

In this edition. Discover the Library's historical photo archive and America 250 series, Gala ticket sale ends 18 May, and more.

12 May 2026

2026 GALA DINNER

4 JUNE

Ticket Sales Ends May 18

Join us before it's too late! On **4 June**, spend an extraordinary evening with author Amy Tan and a gathering of Paris's most inspiring minds: philanthropists, artists, and leaders who are writing the next chapter of the Library and the literary life of Paris.

Purchase Your Gala Tickets

Sponsorships and tickets are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law, minus the cost of direct benefits.

A Century of Stories, Now Yours to Discover



For the first time, the American Library is opening its photo archives to the public online through [JSTOR](#), a trusted digital library used by thousands of institutions worldwide to preserve and share academic journals, books, and primary sources. This release offers a rare

glimpse into our earliest years, featuring images from our first location at 10, rue de l'Élysée and from the Paris Library School, which the Library housed throughout the 1920s.

Among the highlights are photographs dating back exactly one hundred years, to 1926—a remarkable record of Library life at the turn of the last century.

This is just the beginning: additional photographs spanning the rest of the 20th century will be added in the coming months.

Explore the Archive



If our photo archive has piqued your curiosity about the Library's past, we invite you to go deeper and join our [History Tours](#) this Spring. The tours offer a one-hour guided introduction to our remarkable 106-year history, from WWI, to the Lost Generation, and the courageous librarians who kept the Library open throughout the Occupation.

Tours are free, open to the public, and take place at 10, rue du Général Camou, 75007 Paris. Browse upcoming dates and register [here](#).

America 250 at the Library

For the history buffs among you, there is even more in store: this June, celebrate the 250th anniversary of American independence with our **America 250** programs led by **Mary Jo Padgett**. This rich series explores the American Revolution's deep ties to France through guided walking tours across historic Paris and illustrated lectures tracing key figures, places, and ideas.

We have also prepared **reading lists** that invite further discovery across history, arts, culture, and even food.

Discover Our America 250 Series





Adult Programs

Please note that [The Paris Novel](#) with Ruth Reichl and Lindsey Tramuta (26 May) has been cancelled.



[Breaking Bread: A Poetry Workshop with Dr. Eve L. Ewing](#)

In-person

Wednesday 13 May at 19h30 CET

What happens when poetry meets a good loaf of bread? In this playful, hands-on workshop led by American Library in Paris Scholar of Note, **Dr. Eve L. Ewing**, we'll read, write, and savor our way through the senses—touching crust, breathing in warm aromas, listening to the crackle of fresh bread, and, of course, tasting. Through a craft lecture, lively prompts, and shared bread, participants will transform simple sensory pleasures into surprising poems, turning flavor into poetry.

[RSVP for In-Person](#)



[Screening: The President and the Dragon with the Carter Center](#)

In-person

Wednesday 20 May at 18h00 CET

This searing and compelling documentary, presented in partnership with the [Carter Center](#), tells the story of an unlikely crew – comprising public health veterans, local volunteers and former child soldiers, plus **President Jimmy Carter** himself – traversing Sudan and South Sudan in pursuit of an ambitious goal: the total eradication of the vicious Guinea worm disease.

[RSVP for In-Person](#)



[\(Patron Circle\) Law in a Changing America with Andrew Weissmann](#)

In-person

Wednesday 27 May at 19h00 CET

This event is reserved for [Library Patron Circle](#) members.

In this lecture, bestselling author and MSNOW legal commentator **Andrew Weissmann** draws on more than two decades at the Department of Justice—including his roles as General Counsel of the FBI and a senior lawyer on the Mueller investigation—to offer a rare insider's view of law under political pressure.

