**Newsletter August-September 2018**

Dear Members of the Alliance Française,

The summer vacation is over! In France, we call this period “la rentrée”, and the concept goes well beyond the “back-to-school” since it also applies to the world of work. It is just that the French slow down all their serious activities in July and August. The “rentrée” is synonymous with newfound energy and exciting projects.

The program planned for the upcoming weeks and months is plentiful. Before giving you the details, here is a bit of information which may attract you to the Maison de France: a new artistic exposition is adorning our walls.

The pictures illustrating the events of May 68 have been taken down, and replaced by luminous and richly colored paintings from Bernadette Morris. Bernadette a Franco-American and North Carolinian of long date, paints France, but not solely, you will see. No less than fifty paintings can be discovered – and purchased if you so desire.

The vernissage (opening) of this new exposition *(link here)* will take place Thursday **September 6 at 7 p.m.** It will be an excellent occasion to meet again around a glass of wine, and to discuss the planned events for the fall.

The French courses will start back on **August 26**. Note the beginning on **August 28** of a truly original conversation workshop dedicated to [the authors of French detective novels](https://www.afraleigh.org/worshop-conversation-class). Sign up quickly as places are limited.

A new [guided visit in French](https://www.afraleigh.org/raleigh-museum-of-art) is planned at the Raleigh Museum of Art on **August 20,** this time the visit will be focused on the gallery of Rodin’s sculptures. In July, the first visit was a success with our members therefore, we decided to renew this opportunity. Reserve your tickets on our website quickly.

You may have received, by mail, the calendar including additional events for the month of August. Consult the website for details and for signing up. Here is a brief reminder:

* [Speak Easy](https://www.afraleigh.org/speak-easy): August 18
* [Cercle de convivialité](https://www.afraleigh.org/cercle-de-convivialite): August 21 at 7 p.m.
* [Hiking in French at Umstead Park](https://www.afraleigh.org/cercle-de-convivialite): August 25 at 10:00 am
* [Book Club](https://www.afraleigh.org/club-de-lecture): August 28 at 7:00 p.m. on “L’Etranger” from Camus

These same activities and events, as well as the Welcome Café and the Cine-Club, will be on the September program. However, as we are writing this newsletter, we do not know the exact dates and times. **Please consult the website on a regular basis to stay informed.**

One more information: For those of you who missed it, Hélène Crié-Wiesner will present again her conference on [May 68](https://www.afraleigh.org/single-post/2018/06/07/Talk-Mai-68-in-France-and-Europe) in France and in Europe on **September 27** at Duke University, as a guest of the [Center for French and Francophone Studies](https://francophone.duke.edu/events/mai-68-how-french-was-revolt-talk-h%C3%A9l%C3%A8ne-cri%C3%A9-ex-lib%C3%A9ration). Attendance is free. (The date posted on that site has not been corrected as yet.)

To conclude, allow me to praise our [Culturethèque](https://www.afraleigh.org/culturetheque), which you can access as members of the Alliance Française at no charge one more time. It is a great on-line library of French books (including the most recent books), daily newspapers and magazines, cartoons and graphic novels, documentaries etc…

All you need to do is to create for the first time a “login name”, a password, and to log on “my account” each time you visit. You will need to wait a few days after signing up for the Alliance Française to confirm your membership. Afterwards, you will be able to access so many materials to make your membership to AF worthwhile.

Wishing you a great end of summer. Hoping to see you soon at the Maison de France.

**The Team of the Alliance Française de Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill**