

AU COURANT

—Fall 2018



FRENCH
HERITAGE
SOCIETY



Parc de Bagatelle

The Black and Orange Ball | Interview with Lalique Chairman & CEO Silvio Denz
Education | Grant Profiles | “The American Friends of” Fiscal Sponsorship Program

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OPENING DECEMBER 2018



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FABRIQUE DE STYLES

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A Call to Action to Preserve France's Historic Treasures



In recent years, French Heritage Society has begun to emphasize more grants for French state-owned property. We have raised needed funds for such iconic images of France as the abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel, the church of Saint-Germain-des-Prés, as well as the Hôtel de la Monnaie, the French national mint on the Quai de Conti in Paris. This past June, I had the opportunity in Paris to visit several important historic monuments in a metamorphosis of monumental restoration.

After the stunning restoration of the Henri Labrouste domed and frescoed reading room at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, which is in the original 17th-century residence of Cardinal Richelieu, the B.N.F. is now undertaking restoration of an enfilade of historic rooms in this enormous city block mansion. We have already received a grant towards the restoration of the grand Mazarine Gallery. Other rooms such as Louis XV's private library in this building, and the Salon de Luynes, with its impressive *boiseries*, are also under restoration and available for funding. As I walked amid the scaffolding with my hard hat and rubber boots, my heart soared at the prospect of this fully restored Hôtel Particulier.

I also had enormous fun having a tour of the Opéra-Comique in the 2nd arrondissement near the Bourse. What a thrill it was to walk onto the stage, gaze out toward the orchestra seats, and look back at the iron pulley system for the stage sets which was designed by Gustave Eiffel. The Opéra-Comique was built in the 19th century as an opera house for the popular classes featuring romantic operettas. The Opéra-Comique is a gorgeous confection of marble, rococo columns, and painted murals. After the recent restoration of the Grand Foyer, there are two smaller adjoining anti-spaces which have been dulled by smoke and wear and tear over the years and are in need of restoration. It would be wonderful if FHS could raise funds to complete the necessary cleaning and restoration. I love attending productions in this delightful spot.

Perhaps the most monumental project that I visited was the Hôtel de la Marine, originally built in the 18th century as the storage warehouse for the French royal collection of furniture, as well as a depository for royal jewels. With its unsurpassed location overlooking the Place de la Concorde at the corner of the rue Royale, this will be a multi-faceted project around a museum of the history of France on the grand first floor with majestic period rooms that feature parquet de Versailles floors, glorious sculpted boiseries as well as charming small boudoirs, and even a mechanized disappearing dining room table. There will be a ground level open courtyard with entrances from both the Place de la Concorde and the rue Royale that will serve as a meeting space with cafés and affordable restaurants. Upscale commercial office space is planned for the upper floors. This ambitious project has an estimated multi million Euro cost, but small bite contributions are going to be solicited from the public as well as larger funding opportunities. I was struck by the marvelous blend of historical restoration and a visionary multi-use space blending culture, business, and social relaxation.

In addition, both the churches of the Madeleine and Notre Dame of Paris are mounting highly visible and important restoration projects. The pronaos at the Madeleine will be restored followed by other extensive restoration work. Notre Dame must repair and secure many exterior statues and gargoyles, as well as interior spaces. Alarming, Notre Dame is in a serious state of deterioration. Clearly, French Heritage Society must actively help raise funds for both of these emblematic Parisian churches.

Please contact either the New York or Paris office if you are interested in donating to one of these iconic and important Parisian monuments. The City of Paris needs us!



The Hôtel de la Marine, known as “the Versailles of Paris” is one of the major projects for which FHS is seeking funding.
Photo: Karen Archer

FRENCH HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Black and Orange Ball

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST, 2018
COCKTAIL RECEPTION 7PM
DINNER DANCE 8PM

THE PLAZA HOTEL - NEW YORK CITY

MUSIC BY ALEX DONNER AND HIS ORCHESTRA
BLACK TIE / MASKS / DISGUISES

The Black and Orange Ball

Gala Dinner Dance Honoring LALIQUE

Under the Gracious Patronage of
His Excellency Gérard Araud
Ambassador of France to the United States

His Excellency François Delattre
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of France to the United Nations
and Mrs. Sophie L'Hélias-Delattre

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WWW.LALIQUE.COM

The Black and Orange Ball CharityBuzz Auction

Online Auction at charitybuzz.com

Wednesday, October 24th – Wednesday, November 7th



Château de la Barre



Hôtel Claude Passart



Guadeloupe Islands



Fondation Louis Vuitton

Help support FHS' mission!
All proceeds from our online
auctions will help fund our grants
and programming.

Experience the real 'Vie de Château' in
the heart of the renowned Loire Valley as
guests of Count & Countess de Vanssay
including an exclusive adventure

Seize this unique opportunity for a 3 night-stay at Château de la Barre to enjoy the aristocratic and authentic French way of life in this luxurious privately-owned boutique hotel. Home of Count and Countess de Vanssay, in their family since 1404, it is the perfect embodiment of French refinement. It is surrounded by a gorgeous 100-acre private garden and park, XVth century fortifications and an impressive collection of antiques, oil paintings and tapestry. Adding to its magnificence, the Château is conveniently located in the famous Loire Valley, only 2 hours away from Paris. Enjoy a Deluxe double room, including daily American Breakfast, fresh flowers in your room, Hermès toiletries, and a welcome drink. You will also be treated to a complementary visit and tasting at a nearby winery. In addition, The Countess will offer you an exquisitely French adventure via her travel agency, Countess Connections. You will have a chance to discuss her various exclusive offerings (including A Grand Siècle Prestige Dinner, Vintage Citroen tour of Paris, a visit of D-Day beaches and "blend your own wine" workshop in Bordeaux) and she will hand-select the one best suited for you.

Enjoy a lunch for two with
Juan Pablo Molyneux in his breathtaking
Parisian home

Seize this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enjoy a private lunch for two with internationally acclaimed interior designer Juan Pablo Molyneux in his spectacular Parisian home. Mr. Molyneux is known for creating interiors that refer to the past with a twist of the unexpected. His work includes private residences as well as public building interiors such as the Cercle de l'Union Interalliée, a prestigious private members' club in Paris, the Pavilion of Treaties in Saint Petersburg, Russia, and the Russian Federation rooms in the Palais des Nations and the United States headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. During your personal guided tour of the Hôtel Claude Passart, you will have a chance to discover the artistry and inspiration behind each room. Don't miss this exceptional opportunity to discover Juan Pablo Molyneux's work in this intimate and unique setting.

Enjoy a 3-night stay for two at 4-star
hotel La Créole Beach Hôtel & Spa in the
Guadeloupe Islands

Start planning your winter getaway to the Guadeloupe Islands, the French Caribbean archipelago, by bidding on this special package. From gorgeous soft white, golden, or black sand beaches, to misty mountains and spectacular waterfalls, the five islands of Guadeloupe will charm you with their "Art de Vivre" and simplicity. Nestled in the heart of a tropical garden, among palm trees, hibiscuses, and bougainvilleas, and close to a beach of ivory sand, La Créole Beach Hôtel and Spa will welcome you to paradise.

Enjoy an intimate private tour for 4 of the
Fondation Louis Vuitton in Paris, during
closing hours

Enjoy an intimate guided tour for 4 of the Fondation Louis Vuitton in Paris and discover its remarkable permanent collection and ongoing exhibitions during closing hours. Your in-depth tour will also grant you first-hand access to the Fondation's special exhibits, including its much awaited and unprecedented Jean-Michel Basquiat – Egon Schiele exhibit. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to intimately explore the Fondation Louis Vuitton's awe-inspiring collection during closing hours in the presence of an expert.

Enjoy a Lunch for two with Hermès family
member and Executive Vice President
Guillaume de Seynes in Paris

Join Guillaume de Seynes, Hermès family member and Executive Vice President, for a very exclusive lunch for two on the mythical Hermès terrace of the 24 rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré, overlooking Paris. Get a chance to know more about this iconic French luxury brand by meeting one of its family members and leading figures. Mr. de Seynes will give you valuable insight into his family's brand as well as his impressive background and experience in the luxury industry!

Additional exciting lots await you
online...

We thank our generous donors, including Ann & William Van Ness, Count Denis de Kergorlay, Count & Countess de Vanssay, Countess Connections, CPS Events at the Plaza, Christian Duvernois Landscape/Studio, Fondation Louis Vuitton & LVMH, Fonds pour Paris, Guadeloupe Islands Tourist Board & La Creole Beach Hotel & Spa, Hermès, Hôtel Le Pigonnet, Intercontinental Bordeaux – Le Grand Hôtel, John Lobb, Juan Pablo Molyneux, Lalique, La Réserve Paris – Hotel, Spa and Apartments, Le Bristol Paris, Maison Trudon 1643, Monnaie de Paris, Tim Corrigan, The Guerlain Spa New York, The Pierre New York, a Taj Hotel



An Interview with Silvio Denz, Chairman & CEO of Lalique

As Lalique, the renowned French luxury brand, celebrates its 130th Anniversary this year and is honored at FHS' The Black and Orange Ball at The Plaza Hotel in New York City, the company's Chairman and CEO Silvio Denz responded to questions from Karen Archer, FHS' Deputy Director for Communications & Strategic Development.

For you, what three words best describe Lalique ?

French craftsmanship, tradition and heritage

In celebrating Lalique's 130th anniversary this year, how would you describe the company's evolution?

I purchased Lalique in 2008 and we have transformed the brand into a luxury lifestyle brand. Today, the Lalique Group is in the business of creation, development, and global distribution of luxury goods. Each of Lalique's core pillars have been inspired by the creative genius of founder René Lalique and his prolific work in so many diverse fields: jewelry, decorative objects, interior design, fragrance, art and hospitality. We are proud to have built a bridge between the past and the present, and our team is constantly looking ahead to the future to ensure Lalique's timelessness.

How did your particular tastes and passions shape a broad global vision for Lalique ?

My passions and my businesses are very much linked. I invested in wine that was initially a passion. And my work in fragrance became a passion, which originally attracted me to Lalique. I like to create links between different universes: crystal, wine, art, hospitality, in order to create emotions. A marriage between the French art of living and the French savoir-faire. People can discover the convergence of all of these universes in our hotels and restaurants in Alsace and Sauternes. It is all about savoir-vivre and savoir-faire.

How are you building upon the core pillars of Lalique's savoir-faire to make it more relevant to how we live today and the role luxury brands play in our lives ?

For the decorative objects, art, interior design and hospitality pillars, our designers are collaborating with leading visionaries to offer our customers the most spectacular products and experiences available today that will enrich their lives and create emotion. Lalique is pushing those boundaries and combining universes for next level opportunities for our clients to live that lifestyle.