RSVP for In-Person



[Bringing Stories to Life: A Conversation with Nikki Grimes and E.B. Lewis](#)

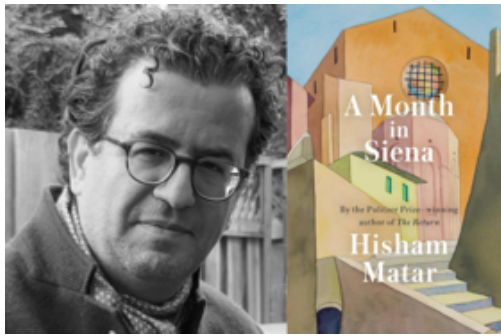
(ages 7–adult)

In-person

Friday 29 May at 18h00 CET

Join award-winners, author **Nikki Grimes** and illustrator and fine artist **E.B. Lewis**, for a conversation about how they create original works of historical fiction, fiction, and memoir. These two prolific creators of children's literature will be together on stage for the first time for a conversation focusing on their individual works and as well as their collaborations: *Stronger Than* and *Talking About Bessie: the Story of Aviator Bessie Coleman*.

RSVP for In-Person



WAYS *of* SEEING

[Ways of Seeing with Hisham Matar](#)

In-person and Zoom

Tuesday 2 June at 19h30 CET

In the Library's final *Ways of Seeing* event, Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Hisham Matar** invites us to dwell with a single painting—Titian's *Man with a Glove*—allowing its details, textures, and silences to emerge over time. Drawing on the sensibility he brings to *A Month in Siena*, Matar allows us to explore what happens when we give a work of art our full attention.

RSVP for In-Person and Zoom



[Annual General Meeting](#)

In-person and Zoom

Tuesday 9 June at 19h00 CET

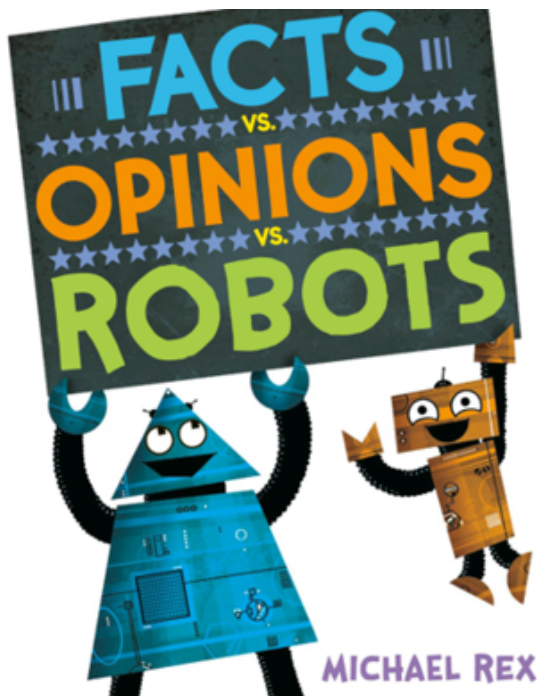
All members of the American Library in Paris are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, **9 June 2026 at 19:00**. The Library Executive Director, Chairman of the Board, and Board Trustees will report on activities in 2025.

The meeting is open to Library members; no RSVP required.

Holiday Closures in May

Thursday 14 May — Jeudi de l'Ascension (Ascension)

Children's Events Highlights



[Story Hour: We Love Our Grown-Ups](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 13 May at 14h30

[Mythical Monster Treasure Hunt](#) (ages 4–12) Saturday 16 May at 11h00

[Story Hour: Happy Birthdays](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 20 May 20 at 14h30

[Toddler Time](#) (ages 1–3) Thursday 21 May at 11h00

[Fracture Fairy Tales with author Robin Newman](#) (ages 8–12) Saturday 23 May at 11h00

[Story Hour: Rad Robots](#) (ages 3–5) Wednesday 27 May at 14h30

[Bringing Stories to Life: A Conversation with Nikki Grimes and E.B. Lewis](#) (ages 7–adult) Friday May 29 at 18h00

[Saturday Series: Picture Puzzles](#) (ages 6–12) Saturday 30 May at 11h00

Teens' Events Highlights

[Teen Night: Steampunk Role Play](#) (ages 12–18) Friday 15 May at 19h00

[Writing Yourself Into the Future: Storytelling in College Admissions Essays](#) (ages 14–18) Saturday 23 May at 16h00

[Blackout Poetry](#) (ages 14–18) Saturday 30 May at 15h00



[▶ Look at the USA: America's Wars at Home and Abroad 2006-2026](#)

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.

American
Library
in Paris
Est. 1920