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# The American Library in Paris

ESTABLISHED 1920

**e-Libris 15 September 2020**

## In this message:

- [Century Auction and Raffle](#)
- [Virtual Programs for Adults](#)
- [Programs for Children and Teens](#)
- [Pandemonium U](#)
- [Renew your Membership](#)

In the event that this *e-Libris* is cut short by your email service, please click the link at the bottom of the email to see the newsletter in its entirety.



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## Announcing the Century Auction

To celebrate the Library's Centennial, we will be hosting an online auction in the week leading up to the Century Gala on 8 October. Thanks to a group of generous supporters, we are presenting a curated collection of art, gifts, and experiences.

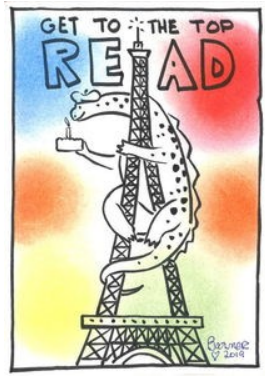
Please visit our [auction website](#) to see the complete list of items.  
**Bidding starts on 1 October at 19:00h (GMT +1:00) in Paris.**

While we hope you consider attending the Gala, the auction is open to everyone. Winners will be announced on the night of the event.

To explore our auction items and begin bidding on 1 October:  
<https://www.32auctions.com/ALPCenturyAuction>



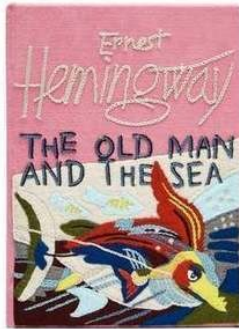
## Auction items include:



Original drawings by celebrated authors and illustrators, including a rendition of the Library's façade by Julia Connelly (above) and a gentle dinosaur scaling the Eiffel Tower by the esteemed illustrator Bob Barner (left). Bids start at 100€.



Luxury hotel stays, including a two-night stay at the 5-star Hôtel Chais Monnet in Cognac, featuring a complimentary breakfast, a dinner *gastronomique* at the hotel's restaurant, Les Foudres, and a visit to the organic vineyards of Château Clarisse in Saint Emilion for a tour and tasting.



A coveted Olympia Le-Tan book clutch. This hand-embroidered design, inspired by Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*, makes the perfect gift for fans of literature and high fashion.

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## Live Raffle at the Gala

For the first time, all Century Gala supporters will receive a ticket to the Gala raffle. The raffle is highlighted by six bottles of Vieux Château Certan, a Bordeaux wine from Pomerol that is valued at over 250€ per bottle. The raffle will also include a collection of Bordeaux wine from Château de Chamirey and curated book bundles from authors who have spoken at the Library. Prizes will be awarded live during the event.

You can still sign up for the Gala by reserving a digital-access pass on our website:

[www.americanlibraryinparis.com/gala](http://www.americanlibraryinparis.com/gala).



The Gala is the Library's most important fundraising event of the year, and your support is needed now more than ever. We hope you will join the Director, the Board of Trustees, donors, friends, members, writers, staff, and esteemed guests in supporting this unique event.

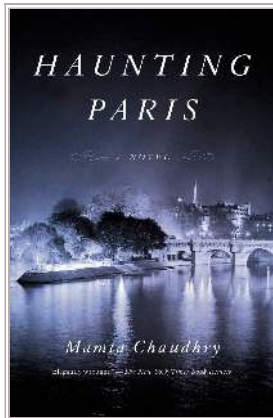
## Virtual Programs for Adults



GROW@  
ANNENBERG

Evenings with an Author and other weeknight programs at the Library are free and open to the public (with a 10€ suggested donation) thanks to support from the Annenberg Foundation, our members, and those who attend programs.

**All programs, including *Evenings with an Author*, book groups, and workshops, will continue virtually for the present time.**



### [Evening with an Author: Mamta Chaudhry in conversation with Russell Banks](#)

**Wednesday 16 September at 19h30 via Zoom**

Mamta Chaudhry's debut novel, *Haunting Paris*, is set in Paris in 1989. A timeless story of love and loss, *Haunting Paris* matches emotional intensity with lyrical storytelling to explore grief, family secrets, and the undeniable power of memory. For her virtual evening at the Library, Mamta will be in conversation with Russell Banks, author of *Cloudsplitter* and *Continental Drift*, and twice a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



### [Writing Workshop with Timothy Jay Smith](#)

**Thursday 17 September at 19h00 via Zoom**

We're delighted to be offering a writing workshop with Paris Prize for Fiction winner and Lambda Award nominee Timothy Jay Smith.

Topics will include: Finding a story and developing it; how much research is required; finding/developing characters; how to adapt real people and places to the page; the writing process; query letters and press releases; and marketing, including publicists, social media, and videos.

Open to Library members. [RSVP required](#).



### [Evening with an Author: Dr. Clara Oropeza](#)

**Tuesday 22 September at 19h30 via Zoom**

Please join us for an evening with Dr. Clara Oropeza, author of *Anaïs Nin: A Myth of Her Own*, which traces Nin's literary craft by following the intimacy of self-exploration and poetic expression attained in the details of the quotidian, transfigured into fiction. By digging into the mythic tropes that permeate both her literary diaries and fiction, this book demonstrates that Nin constructed a mythic method of her own, revealing the extensive possibilities of an opulent feminine psyche.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



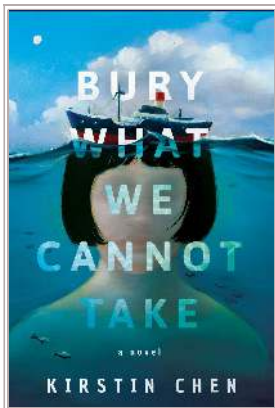
### Mindfulness Workshop for Creatives with Daria Steketee

**Thursday 24 September at 19h00 via Zoom**

Please join us for a relaxing and informative session in which you'll get a preview of Mindfulness Meditation techniques, all of which can be used for writers and other creatives looking to find their flow.