Can you tell us about your collaboration with contemporary artists and designers?

We would like to give artists the opportunity to create pieces in crystal, that is a magical and surprising material. In 2009, I decided to resurrect the lost-wax technique, using it to create exceptional pieces of art, either unique pieces or small series. Lalique gives carte-blanche to leading names in contemporary art, architecture and design, inviting them to work with our company's expertise to create limited edition pieces. The fusion of the artist's creativity and Lalique's award-winning craftsmen has brought to life incredible artwork that breathe fresh inspiration into our crystal designs. Since 2011, we have worked with the Yves Klein Foundation, Zaha Hadid, Anish Kapoor, Mario Botta, the Rembrandt Bugatti family, Terry Rodgers and Damien Hirst.

Tell us about your latest adventure, Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey.

This Chateau has a unique terroir; it is classified 1er Grand Cru Classé de 1855, and the exceptional location is next to Château d'Yquem as well as five other 1er Grands Crus Classés. Therefore, the property in the region of Sauternes was the ideal place to create a luxury hotel-restaurant. The Château opened in June 2018, marking the 400th anniversary of the Château, and has already become Relais & Châteaux certified. We search for excellence in everything we do and Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey brings together the worlds of wine, crystal, gastronomy and hospitality that serves art and the senses.

How would you define your connection with American consumers and what appeals to them?

French and Americans have long shared a history together, embedding ideals and culture across generations. Americans not only appreciate beauty in design but also innovation, which René Lalique championed, hence Americans have always been an important group of Lalique collectors and enthusiasts. The expansion of pillars for the brand have been critical to shaping luxury living in America.

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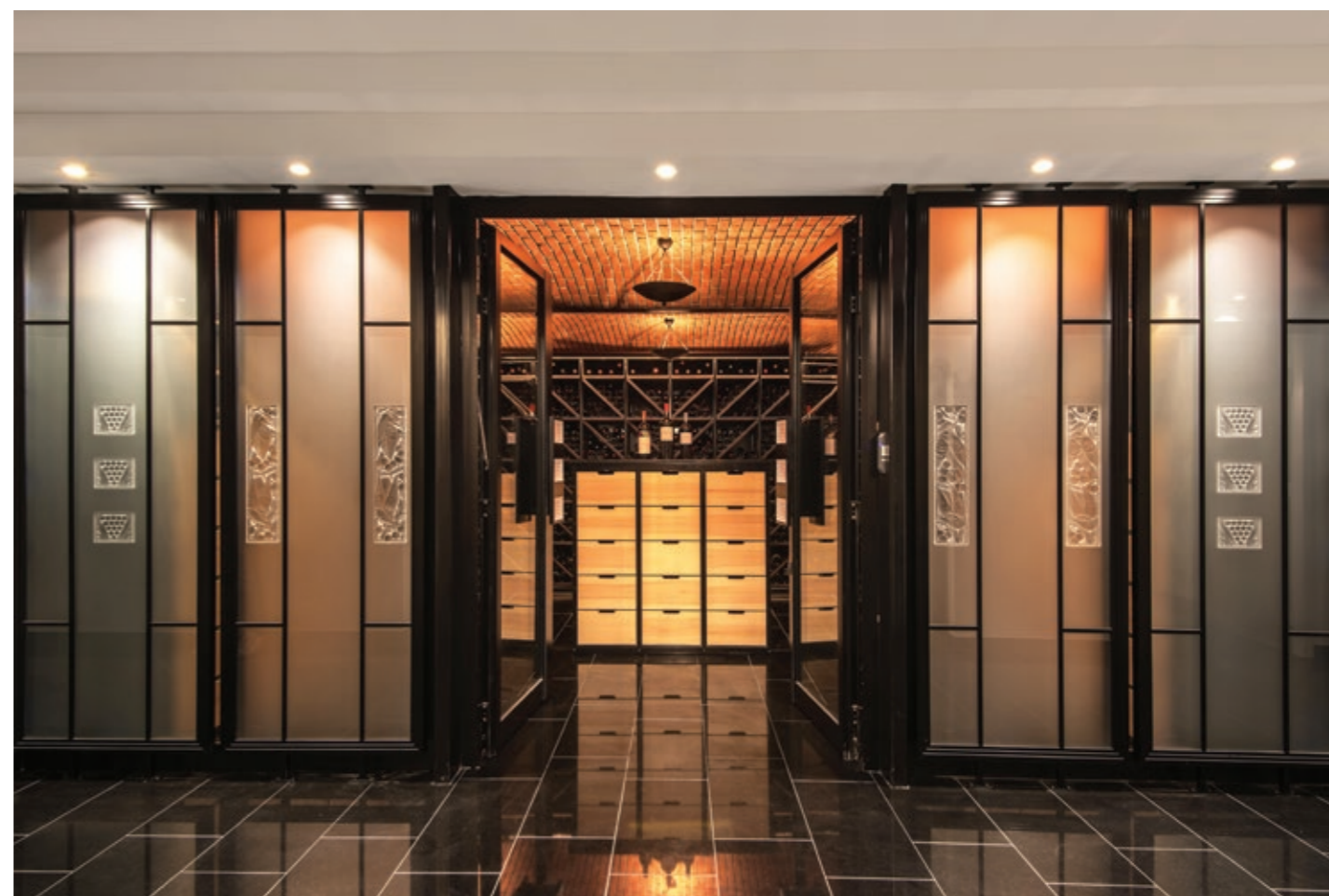
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ATELIERS D'ART
DE FRANCE

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Top to bottom: Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey, located in the Bordeaux wine region, is the luxury lifestyle brand Laliq's latest venture; Château Lafaurie-Peyraguey's wine cellar with iconic Laliq crystal panels

2018 Student Exchange Program

Seeing the World with New Eyes



For FHS' 2018 Student Exchange Program, Diane de Roquette-Buisson and Amy Fienga, Co-Chairman of the program, forged a number of new partnerships including with the Parc de Bagatelle. Of the 31 internships, we highlight in this section a few from both sides of the Atlantic to bring into focus how these few weeks in a young adult's life can be instrumental in their future careers and their way of looking at the world.

Eleis Lester, of Magnolia Garden, interned at the Parc de Bagatelle. Eleis is the first student intern to have participated in FHS' new partnership with the Parc de Bagatelle. The Bagatelle Gardens comprise an area of 24 hectares located in the Bois de Boulogne on the western edge of Paris. It is one of four divisions of the Botanical Garden of the City of Paris with the Auteuil greenhouse gardens, the floral garden of Paris and the arboretum located in the Bois de Vincennes. Acquired by the City of Paris in 1905, the park was converted into a public promenade, site for a rose festival every June and numerous horticultural exhibitions.

Eleis recounts some of the highlights of her internship this summer. "As a recently-graduated student looking to create a small place for myself in the world of horticulture, this internship has totally re-aligned how I imagine my future. It's no surprise that I will need to find a niche and work hard to cultivate it, but before this summer, I had not spent enough time considering how to build a life around and within horticulture. Following my time at Bagatelle, I understand that it's vital to create a routine that allows for exploration and research. It's necessary to establish a lifestyle that balances work and

play and makes the transition between the two simple. And more importantly, it's crucial to make time to greet our colleagues, listen to their ideas, share a meal together, ask questions and know a bit about them when working quietly side by side."

"Each morning the gardeners gathered together thirty minutes before work began to sip coffee, read the paper, and in this case, speculate on the prospects of Les Bleus. At first glance, my American work ethic resisted and questioned this tradition, and I was confounded that we were allowed, much less encouraged, to take this time each morning. But later, it became clear that the rhythm of the garden makes time for preparing one's heart and mind for the work ahead. Over time I noticed that gardeners were not just using this time for reading or socializing, but often spent that precious thirty minutes researching a particular plant online or perusing books in the small horticultural library. Given consistent, unstructured time each day, the gardeners followed up on an idea, explored new designs or debated plant placement and care. In time I followed suit and happily spent time talking about the differences between North American and European plant species and soil structure."

"I feel fortunate to have gained so much knowledge on such diverse topics. I was delighted to work in the *roseraie*, Mediterranean garden and in the water lily pond. All of the gardeners at Bagatelle were incredibly patient, especially early in the internship when I was not completely comfortable with the language. I appreciate being included in the rose competition (and the fabulous lunches that followed!) and was delighted to meet rose experts from all over the world."



