

Featured in this edition. A new season at the Library, *Ways of Seeing* returns, Book Groups open for sign-ups, and more.

2 September 2025

Our Fall 2025 Season Begins



This fall, the Library's Reading Room once again becomes a gathering place for the thoughtful and curious with [Evenings with an Author](#), sponsored by [GRoW @ Annenberg](#).

Our signature series of in-person and virtual conversations brings together writers, scholars, journalists, thinkers, and artists whose work reflects the Library's commitment to open dialogue and lifelong learning. As part of this program, the season also marks the return of [Ways of Seeing](#), our series exploring how literature and visual art inspire one another, inviting audiences to uncover the connections between storytelling, creativity, and the many ways artists interpret the world across mediums.

Browse the first events below and keep an eye on our [calendar](#) as more are added throughout the season.



[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, the de Groot Foundation, the Florence Gould Foundation, and the enduring legacy of the American Center for Art & Culture.



Adult Programs



WAYS of SEEING

[The Art of Seeing with Thomas Schlessler and Alexandra Suich Bass](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Wednesday 10 September at 19h30 CEST

Join author **Thomas Schlessler** and *The Economist's* culture editor **Alexandra Suich Bass** for a conversation on *Mona's Eyes*, the international bestseller about a young girl's final year of sight. This event invites audiences to reflect on the role of beauty in times of uncertainty, the bonds between generations, and how art shapes the way we understand life, memory, and loss.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



[Ukraine's Past, Present, and Future](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Tuesday 16 September at 19h30 CEST

Join the *Wall Street Journal's* Chief Foreign Affairs Correspondent, **Yaroslav Trofimov**, and senior *Le Figaro* reporter and filmmaker **Margaux Benn** for a conversation on the war in Ukraine. Where does the conflict stand now, how is it evolving, and why does it matter to the world? This conversation will be moderated **Renée Kaplan**, veteran journalist and Visiting Fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at Oxford.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



[How To Write About Africa: Celebrating the Legacy of Binyavanga Wainaina](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Wednesday 17 September at 19h30 CEST

Binyavanga Wainaina (1971–2019) was a pioneering voice in African literature, a memoirist and essayist remembered as one of the most vital chroniclers of contemporary African life. This panel brings together **Achal Prabhala**, editor of the collection, novelist **Hemley Boum**, and critic **Jeremy Harding** for a wide-ranging conversation on Wainaina's art, activism, and global legacy.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



[The Poetry of Becoming](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Tuesday 23 September at 19h30 CEST

Celebrate the debut collections of poets **Oluwaseun Olayiwola** and **Sasha Debevec-McKenney** in a reading and craft conversation moderated by **Emma Gomis**. Debevec-McKenney's [Joy Is My Middle Name](#) captures the messy, intimate journey from one decade of life to the next, while Olayiwola's [Strange Beach](#) reimagines the body and the self as shifting landscapes of desire, memory, and change.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



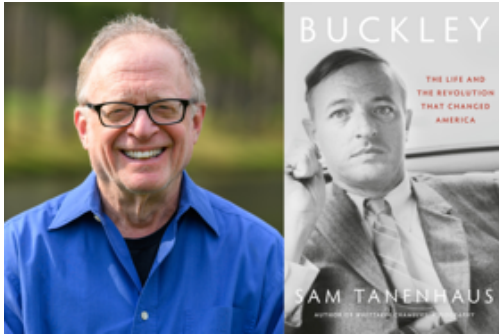
[Lessons in Looking with Lilly Dancyger](#)

In-Person
Wednesday 24 September at 19h30 CEST

Join American Library in Paris [Scholar of Note](#) **Lilly Dancyger** for a craft talk on how visual art can deepen and expand a writer's practice. From the way portraiture reveals character to how sketching can inspire more playful drafting, this interactive lecture will explore the parallels between painting and prose. The Scholar of Note distinction, generously supported by the [de Groot Foundation](#), is part of our Visiting Fellowship program.

RSVP for In-Person

WAYS of SEEING



[Sam Tanenhaus on William F. Buckley, Jr.](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Tuesday 30 September at 19h30 CEST

Join biographer **Sam Tanenhaus** for a lecture on *Buckley*, his sweeping new portrait of William F. Buckley, Jr., the writer, commentator, and provocateur who helped launch the modern conservative movement. Tanenhaus traces Buckley's influence from the Cold War to the culture wars, revealing both his public legacy and the private contradictions behind the persona.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom

From Memoir to Mystery: Find Your Book Group



Looking for fresh perspectives and engaging literary conversation with fellow Library members? Our member-led Book Groups cover a wide range of themes, from contemporary French fiction to mystery.

This fall, explore new offerings like *Not a Girl, Not Yet a Woman: Feminism at a Crossroads*; *The Art of Travel Writing*; *Mundos Nuevos*; and *Queer Womanhood: Fiction and Memoir*, alongside long-standing favorites such as the Memoir Book Group, Prize-Winning American and British Plays, Writer's Book Club, and more.

Space is limited. [Sign up](#) today!

Join us for Board Games Night at the Library

Thursday 25 September, 19h00-21h00
Free for members | 10€ for non-members

Game lovers, mark your calendars! The Library's **Board Games Night** returns for an evening filled with strategy, chance, and plenty of fun. Light refreshments will be served as members gather around the table to test their skills and roll the dice. Bring friends along, or come solo and join forces with fellow game enthusiasts.

Click [here](#) to RSVP. Limited spots available.



Children and Teens: A World of Reading and Activities



From toddlers to teens, there's something for every young reader and creator this fall. Families can explore books, audiobooks, and digital resources, and enjoy a full calendar of programs designed to spark curiosity and imagination.

Programs are listed online up to three months in advance, and registration is required. Members are also welcome to drop in during open hours to build, create, and play—with puzzles, crafts, games, and other hands-on activities available year-round.

This month, from **2–20 September**, don't miss the **Library Scavenger Hunt**, a fun way to explore, learn, and connect! Find out more at the Children's and Teens' Services Desk.

Children's Events Highlights



[Story Hour: New Favorites](#) (ages 3-5) Wednesday 3 September at 14h30

[Toddler Time](#) (ages 1-3) Thursday 4 September at 11h00

[Music Together with Stacey Pavesi Debré](#) (ages 0-5) Saturday 6 September at 11h00

[Saturday Series: Postcards from Fantasy Lands](#) (ages 6-12) Saturday 13 September at 11h00

[Family Concert with Lauren Libaw and Dan Schlosberg](#) (all ages) Saturday 20 September at 14h00

Teens' Events Highlights

[Teen Night: Capture the Flag](#) Friday 12 September at 19h00

[Teen Night: Escape the Library](#) Friday 16 September at 19h00

[Family Concert with Lauren Libaw and Dan Schlosberg](#) Saturday 20 September at 14h00

[Writing Historical Fiction with Amy Plum](#) Saturday 27 September at 14h00



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.