

In this edition. Celebrating nature with Amy Tan at the 2026 Gala, another treasure recovered, judge for YAFF, and more.

31 March 2026

Celebrating Nature with Amy Tan at the 2026 American Library in Paris Gala



Each year, the **American Library in Paris Gala** brings together our greatest champions to celebrate our enduring mission and to honor a storyteller. We are thrilled to announce that award-winning author **Amy Tan** will be the 2026 American Library in Paris Gala Honoree.

Join us at **7PM on Thursday 4 June 2026**, at the Automobile Club de France for an unforgettable evening celebrating literature, creativity, and the enduring mission of the Library. It will feature a cocktail reception in the historic salons of the Club, a gourmet dinner in the Club's Bibliothèque Clément-Bayard, and conversation with Amy Tan celebrating her literary achievements.

Join us at the 2026 Gala



Amy Tan, the 2026 Gala Honoree

Amy Tan is the author of the internationally acclaimed novels *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Kitchen God's Wife*, *The Hundred Secret Senses*, *The Bonesetter's Daughter*, *Saving Fish from Drowning*, and *The Valley of Amazement*, all *New York Times* bestsellers.

A versatile storyteller, she is also the author of the memoirs *The Opposite of Fate* and *Where the Past Begins*, and children's books *The Moon Lady* and *Sagwa, the Chinese Siamese Cat*.

Her fascination with nature inspired the charming and witty *The Backyard Bird Chronicles*. In it, Tan charts her foray into birding and the natural wonders of the world.

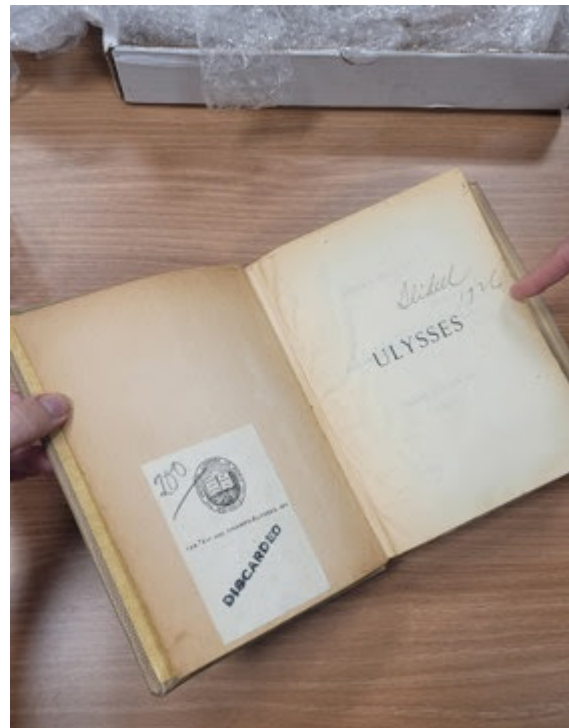
Another Treasure, Home at Last

Last Thursday, a very special package arrived at the Library: a 1925 edition, printed by Sylvia Beach (6th edition), of ***Ulysses* by James Joyce**. This copy was tragically weeded from our collection decades ago and has now, at last, found its way back home.

But before it can take its rightful place in our Special Collections, this beloved book needs some tender care. Its binding and cover have been damaged over the years, and we'd love to restore it to its former glory. **Gifts of any size help fund the restoration of this piece of literary history!**

This homecoming is part of a broader effort to recover and cherish the treasures of our early history. Thanks to the generous participation of our community, we were able to begin the restoration of a rare 1925 *Americans in France Directory*, and of the U.S. Embassy notice door that saved the Library from German occupation in 1940.

[Help Restore This Treasure](#)



You might notice bare hands handling these delicate pages, and that's intentional! Conservators often prefer clean, dry hands over gloves, which can cause accidental tears. Rest assured, we follow best practices to keep every treasure safe and sound.



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 Becomes Writing Becomes Art with Rachel Cohen

In-person and Zoom
Wednesday 8 April at 19h30 CET

In this hybrid talk and interview, writer and critic **Rachel Cohen** traces patterns of influence between visual artists and writers, drawing on her 2004 book *A Chance Meeting* and her current research. Learn how writers and artists including Paul Cézanne, Claude Monet, Rainer Maria Rilke, Frank O'Hara and Joan Mitchell borrow from, respond to, and spark each other's work.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom

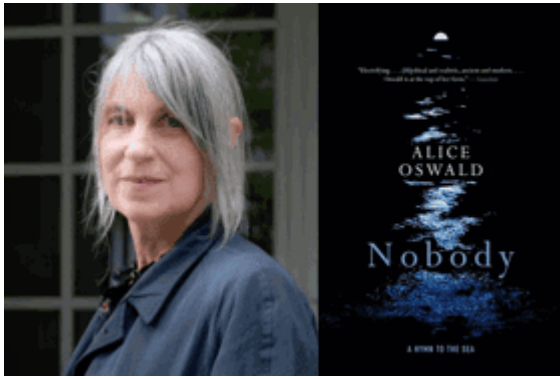


Bon Appétit: A Staged Reading with Brenda Withers

In-person
Tuesday 14 April at 19h30 CET

In this staged reading, acclaimed playwright and Scholar of Note **Brenda Withers** shares an excerpt from her new musical-in-progress on the life and legacy of Julia Child. Focusing on her formative postwar years in France—from her training at Le Cordon Bleu to the meals and friendships that shaped *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*—this reading will bring together professional actors and non-actors alike, in the spirit of Child's enduring belief that anyone can cook.

RSVP for In-Person



A Poetry Reading with Alice Oswald

In-person
Wednesday 22 April at 19h30 CET

Join us for an intimate reading with **Alice Oswald**, author of several acclaimed collections, including *Dart*, *Memorial*, and *Falling Awake*. In partnership with the Institute for Ideas and Imagination, this evening offers the chance to listen to one of the most original poetic voices of her generation in the Library's stacks.

RSVP for In-Person

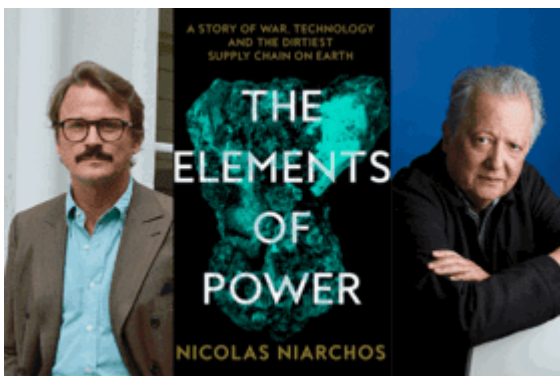


Far-Right France: A Panel

In-person and Zoom
Tuesday 28 April at 19h30 CET

Ahead of next year's French national elections, the far right continues to gain ground. How did a once-marginal political force become a central fixture of national political life? Join *Financial Times* journalist **Victor Mallet**, political scholar **Catherine Fieschi**, and historian **Baptiste Roger-Lacan** for an in-depth panel discussion exploring the historical roots, evolving strategies, and future of the French far right.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



The Elements of Power with Nicolas Niarchos and Pierre Haski

In-person and Zoom
Wednesday 29 April at 19h30 CET

What does it really take to power a “green” future? In *The Elements of Power*, journalist **Nicolas Niarchos** delivers a deeply reported account of the global scramble for the metals that fuel the energy transition. In conversation by journalist **Pierre Haski**, Niarchos will reveal how the fight over battery minerals is reshaping geopolitics, exposing the devastating human consequences of our best intentions.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom

Holiday Closures

The Library will be closed to the public **Sunday 5 April 2026** for Easter Sunday (*Pâques*).

Judge for YAFF

Becoming a Young Authors Fiction Festival (YAFF) volunteer judge is a wonderfully rewarding way to support young writers. If you are over 18, love stories and have an open mind, please reach out to yaff@americanlibraryinparis.org with the subject line **Judging for YAFF**, and tell us a little about yourself, any experience you have with children or writing, and why you'd like to get involved. Last year, over 150 volunteers dedicated their time to reading entries, and their contribution made all the difference.

And remember: the YAFF is open to all students from Kindergarten to Terminale living in France and writing in English, and the deadline is tomorrow 1 April at 22h00.



Children's Events Highlights



[Story Hour: Look Up!](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 1 April at 14h30

[Toddler Time](#) (ages 1–3) Thursday 2 April at 11h00

[Lies and Spies with Adam Gidwitz](#) (ages 7–adult) Saturday 4 April at 14h00

Story Hour: [In the Dark](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 8 April at 14h30
Talent Showcase (ages 5–12) Saturday 11 April at 11h00
Story Hour: [Sail the Seas](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 15 April at 14h30
Toddler Time (ages 1–3) Thursday 16 April at 11h00
Saturday Series: [Dollars and Cents](#) (ages 6–12) Saturday 18 April at 11h00
Story Hour: [Poems and Poets](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 29 April at 14h30

Teens' Events Highlights

Lies and Spies with Adam Gidwitz (ages 7–adult) Saturday 4 April at 14h00
Teen Night: [Movies Based on Books](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 10 April at 19h00
Make Great Money During College: hosted by Richard Montauk (ages 14–adult) Saturday 11 April at 14h00
Teen Night: [Capture the Flag](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 24 April at 19h00



[▶ From Baldwin to Today: Queer Black Expats in Paris with Visiting Fellow Rasheed Newson](#)

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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