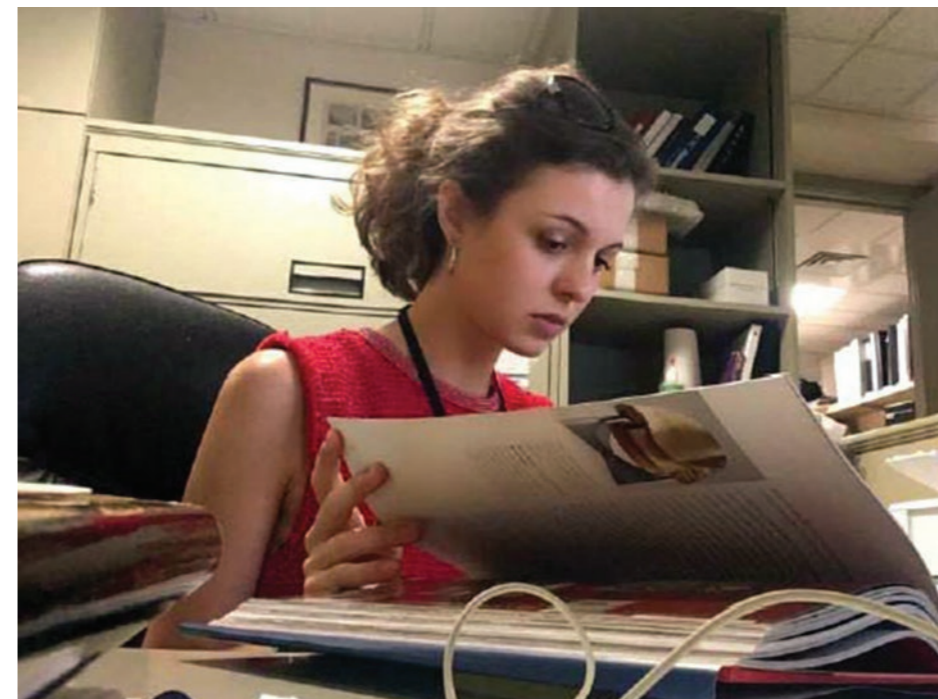
2018 Student Exchange Program



Mathilde Tollet, currently working on her Masters degree in museology and research from the École du Louvre in Paris, spent the summer at The Preservation Society of Newport County under the guidance of curator Paul Miller. “I did research on Lucien Alavoine (1858-1917), a French decorator who founded his firm Alavoine & CO in the 1890s in France and opened a branch in New York in 1893, first on Broadway and later on in Fifth Avenue. I worked on his biography and discovered archives about his birth, his family, his parents, wife and children and confirmed his date of death by verifying newspaper announcements. Reports from the time reveal that ‘the carriages of everyone of importance came to the cobblestone courtyard on the rue Caumartin. Alavoine seemed to do almost every important piece of work that was being done at the time – even the interiors of the Palace of the Emperor of Japan...Then the Americans came: Astor, Oelrichs, Berwind, Duke – they all visited Alavoine when they came to Paris.’ During the 1890s, great American collectors such as Pierpont Morgan, Henry Walters, and Henry Clay Frick demanded museum-quality pieces with which to furnish their townhouses and country mansions...Later Alavoine began collaborating with other decorations such as Allard & Sons.”

“In Newport, the interiors of The Elms, the French-style home constructed by Trumbauer for Edward J. Berwin between 1899 and 1901, were decorated by Jules Allard and Lucien Alavoine. Besides this important collaboration, the Salve Regina University conserves some letters between L. Alavoine & CO and Ogden Goelet, a businessman and yachtsman from New York City who commissioned Ochre Court, the second largest mansion in Newport after The Breakers nearby, both designed by Richard Morris Hunt. This internship gave me the opportunity to work directly on those collections and archives.”

“I also visited all the mansions managed by The Preservation Society which was very interesting because the collections are very rich and of high-quality. This professional experience contributed to enrich my knowledge about the Gilded Age and especially about the exciting artistic exchanges between France and the United States during the 19th century.”



2018 Student Exchange Program

In Their Own Words



Eleis Lester, Magnolia Garden
Parc de Bagatelle

“The most remarkable result of my internship at Les Jardins de Bagatelle has little to do with the particulars of horticulture, the triumph and sorrows inherent in learning a new language, or the stunning, historic sites of Paris. Instead, in the weeks following my time in France, I found that the truest impact of my internship lies in a new-found sense of time, rhythm and lifestyle. Thank you for this opportunity to discover the rhythms of France through the lens of horticulture. I look forward to recreating those rhythms in my life and work in the years to come.”



Nancy Thebaut, University of Chicago
Musée Carnavalet, Paris

“In many ways, I felt more like an invited ”conseillère scientifique” than an intern at the Carnavalet Museum. I was asked to perform a task that is typically only reserved for curators, given an audience with the director and curatorial staff to present my ideas for well over an hour, and my feedback was taken seriously and will shape the new permanent installation in substantial ways.”



Alexandre Coquerille, École Nationale Supérieure de Paysage
Chicago Botanic Garden

“This internship allowed me to understand the functioning of botanic gardens in the U.S., to visualize their landscapes, to understand the organization of spaces and the aesthetic research of these gardens. My vision of the landscaping profession seems clearer to me and reaffirms my choice for a future career.”



Siti Ahmed, École Nationale Supérieure de Paysage
Saint Anthony’s Garden, New Orleans, LA

“Thanks to French Heritage Society, my dream came true. My internship at Saint Anthony’s Garden made me grow professionally and culturally and I learned so much from others, beyond my expectations.”



Yohan Mainguy, ED École du Louvre
WWII Museum, New Orleans, LA

“I want to thank the entire National World War II Museum team, which welcomed and treated me as a full-fledged member of the institution: curators, collection managers, archives managers and technicians, reception officers, and even the Soda shop team and their fabulous milk shakes...This internship in New Orleans was the most exciting internship and life experience I have ever had. All my gratitude goes to French Heritage Society and all the people, colleagues and (new) friends who made all these moments truly unforgettable.”



Margaret McCrummen Fowler, Tulane University
Musée d’Orsay

“It is my great joy to express immense gratitude to both French Heritage Society and to Paul Perrin, Curator of Painting at the Musée d’Orsay, for this opportunity. To have the chance to work at the Musée d’Orsay, an institution that figures so powerfully in the discourses of modern art, was spectacular both personally and professionally. Thank you. As places where scholarship is not only produced but also shared, museums and their highly public missions continue to draw me towards curatorial work. I care deeply about the work and mission of the institutional museum, which is, after all, the place I first encountered the art to which I have given my career.”



Lisa Hilgenberg, Internship Director
Chicago Botanic Garden Horticulturist

“We’ve been so pleased and honored to work with French Heritage Society in this partnership, also the art of teaching gardening is something we are very interested to develop here at the Chicago Botanic Garden. (...) Thank you !”

Alfred Lemmon, Internship Director, Director of the Williams Research Center (The Historic New Orleans Collection)

“I enjoy tremendously working with interns from French Heritage Society, because when I was their age, I enjoyed such an experience myself. I know the value of it and for me the best way to tell people thank you for hosting me, is to continue the tradition. Thank you !”

