



The
American
Library
in Paris

e-Libris

Dispatches from the Library

4 March 2025

Featured in this edition of e-Libris: Exclusive Discount to the Pinault Collection, Countdown to *Les Années Folles*, 100 Years of Children's Libraries in France, and more.

Dear Reader,

Nearly a century ago, American Ambassador Myron T. Herrick called the Library “an imperishable, invisible sanctuary.” It remains just that, but only because of you, the individuals who sustain it. As an independent institution, the Library receives no government funding; it exists thanks to the generosity of its members and supporters.

On 4 June, we gather for our Annual Gala at the Automobile Club de Paris, our most important fundraising event of the year. This evening of celebration and support ensures that the Library continues to thrive for generations to come. If you’d like to receive an invitation, [now is the time to get in touch](#).

Another major moment in our calendar is the American Library in Paris Book Award in November. The Book Award recognizes outstanding books that engage with France in bold and illuminating ways. Today, we are delighted to announce that John Burnham Schwartz will continue as Chair of the Award, bringing his literary expertise and vision to its next chapter.

We look forward to sharing more about the Gala, the Book Award, and all that’s ahead. In the meantime, we hope to see you at the Library—deep in conversation, caught up in a book, or simply enjoying the quiet hum of a place sustained by its community.

With gratitude,

Audrey Chapuis

Executive Director, The American Library in Paris

2025–26 Visiting Fellowship: Apply Now

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



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.

Exclusive Library Member Discount to the Pinault Collection



The American Library in Paris is delighted to offer members a special discounted entry (€10 instead of €15) to the *Corps et âmes* exhibition at the [Bourse de Commerce](#) (5 March–25 August 2025).

This major exhibition explores the human body in contemporary art, featuring iconic American works by Richard Avedon, Man Ray, and Kara Walker. A highlight is Arthur Jafa's *Love is the Message, the Message is Death*, a powerful video installation on Black identity.

Use code **BIBLIAMxPC25** to [book online here](#) and enjoy this exclusive offer!

Les Années Folles: 16 Days to Go!



Thursday, 20 March 2025 | 20h30

📍 [La Coupole, 102 boulevard du Montparnasse, 75014 Paris](#)

The countdown is on—**Les Années Folles is just 16 days away!** Step into the iconic La Coupole dance hall and relive the glamour of the 1920s with an unforgettable evening of live jazz, dance, and mingling with writers, artists, and Library friends.

Tickets: 100€ (includes hors d'oeuvres, champagne, wine, and dessert)
Costumes encouraged: channel your best Gatsby-era style!

Secure Your Spot Now!

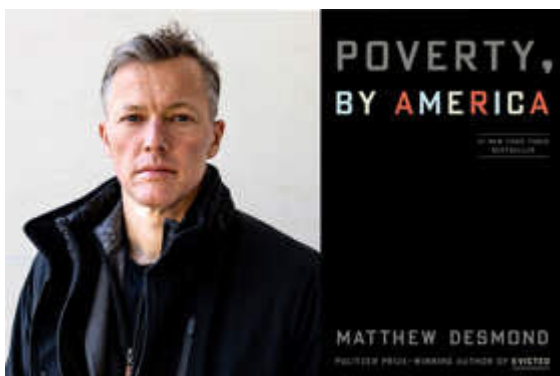


Adult Programs



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.



[Poverty, by America with Matthew Desmond and Lauren Collins](#)

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



[Seeking Pleasure in a Dying World with C Pam Zhang and Ayşegül Savaş](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Wednesday, 26 March at 19h30 CEST

Join acclaimed author and [Visiting Fellow C Pam Zhang](#) as she explores the sensual and transformative journey of food, desire, and survival in her latest novel, *Land of Milk and Honey*.

[RSVP for In-Person or Zoom](#)

John Burnham Schwartz to Continue as Book Award Chair



We're pleased to announce that novelist and screenwriter John Burnham Schwartz will continue to oversee the Library's Book Award as Chair through 2027. Under his leadership, the prize continues to spotlight the best English-language writing about France.

Schwartz is the author of six acclaimed novels, including *The Red Daughter*, *The Commoner*, and *Reservation Road*, which was adapted into a film. He also serves as the longtime Literary Director of the Sun Valley Writers' Conference and is an editor-at-large at Penguin Press.

 **Submissions for the 2025 prize are now open!** The deadline is 1 May. [Learn more and submit here.](#)

The New Yorker Centennial at the Library



2025 marks the centennial of *The New Yorker*, the magazine that has shaped culture with its reporting, reviews, and cartoons since 1925. The American Library in Paris shares a deep connection to this legacy, most notably through [Janet Flanner \(1892–1978\)](#), the magazine’s legendary Paris correspondent.

Our Janet Flanner Collection, housed in [the Library’s Special Collection](#), includes books from her personal library, archival references, and records of her interactions with the Library. [Learn more about our Janet Flanner Collection here.](#)

 **Explore the archives:** The Library houses *The New Yorker* issues dating back to 1946—[ask Member Services](#) to schedule a consultation.

 **Read the latest:** Check out print copies of *The New Yorker* in the Library Turner Commons, or access digital editions via [Libby/OverDrive](#).

100 Years of Children's Libraries in France



THE WEEKLY CHILDREN'S STORY-HOUR CONDUCTED IN THE AMERICAN LIBRARY BY THE BOOK COMMITTEE
ON CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

To celebrate the centennial of France's first children's library—an initiative in which our Library played an active role—we are participating in two special events:

 **Bilingual Storytime** – Join our librarians Celeste and Laurine for a French-English storytime at Médiathèque Françoise Sagan on **Saturday 8 March** at 10h30. No registration required—seating is first-come, first-served.

 **Symposium: "Ouvrir sur le monde"** – On **Wednesday 13 March**, our Assistant Director, Abigail Altman, and Library Docent Mayanne Wright will speak at a symposium exploring the legacy of children's libraries in France and the Library's role in their history.

Submit to YAFF 2025



Young writers have until 1 April to send their short story for the Young Authors Fiction Festival. You can submit and find criteria [here](#).

Children's Event Highlights



[Story Hour: Readers and Writers \(ages 3–5\)](#). Wednesday 5 March at 14h30

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

[Story Hour: Dinosaurs Roar \(ages 3–5\)](#). Wednesday 12 March at 14h30

[Family Concert with Soprano Lauren Libaw \(all ages\)](#). Saturday 15 March at 14h00

[Story Hour: This is Not My Home \(ages 3–5\)](#). Wednesday 19 March at 14h30



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



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.