This workshop presents a secular approach to Mindfulness that focuses on how it can be practical and helpful in our daily lives. Participants will take away practical and accessible ways to reduce stress, increase enjoyment of the present moment, and promote resilience. No prior experience in meditation necessary.

Open to Library members. [RSVP required](#).



### Evening with an Author: Kirstin Chen

**Wednesday 30 September at 19h30 via Zoom**

Please join us for an interview and reading with Kirstin Chen, author of *Bury What We Cannot Take*. This novel opens on the day nine-year-old San San and her twelve-year-old brother, Ah Liam, discover their grandmother taking a hammer to a framed portrait of Chairman Mao—a day that forever changes their lives. Against the backdrop of early Maoist China, this captivating and emotional tale follows a brother, a sister, a father, and a mother as they grapple with an agonizing decision, its far-reaching consequences, and their hope for redemption.

Free and open to the public via Zoom.

[RSVP required](#) to receive meeting details and password.



Past programs on YouTube, including recent Evenings with Alice Jardine, Greg Garrett, Tony Maniaty, and Hollis Clayson



Listen to our podcast, Evenings with an Author, available wherever you get your podcasts.



Visit our Facebook page for information about upcoming virtual events and Evenings with an Author

## Project 100 Update

If you're wondering about the construction noise... September 2020 is busy at the Library! Crews are coming and going, hard at work on the Project 100 expansion of the Library. Please be prepared for periods of noise over the next two weeks as the new mezzanine extension is installed. Please ask a staff member if you need help accessing an item in the construction zone.





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## **Programming for Kids and Teens**

## KIDS' EVENTS

### Virtual Story Hour

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 16 September at 10h30

Join us for a virtual, interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Story Hour in the Park

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 16 September at 14h30

Join us for an interactive story time at the park featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English in a small group setting. Masks are required for all participants over the age of 11. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Fall Scavenger Hunt

(ages 6-12)

Saturday 19 September at 11h00

Meet us in front of the Library for a fun and festive scavenger hunt featuring tricks, treats, and surprises for the whole family. This event will take place outdoors (so bring your umbrellas if it looks cloudy!) and is intended for children and their caregivers. Masks are required for all participants over age 11. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Virtual Story Hour

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 23 September at 10h30

Join us for a virtual, interactive story time featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Story Hour in the Park

(ages 3–5)

Wednesday 23 September at 14h30

Join us for an interactive story time at the park featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English in a small group setting. Masks are required for all participants over the age of 11. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Toddler Time in the Park

(ages 1–3)

Thursday 24 September at 10h30

Join us for an interactive event at the park featuring reading, songs, and rhymes in English in a small group setting. Masks are required for all participants over the age of 11. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Virtual Bookworms

(ages 9-12)

Saturday 26 September at 11h00

This month, we're trying out a new book group for kids! Bring along your current or most recent fiction or nonfiction read in English to talk about with the group during our online meeting. The aim of this group is to create a space for strong readers to share books they've enjoyed, and to foster discussion among our community of young readers.

For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

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## TEENS' EVENTS

### Virtual YA Fantasy Book Club

(ages 12-18)

Thursday 17 September at 17h00

Join fantasy fans to discuss new worlds and novels with like-minded readers. Bring along your current or most recent fantasy read to talk about with the group during our online meeting. For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Master Shot Film Club Meeting

#### —Virtual/Outdoors

(ages 12-18)

Saturday 19 September at 17h00

Share your ideas, get feedback, and work on your technique, while learning about how to produce high quality short films.

### The Art of the Scary Story

(ages 14-adult)

Saturday 26 September at 14h00

Work on your craft in a fun, creative atmosphere with other writers and help us build the script for our Haunted Library! For Library members. [RSVP required.](#)

### Bilingual-ish with Kate Gavino

(ages 12-18)

Friday 2 October at 19h00

Join graphic novel author and artist Kate Gavino for a virtual workshop that explores the highs and lows of being bilingual, whether you're perfectly fluent in many languages or struggling to get by in more than one.

For members, [by application](#).

For Library members. [RSVP required](#).

### **Teen Advisory Group Meeting (FULL)**

(ages 12-18)

Friday 25 September at 17h30

Meet fellow bookworms and Library members, share your ideas, get the inside scoop on the Library, and earn community service hours. By application. This group is full.



Upcoming virtual event by the Library's partner Pandemonium U:

**Football and the Collapse of Yugoslavia**, with [footballer Zvonimir Boban](#) and [economist Branko Milanovic](#), in conversation with [Simon Kuper](#)

Friday 25 September 2020

at 9h Pacific /12h NY / 17h London /18h Paris

Visit the [PAN U website](#) for detailed information.

PANDEMONIUM U is a free, online lecture series founded by journalist and author Pamela Druckerman and Financial Times journalist Simon Kuper. Pandemonium U and the American Library in Paris share a philosophy of promoting engaged civic discourse with world-class experts, thinkers, and writers.

## **Renew your Membership and Consider a Gift**

As an independent, non-profit institution, we rely on the support and generosity of our community. How can you help the American Library in Paris throughout the year? Renew your Library membership, make a donation online, and tell your friends about the Library.

RENEW

DONATE

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.

## **BECOME A LIBRARY MEMBER**

[www.americanlibraryinparis.org](http://www.americanlibraryinparis.org)



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