2018 Student Program in France and the U.S.



15 Americans Students interning in France

University of Chicago
Nancy THEBAUT
Musée Carnavalet

Cornell University
Lois NGUYEN
Potager du Roi, Versailles

University of Georgia
Garrett FORD
Château d'Acquigny
Château de Canisy

Abby BURTS
Château de Brécly
Château de la Bourdaisière
Château de Vauville

Harvard University
Saskia KELLER
Château de Fontainebleau

Longwood Gardens
Lauren KOPE
Horticulture Circuit

Magnolia Garden
Eleis LESTER
Parc de Bagatelle

Middlebury College
Caroline GODARD
Château de Gizeux
Château de Montréal

Patrick LOUGHLIN
Château de Montréal

Princeton University
Maddi ROSS
Château de Commarque

Smith College
Lucy HALL
Château de Vaux-le-Vicomte

School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)
Melis SIMSEK
Architect Residency
Château de Chambord

Skye TAYLOR
Architect Residency
Château de Chambord

Tulane University
Margaret FOWLER
McCRUMMEN
Musée d'Orsay

Yale University
Theodore ELLIMAN
Musée de Picasso

16 French Students interning in the US

Ecole du Louvre
Mathilde ALMAYRAC
Historic New England,
Boston, MA

Madeleine BALANSINO
Historic New Orleans
Collection, LA

Alice BALAZY
Louisiana State Museum
New Orleans, LA

Salomé DUDEMAINE
Fashion Institute of Technology,
NYC

Justine JEAN
Museum of Art & Design, NYC

Yohan MAINGUY
WWII Museum
New Orleans, LA

Angéline PETIT
Laura Plantation,
Vacherie, LA

Margaux RUAUD
Lyndhurst Estate,
Tarrytown, NY

Mathilde TOLLET
Preservation Society of Newport
County, Newport, RI

Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Paysage
Siti AHMED
Saint Anthony's Garden,
New Orleans, LA

Olivier CHENEVIER
Magnolia Garden,
Charleston, SC

Alexandre COQUERILLE
Chicago Botanic Garden,
Chicago, IL

Hugo DECOUX
Magnolia Garden,
Charleston, SC

Margaux L'EQUILBEC
Lyndhurst Estate,
Tarrytown, NY

Pauline MECCHI
Middleton Place,
Charleston, SC

Marie RUFFIER-MONET
Longwood Gardens,
Kennett Square, PA



From top: FHS' Student Exchange Program Co-Chairmen Diane de Roquette-Buisson and Amy Fienga (center back row) host American student interns and their French program directors at a welcome cocktail in Diane's garden near Paris to start off the summer. Photo © Raphaele Sevrain; In New York, FHS' Executive Director Jennifer Herlein (center) enjoys a visit of the MET with French interns in New York City during a special Intern Day to welcome the students.

2018 Grant – La Bibliothèque Nationale de France-Richelieu

The Historic French National Library Gets a Major Facelift Before Opening to the Public in 2021

In 2017, French Heritage Society awarded 21 restoration and cultural grants totaling nearly \$ 1.1 million. In 2018, to date, the American association has awarded 20 grants for a total of \$ 847,000. With some pending project still to be confirmed, FHS is hoping to once again surpass the one-million-dollar mark for the second year in a row. This vital assistance to support French heritage, mainly in France but also in the United States, affects all types of historic heritage, both public and private.

A striking example of FHS' public sector support is the two grants awarded this year for the magnificent restoration of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France-Richelieu (the French National Library's historic Richelieu site). With the support of the Florence Gould Foundation, FHS is proud to award a \$354,000 grant for the restoration of the Mazarine Gallery and, with the support of Iron Mountain Incorporated (specialist in preservation, storage, and archiving of documents), to award a second grant of \$80,000 for the restoration of the Louis XV Salon.

The Richelieu site today houses the specialized collections of the BnF with 20 million documents kept there (Performing Arts, Maps and Plans, Prints and Photography, Manuscripts, Coins, Medals and Antiquities). This is a major project of the French Ministry of Culture that began in 2007 and will be completed in 2021. This renovation is a historic opportunity for both the collections and the buildings of the site. It is indeed the first time in its history that the BnF has the chance to rethink and renovate the building in its entirety. It is also an opportunity to see the BnF fully assume its place among the largest and most preeminent libraries in the world such as The British Library in London and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

In 2021, to celebrate 300 years of the installation of the Royal Library at the site, for the first time Richelieu will offer the public a completely redesigned museum space presenting the treasures preserved in the collections of the BnF. This selection, renewed regularly, will bring together famous works (Manuscripts of *Les Misérables*, notebooks of drawings by Degas), rare pieces (Grand Camée de France, the throne of Dagobert) and emblematic documents and items of the collections (the Behaim Globe, etc.). The new museum will occupy some of the most prestigious rooms of the site: Mazarine Gallery, Louis XV Salon, Columns Room, Luynes Room.

French Heritage Society is proud to participate in the restoration of two of the most beautiful places of the entire site. The Mazarine Gallery, built by François Mansart between 1644 and 1646, is one of the rare examples of a Palatine gallery in France, like the Apollo Gallery in the Louvre. Decorated in the purest Baroque style, the painted ceiling is one of the jewels of the Richelieu site, a vast cycle of frescos inspired by Ovid's *Metamorphoses* and mythological and heroic subjects. The gallery, classified as a historic monument, whose vault, with a surface of 280 sq. meters, has many cracks and dark spots. Once restored, the Mazarine Gallery will become one of the most beautiful spaces of the new museum of the BnF.

The other project supported by FHS, the Louis XV Salon, or Cabinet of the King, will become a veritable period cabinet when it opens to the public in 2021. The salon was built in the 18th century to house the royal collection of coins and medals, one of the most remarkable in the world. Its decor, painted by the three great masters of the 18th century François Boucher, Charles Natoire and Carle Van Loo, and its furniture constitute an ensemble unique in the world. The painted decorations of the King's cabinet require major restoration work to restore their original brilliance and colors.

