

ARTICLE I. POSITION DESCRIPTION

The American Library in Paris, now in its 105th year, seeks an inspiring Director to lead the institution into its next chapter. The Library's unique resources, vibrant and expanding programming, increasing global reach, and devoted community of users and supporters make this a moment of extraordinary energy and promise. The next leader will have the opportunity not only to carry forward this momentum but also to shape the Library's long-term vision and strategic priorities. Compensation will be in keeping with French market standards.

ARTICLE II. WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Evaluate, monitor, guide, and recommend adjustments to the Library's strategic vision and direction.
- Partner with the Board of Trustees and the USA Foundation to sustain momentum and impact.
- Support and empower a talented team, fostering collaboration and innovation.
- Ensure financial stability and operational excellence.
- Cultivate, steward, and balance relationships with a wide variety of donors and philanthropic partners in France, the U.S., and globally.
- Serve as the Library's leading voice and ambassador to members, partners, and the press.
- Expand and innovate programs (both literary and cross-cultural), collections, and outreach that engage audiences of all ages.
- Honor and protect the Library's unique heritage while advancing its relevance for new generations.

ARTICLE III. WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

Essential

- Experienced leader of a library, cultural institution, or other nonprofit with a record of delivering growth and impact.
- Strategic thinker who can set a forward-looking vision and inspire and lead others to execute the vision with clarity and timeliness, becoming its driving force.
- Proven track record in fundraising and development; comfortable driving major gifts and long-term donor stewardship.
- Compelling communicator and ambassador across cultures, with excellent written and spoken English.

- Demonstrated cultural sensitivity and ability to navigate international contexts with respect.
- Deep understanding of values-based, nonprofit institutions and their specific environment.
- Collaborative, empathetic leader who inspires staff and engages boards.
- Balanced decision-maker who will be committed to respecting the fundamental mission and heritage of the Library, while innovating with vision, insight, and pragmatism.
- Financially and operationally astute with proven ability to create and adhere to a budget.
- Passionate advocate for libraries, literature, arts, and culture.
- Charismatic leader with ease in public speaking and media settings.
- Ideally, the candidate will already be eligible to work in the European Union and is either already based in the EU or ready to establish themselves here independently.

Valued

- Ability to communicate effectively in French and a practical understanding of French workplace culture and norms.
- Digital savviness and openness to technological innovation.
- Strong network in cultural, academic, or literary circles.
- A natural connector, with humor and resilience.

ARTICLE IV. THE OPPORTUNITY

The next Director will inherit a thriving, financially sound institution with a global reputation and a dedicated community and will be empowered to chart the Library's future course. It is a rare opportunity to shape one of the world's most distinctive cultural spaces and to connect readers, writers, cultural contributors, and thinkers across generations and borders.

Please submit a cover letter and CV to search@americanlibraryinparis.org. Applications received by October 31 will be given full consideration.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN LIBRARY IN PARIS

The American Library in Paris is the largest English-language lending Library on the European continent, with a print collection of over 100,000 volumes. Since its establishment in 1920, the Library has been a meeting place for internationals and locals alike seeking to broaden their horizons and nurture their imagination. Every year, hundreds of events, lectures, and workshops bring together leaders in literature, arts, politics, and philosophy at the Library. Through its fellowships and social impact programs, the Library also supports emerging artists and young writers in their creative pursuits.