



Alliance Française de la Péninsule de Monterey

PO Box 3573, Carmel, CA 93921

<http://www.afmonterey.org>

July & August 2020

Proverb of the month

Pluie du matin

En juillet, est bonne au vin

(Morning rain in July is good for the wine)

Due to the exceptional circumstances surrounding the ongoing shelter-in-place order, upcoming monthly Alliance Française de la Péninsule de Monterey events will be held over Zoom. The *Fête Nationale*, originally scheduled for July 12 at Via Paraiso Park, will also be held over Zoom.

Of course, if the current shelter-in-place order is lifted, we very much look forward to starting in-person events again. We will email all members with updated information just as soon as the situation changes.

We do hope to see you at one of our regular monthly events, which are now online! Please take a moment to explore the options below.

Monthly Events

NB: If you do not already have Zoom, you will need to download the application prior to any event: <https://zoom.us/download>. Participants will receive an email detailing how to access the meeting on the computer, ipad, or telephone.

Cercle du livre

Sunday July 5 and July 19 at 4pm | Zoom

A warm thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey and Director Jocelyne Muson who will be hosting the event! If you'd like to attend, please contact Jocelyne.

Books : *La naissance du jour* par Colette ; *Les Contes d'une grand-mère* par George Sand

Executive Committee meeting

Saturday, July 11 at 10am | Zoom

All Alliance members are invited to join the upcoming Executive Committee meeting over Zoom. Then, to join the meeting, go here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83048609611?pwd=WWdGRWMwOXhuTk91MHQwVDDqRE5yUT09>

Meeting ID: 830 4860 9611

Password: 969361

La Fête Nationale

Sunday July 12 at noon | Zoom

In place of our annual picnic at Via Paraiso to celebrate the French National Holiday, we will be holding a celebration online! On the agenda: a trivia game and/or mini-presentation about French history, opportunities to share memories about the July 14 holiday, and a sing-along of the *Marseillaise*. We hope to see you there!

If you'd like to join us, please RSVP to Melody Pao.

Café Conversation

Tuesday July 14, 10am | Zoom

Thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey who will be co-hosting the event with Director Christian Dreyer! If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian.

Apéro Conversation

Wednesday July 22, 5:30-6:30pm | Zoom

A big thank you to Director Nicole Chupka who will be hosting this event. Details about how to join us will be shared via email closer to the event date. BYOB! 😊

Soirée Cinéma: Les Misérables (2019)

Sunday July 26 at 4pm | Zoom

In light of recent events, we propose to discuss the movie *Les Misérables*, which depicts racism and police brutality in Paris suburbs. *Les Misérables* is a 2019 French drama directed by Ladj Ly in his full-length feature directorial debut. Set in the commune of Montfermeil in the aftermath of the 2018 FIFA World Cup, the film is based on a real-life occurrence of police violence which took place in the city on 14 October 2008, and which was observed and filmed by Ly. The film's title is a reference to Victor Hugo's 1862 novel of the same name, which was itself written in Montfermeil.

The film had its world première on May 15, 2019 at the Cannes Film Festival, where it won the Jury Prize. It went on to win four César Awards, including the Cesar for Best Film.

NB: Because we cannot gather together to watch the film, the soirée ciné event will be conducted in a slightly different manner. Before the event, you can [watch the film on Amazon](#) at your convenience. Then, we will meet at 4pm on July 26 to discuss the film over Zoom. Our Second Vice-President Melody Pao will facilitate the discussion.

If you would like to join us, please RSVP.

Déjeuner chez Bechler

Thursday July 30, 1pm | Zoom

Thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey who will be co-hosting the event with Director Christian Dreyer! If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian.

Links of interest

- A cycle of conferences on "French gastronomy from Prehistory to the Present" on Zoom proposed by our neighbor, the Alliance Française de Silicon Valley: https://www.afscv.org/2020/06/05/la-gastronomie-de-la-prehistoire-a-nos-jours-une-fabuleuse-aventure/?fbclid=IwARODJMHXbqqHjBapn8_5Wa3UCGHdeU5iAbBZploA5jzNkyREUtg8xM4LZeE
- "The best podcasts for francophiles": [https://france-amerique.com/fr/the-best-podcasts-for-francophiles/?ct=t\(France-Amerique-newsletter-28-june-2018_COPY_01\)](https://france-amerique.com/fr/the-best-podcasts-for-francophiles/?ct=t(France-Amerique-newsletter-28-june-2018_COPY_01))
- Enjoy the latest French films TV5Monde: <https://www.tv5mondecinemausa.com/>
- To celebrate this year's *fête de la musique*: <https://youtu.be/24dZd2cgVW4>
- *La Grande Librairie*, a program on the latest books published: <https://www.france.tv/france-5/la-grande-librairie/>
- The Paris Opera puts performances and ballet classes for free on its [Facebook page](#), including "[Don Pasquale](#)" by Donizetti and "[Boris Godounov](#)" by Mussorgsky
- French public radio (without advertising):
 - France Inter <https://www.franceinter.fr/>
 - France Culture <https://www.franceculture.fr/>

Past Events

Once again, AF Zoom meet-ups were a great success in June! Attendance remained consistent at 6-8 people at each event, and lively conversations in French abounded. We hope to see you at the next event!

Future Events in August

French Class

Date and time TBD | Zoom

We are exploring the possibility of organizing French courses for our members. To help us develop a potential curriculum, Melody Pao would like to offer a couple of trial classes, the first of which will be in August. If you are interested, please complete this questionnaire, which will help us understand your needs and interests. <https://forms.gle/Qen4wsSjxsWKvGGE37>

Cercle du livre

Sunday August 2 and August 16 at 4pm | Zoom

A warm thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey and Director Jocelyne Muson who will be hosting the event! If you'd like to attend, please contact Jocelyne.

Books : *La naissance du jour* par Colette ; *Les Contes d'une grand-mère* par George Sand

Café Conversation

Tuesday August 11, 10am | Zoom

Thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey who will be co-hosting the event with Director Christian Dreyer! If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian.

Soirée Cinéma

At 4pm, date and film TBD | Zoom

The film title as well as how and when to join us will be shared via email during the month of July.

Déjeuner chez Bechler

Thursday August 27, 1pm | Zoom

Thank you to AF member Juliet Twomey who will be co-hosting the event with Director Christian Dreyer! If you'd like to attend, please contact Christian.

Announcements

The Alliance needs your help

If you have been wanting to become a more active member of the Alliance Française, now is the time! We currently seek volunteers to become Directors for the 2021-2022 term, as well as:

- An Assistant Treasurer, who will get several months of training in expectation of being elected Treasurer for the 2021-2022 term; and
- A Poetry Contest Committee lead member, to support Poetry Contest Head, Pascale Richards-Deliens.

Please reach out to Claire Eagle if you are interested in any of the above open positions; we very much could use your help. Keep in mind that this is *your* Alliance, and we need your active participation to keep this organization running strong. Merci beaucoup!

Bulletins

Please note that there will not be an additional bulletin for the month of August.

Donations

In these challenging times, the Alliance Française relies on the generosity of members like you to stay resilient. If you are able to do so, please consider making a donation.

You may send a check to The Alliance Française de la Peninsule de Monterey, P.O. Box 3573, Carmel, CA 93921 or, if you have a [PayPal](#) account, you may log in, opt to "send money to friends and family" and send the desired amount to treasurer@afmonterey.org

We are also grateful to all who donated to our Alliance via Amazon Smile.

Thanks to your support, we can continue to thrive and organize events that promote French and francophone cultures and language! Merci beaucoup!