FHS is delighted to participate in this ambitious restoration that will open to the French as well as to visitors from around the world one of the most sumptuous places in Paris.



From top: Detail of the Salon Louis XV and a decorative painting above the doorway of Melpomene, the muse of tragedy, by François Boucher; The vault of the Mazarine Gallery under restoration during a visit by the chief architect, Isabelle de Laroullière, and Freddy Dressen of the Florence Gould Foundation. Photo © Karen Archer



Isabelle de Laroullière, Madame and M. Etienne de Clercq, their American cousins Emily Nielsen and her mother Mrs. Nielsen. Photo credit © Régis de Laroullière

Histoire de famille Domaine de l'Oustal de Tarteron

Each grant awarded by French Heritage Society represents not only a project, but a story – often a very personal one. The Domaine de l'Oustal de Tarteron is a perfect example. The 2017 French Heritage Society- Edmond Cherbonnier grant of \$93,000 was a long time in coming to fruition for the restoration of the stone support walls of the terraced gardens and their drainage basins and for the silk factory on the estate.

Out of the blue, in November 2011 FHS' New York Office received a call from Emily Nielsen who wanted to make a donation to the l'Oustal. Isabelle de Laroullière, FHS' Grants and Awards Committee Chairman, contacted the owner in France, Etienne de Clercq, the following month only to learn that the property was neither landmarked nor listed, a requirement for all FHS grants. Etienne de Clercq thus undertook the arduous process of having the property listed as an historic monument, a process that would take several years, with great assistance from the regional VMF (an FHS partner association) delegate at the time. Finally, in December 2014 the property received listed status, allowing the owner to apply for aid from the French government through regional and local authorities. Another condition for receiving an FHS grant is to obtain matching funds of at least the equivalent amount of the grant from outside sources. With this new protected status, the path was clear to request such funding. In 2017 the outside funding was secured, and the Nielsen family was able to make their donation to FHS for the grant awarded last year.

But why did this young American donor contact FHS in the first place? Emily Nielsen and her mother are part of the American branch of the de Clercq family. Their story traces the history of a family that goes back more than 500 years in the Languedoc region in the south of France. The Tarteron family were counselors to the king and managed the finances for the Languedoc region in typical “noblesse de robe” style. They lived at the Domaine de l'Oustal, their stately 15th-century house built on the foundations of a 13th-century priory. The family became divided by a quarrel over a beautiful young lady that led to a duel. The young man in question, Louis-Auguste de Tarteron, having just defeated his rival, had to flee as duels were outlawed under Richelieu. His travels eventually led him to New Orleans in 1786 then to Saint Louis where he was one of the founders of the city. He married a woman of French descent, the daughter of the mayor of New Orleans, and had seven children. One of them would have numerous American cousins, ancestors of Edmond Cherbonnier, Emily Nielsen's grandfather whom we will come back to later.

“This is really the story of a family” remarks owner Etienne de Clercq. “One of the American cousins, Louis-Alexandre de Tarteron, returned to France to reclaim his family's heritage, got along well with his French cousin who was married but without children and who ended up leaving his inheritance to this American cousin. Louis-Alexandre fell in love and married a young woman from the region and in 1833 returned to America with her but the couple travelled often to France. One of their daughters inherited l'Oustal, and in turn her daughter, Alice, took over the estate.” Today Alice's great grand-daughter and her family inherited l'Oustal and are working to maintain and restore it.



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In 1970 Edmond Cherbonnier, Emily Nielsen’s grandfather, was doing research on his family tree and decided to look up his long-lost French cousins. The following year he made his first trip to l’Oustal, the family’s ancestral home, with his wife and child by his side. Once the American and French branches of the family reunited, a long abiding friendship developed and has been nurtured from generation to generation. It was Emily Nielsen and her mother’s wish to help their French cousins restore the family’s historic property that represents their French roots that inspired Emily to make the call on that November day to FHS’ New York Office.

As for the restoration project, it also has a rich history. The stone support walls of the terraced gardens and a series of stairstep-basins that allow water drainage from the steep hills needed to be urgently repaired. These stone basins prevented the water run-off from flowing down the steep hills and reaching the house in the event of heavy rains so their restoration was essential in order to preserve the estate. This type of stone-terraced garden is typical of the region but slowly disappearing. That is one of the reasons why the Cévennes region was classified by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. The second phase of restoration concerns the silk factory on the property, the oldest in the region, that was in use when the estate was heavily involved in textile manufacturing from the end of the 17th century until 1830.

One of the side benefits of having the estate listed as a historic monument is that the village surrounding it also enjoys a level of protection. The domain and the village illustrate the charm that the French countryside is renowned for and that attracts so many visitors.

As Etienne de Clercq states, “for more than five centuries, l’Oustal has followed the history of a family according to the lifestyles and the various fortunes of each generation and their successive adaptations. Today, it is still there, a witness of time and the men who were born, lived, and died within its walls. It is the duty of those who live here to look after it and safeguard it so that our contemporaries and future generations will benefit from the history and heritage that it represents. And that is why we turn humbly and hopefully to all those who want to accompany us in this endeavor to safeguard it.” Their American cousins share this sentiment.

