

In this edition. A behind-the-scenes look at the Book Award, an exceptional visit at the BnF, last-chance Halloween tickets, and more.

28 October 2025

Behind the Bindings

Crafting the Book Award Editions Ahead of the 2025 Winner



Each year, to honor the laureate of the [American Library in Paris Book Award](#), the Library commissions two bespoke copies of the winning title, hand-bound by Parisian artisans. One copy is presented to the winning author, while the other joins the Library's Special Collections in a lasting tribute to the craft of bookmaking and literary excellence.

Take a behind-the-scenes look at how these beautiful editions come to life at the hands of the atelier Bourgogne Reliure, and stay tuned for the announcement of the 2025 Book Award winner on 7 November.



[Watch the video](#)



[Discover the 2025 shortlist](#)

A Wickedly Good Time at the Halloween Extravaganza



The Library's Halloween Extravaganza on 25 October was spooktacular fun! Families, children, and teens filled the neighborhood for trick-or-treating before returning to our haunted Library for costumes, crafts, games, and more. Photos from the day are now available [here](#).

Fall Appeal: Keep an Eye on Your Mailbox

Our special Fall Appeal mailing is on its way! If you're among our supporters, you'll soon receive an envelope containing this year's Fall Appeal letter and the 2024 Annual Report—a look back at all that your support has made possible. Thanks to your generosity, we've already reached **one quarter of our goal of 100 donors** before 2 December!

Haven't signed up to receive the Fall Appeal mail? [It's not too late to register!](#)

And, if you're ready to give today:



Yes, I'll support the Library

Your gift can be made in euros or US dollars, by cash, check, or credit card. US taxpayers may also donate appreciated stock or through a Donor-Advised Fund. [Learn more here](#).



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.

Adult Programs



[Art Without Borders with novelist R. O. Kwon and artist Chloé Quenum](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Tuesday 28 October at 19h30 CET

Can an object have a nationality? How do artworks change when removed from their context and what new meanings can displacement create? Novelist **R. O. Kwon** and visual artist **Chloé Quenum** join the Library's Curator of Cultural Programs Rachel Donadio for a cross-disciplinary conversation on how artists inspire one another, and how movement, theft, and exchange reshape not only objects, but the stories we tell about art itself.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



[Stirring the Pot: Paris Dining Today](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Wednesday 29 October at 19h30 CET

Join panelists **Lindsey Tramuta**, **Carina Soto Velasquez**, and **Nora Bouazzouni** in exploring the evolution of Paris dining—from emerging cuisines to the challenges facing women in the industry and the voices shaping the city's culinary future.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



[John Singer Sargent and Henry James: Painting and Prose in a Gilded Age](#)

Hybrid: In-Person or Live on Zoom
Tuesday 4 November at 19h30 CET

John Singer Sargent and Henry James both spent formative years in Paris, one working in paint, the other in prose. Join Sargent biographer **Jean Strouse** and journalist **Madeleine Schwartz** for a conversation on how being American shaped their work, and how our current Gilded Age compares with the last one.

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



[Celebrating the Prix Médicis](#)

In-Person
Thursday 13 November at 19h30 CET

Join us for a special conversation exploring the history and inner workings of the **Prix Médicis**, one of France's most prestigious literary distinctions. Just days after the 2025 laureates are announced on 5 November. Please note this event will mainly be in **French**.

[RSVP for In-Person](#)

Holiday Closures

Saturday 1 November – Closed to the public (Toussaint, All Saints' Day)

Tuesday 11 November – Closed to the public (Armistice Day)

An Extraordinary Visit: Visiting Fellow R. O. Kwon Meets the *Jikji* at the BnF



The Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) exceptionally opened its doors to [Visiting Fellow R. O. Kwon](#) for a private consultation of the *Jikji*, a Korean document of Buddhist teachings and oldest known book in the world printed with movable metal type. Welcomed by two BnF researchers, Kwon was joined by a small delegation from the Library for an in-depth presentation of the manuscript and a tour of the BnF's Richelieu site. The visit offered a rare opportunity to engage with a cornerstone of Korean and world history, and enriched Kwon's ongoing research during her residency.

The American Library in Paris extends its warm thanks to the BnF for its exceptional generosity and collaboration in making this special viewing possible, and [The de Groot Foundation](#) for sponsoring the Library's Fellowship program.

Final Call for Adult Halloween Party Tickets



Friday 31 October | 19h30–22h30 (18+)

Our *Tricks & Treats in the Stacks* party is almost here, and so is your last chance to join the fun! On the night of Friday 31 October, expect creepy cocktails, delicious bites, tarot card readings, spine-tingling games, and a costume contest. This year, the contest features four thrilling categories: Literary, Sexy, Group/Duo, and Scary. Which one will you be?

Show off your creativity and win big! Grab your tickets [here](#).

Children's Events Highlights

[Story Hour: Happy Halloween](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 29 October at 14h30

[Story Hour: Indigenous People](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 5 November 5 at 14h30

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

[Saturday Series: Spinning Stories](#) (ages 6–12) Saturday 8 November at 11h00

[Story Hour: Family Feast](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 12 November at 14h30

[Music Together with Stacey Pavesi Debré](#) (ages 0–5) Saturday 15 November at 14h00

Teens' Events Highlights



[Teen Night: Mix and Match Comic Strips](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 7 November at 19h00
[Make and Mend: A Workshop with Ella Springer](#) (ages 12–18) Saturday 8 November at 14h00
[Creating Dystopian Worlds with Amy Plum](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 12 November 19h00



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.

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