and full Library access while contributing to our vibrant cultural life with a public program tied to *Ways of Seeing*.

[Applications open now](#) until 1 April 2025.

Adult Programs



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.

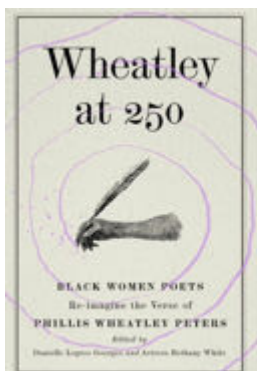


[An Alternative History of Paris with Justinien Tribillon and Aaron Peck](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Wednesday, 12 February at 19h30 CEST

Urbanist **Justinien Tribillon's** *The Zone* delves into Paris's history and collective imagination.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom

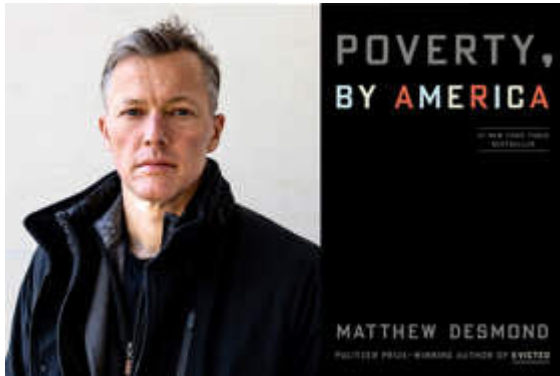


[Wheatley at 250: Celebrating the Legacy of America's First Published African-American Poet](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Tuesday, 25 February at 19h30 CEST

Join contemporary writers in honoring **Phillis Wheatley's** groundbreaking literary legacy and discover how her poetry continues to inspire generations of poets.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom



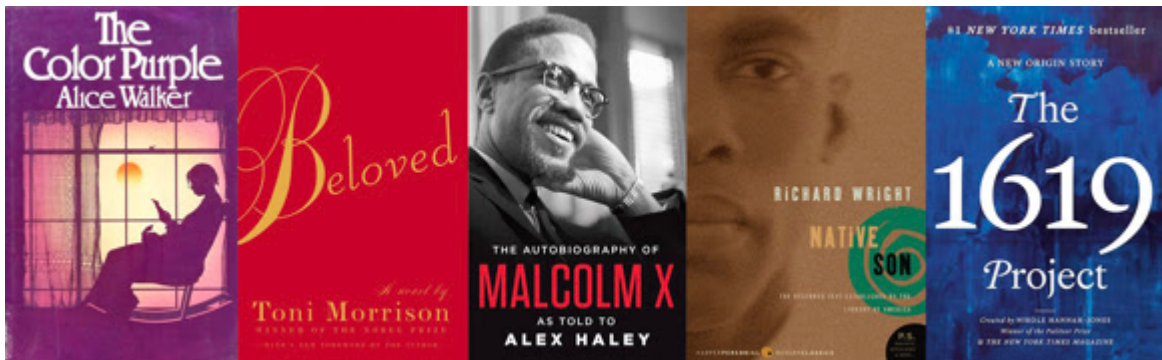
Matthew Desmond on *Poverty, by America*

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Tuesday, 18 March at 19h30 CEST

Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Matthew Desmond** discusses his latest book *Poverty, by America*, which tackles inequality in the richest country on earth.

RSVP for In-Person or Zoom

Celebrating African-American History Month



February is African-American History Month, and here at the American Library in Paris we've created a reading and viewing guide featuring books, films, and resources to explore Black history and culture. [Download your copy now](#) or visit the Turner Commons to browse our curated book display!

Les Années Folles and 1920s-themed History Tours



Did you know Gertrude Stein loved pulpy mystery novels? Or that Hemingway tried to get his drinking buddy a job at the Library?

Step back into the 1920s with our special History Tour on 7 and 21 March, inspired by [our upcoming Les Années Folles party](#). Explore our origins—from housing books for WWI Doughboys to welcoming Lost Generation writers like Stein, Hemingway, and Henry Miller.

[Buy Tickets to Les Années Folles](#)

[Sign up for a Free History Tour](#)

Young Authors Fiction Festival 2025: Submissions Open!



Calling all young writers in France! If you're between ages 5 and 18 and love storytelling, now's your time to shine.

Submissions are now open for the Young Authors Fiction Festival (YAFF), the Library's beloved annual writing competition. YAFF is a free contest open to students in France who write in English.

Finalists will be honored at the YAFF Celebration Event in June 2025, and the top stories in each age category will be published in the YAFF booklet, joining the Library's permanent collection.

 **Deadline to submit: 1 April 2025**

 **Need inspiration? Stop by our Children's and Teens' Services Desk for writing resources, or check our calendar for upcoming YAFF writing workshops.**

[Submit your story now!](#)

And the Mock Caldecott Winners are . . .



After weeks of voting in December and January, our young readers have spoken! The winners of our 2024 Mock Caldecott are *My Daddy is a Cowboy* by Stephanie Seales, illustrated by C.G. Esperanza, and *Aloha Everything* by Kaylin Melia Gorge, illustrated by Mae Waite.

During a lively discussion on 25 January, children passionately defended their top picks—one reader praised *My Daddy is a Cowboy* for its realism and stunning artwork, while another loved *Aloha Everything* for teaching them “so much about Hawaii.”

Stop by the Children's Library to see the unique medals the children created for these standout books and enjoy them yourself!

Programs for Children and Teens



Programs for Children

[Story Hour: Fairy Tales and Fables \(ages 3–5\)](#) Wednesday 5 February at 14h30

[Toddler Time \(ages 1–3\)](#) Thursday 6 February at 11h00

[Music Together with Stacey Pavesi Debré \(ages 0–5\)](#) Saturday 8 February at 14h00

[Story Hour: Valentine's Day \(ages 3–5\)](#) Wednesday 12 February at 14h30

[Saturday Series: Black History Scavenger Hunt \(ages 6–18\)](#) Saturday 15 February at 11h00

[Story Hour: Rad Reptiles \(ages 3–5\)](#) Wednesday 19 February at 14h30

[Toddler Time \(ages 1–3\)](#) Thursday 20 February at 11h00

[Story Hour: Under the Sea \(ages 3–5\)](#) Wednesday 26 February at 14h30

[Comic Club \(ages 6–12\)](#) Saturday 22 February at 11h00

Programs for Teens

Stay warm this winter with our latest YA books! New titles for teens arrive weekly, so there's always something fresh to discover. Visit the Teen Mezzanine to browse the latest fiction or join one of our events for ages 12–18 to connect with fellow book lovers.

[Study Hacks with Ashley Miller \(ages 12–18\)](#) Saturday 1 February at 14h00

[Teen Night: Classic Movies \(ages 12–18\)](#) Friday 21 February at 19h00

[Teen Night: Write, Draw, Create \(ages 12–18\)](#) Friday 28 February at 19h00



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