“American Friends of” Fiscal Sponsorship Program Launched by FHS

The central mission of French Heritage Society is to ensure that the treasures of the shared French architectural and cultural heritage survive to inspire future generations to build, dream, and create. The French Heritage Society Fiscal Sponsorship Program is designed to assist French non-profit organizations in their efforts to raise funds in the United States in support of their mission. Under this unique Program, FHS will create a new entity in the U.S. for each of the French non-profit organizations in the Program.

These new entities will be named “American Friends of [name of French non-profit], LLC” and will enable the French non-profit to coordinate its marketing, branding and image efforts and to fundraise in the United States as if it had its own 501(c)(3) organization. The FHS Program will save the French non-profit the trouble, expense and delay of setting up a 501(c)(3) organization and, on an ongoing basis, it will enable the French non-profit to avoid the need to allocate money and resources to administer such an organization in compliance with the complex rules and regulations of the IRS applicable to 501(c)(3) organizations. Donations, contributions or grants to these new entities by individuals, public or private foundations or companies that are subject to U.S. tax laws will be eligible for the maximum tax deduction available under U.S. tax laws.

Interested French non-profits are invited to submit an application for admission to the Program. The application is designed to provide FHS with basic information about the French non-profit’s mission, administration, programs, funding sources, governance and leadership.

We are pleased to announce that the first two Fiscal Sponsorship Program agreements have been signed with Fondation Saint-Omer – Valeurs Transatlantiques and Association pour la Sauvegarde et la Mise en Valeur de l’Abbaye de Lagrasse.

Fondation Saint-Omer – Valeurs Transatlantiques’ mission and purposes include to better understand and qualify the multidimensional set of values encapsulated by students during their stay in St Omer in the 18th century, to develop how and why this set of values was instrumental in facing leadership challenges when St Omer students came back to the US, and to transpose this set of values to our times to help today’s generations face challenges.

The city of Saint-Omer is located 40 miles west of Lille and 30 miles south of Calais. It is at the entrance of the Audomarais marshes and wetlands recently named a UNESCO world heritage site. Saint-Omer is described as sitting atop the chalk hills of the Artois as they blend into the plains of Flanders and the coastal plains reclaimed from the sea. Its Flemish influence develops the city center of Saint-Omer as a major trading town by the 1300’s and by the 1600’s as an important seat of scholarly study. The College of Saint-Omer was established in 1593 to educate English Catholics. The Jesuit Chapel was built from 1615 to 1640. The restoration of the former Jesuit college chapel, which received a grant from FHS, is part of a larger cooperation project that aims to renew educational and cultural links between France and the United States.

There were more American students at Saint-Omer at the beginning of the 16th century than at Oxford. Three of America’s Founding Fathers were educated in Saint-Omer: Charles Carroll, the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence, Daniel Carroll, one of only two Catholic signers of the Constitution, and John Carroll who became America’s first Catholic Bishop and founded Georgetown University.

Three hundred years later, transatlantic exchanges still continue. Each summer, as part of an exchange program with the universities of Georgetown, Harvard, and Chicago, American students are able to take part in an internship program with Saint-Omer businesses and government services.



The Jesuit Chapel in Saint-Omer seen from the Municipal Library. Many Americans studied here in the 18th century. Photo © Karen Archer

“Following their studies with us, the young Americans became defenders of freedom, men of action and progress, who had absorbed a French ecosystem,” notes the Foundation’s vice-president, Edouard-François de Lencquesaing.

Association pour la Sauvegarde et la Mise en Valeur de l’Abbaye de Lagrasse’s mission and purposes include providing assistance and support (financial, legal, academic, etc.) to the community of regular Canons of the Mother of God in their restoration projects for the Abbey Sainte-Marie de Lagrasse, a classified, historical monument.

The Abbey Sainte-Marie de Lagrasse, one of the most prestigious religious monuments in the South of France, is between Montpellier and Toulouse, half an hour from the medieval city of Carcassonne. Founded in the 8th century, it enjoyed the protection of Emperor Charlemagne. It presents a veritable catalog of architecture, from the 10th to the 18th century, and bears the traces of eminent political and spiritual influence. Abandoned to deterioration over time since the French Revolution, devoid of all religious presence for years, would this jewel lose its importance as a testimonial of the past, in the 21st century that is so in need of roots and hope? In 2004, the regular Canons of the Mother of God took up the challenge. This community, founded in 1970, now has 35 members, the majority of whom are destined to become priests. Their charism combines prayer, fraternal life, and the many forms of spiritual service and support that the world today thirsts for.

Thanks to this community, to the many completed restorations, including the cloister which received two previous FHS grants, the Abbey of Lagrasse has found its vocation: to be a living place of prayer, of culture and hospitality, offering to all an oasis of peace and prayer. Today, the church has become too small to accommodate worshipers and visitors. Cut off from its two transepts, its bell tower separated and in peril at the end of an open transept, the church, the beating heart of the Abbey, becomes an exceptional symbol of a human, cultural and spiritual recovery. This is the restoration project that will begin this year and will take at least 5 years.

The community opens the Abbey to some 17,000 visitors a year and created the Association for the Safeguard and Development of the Lagrasse Abbey, a secular cultural association that organizes university-level conferences and produces summaries of them. At the heart of their activities, of course, is the gigantic project of restoring this abbey, which suffered greatly over the past two centuries. Through the FHS Fiscal Sponsorship Program this non-profit association will be able to develop its network and fundraising in the U.S. in order to continue major restoration work for the abbey.

For more information about the FHS Fiscal Sponsorship Program, please contact Alain Pilet, FHS’ Chief Administrative Officer, at the New York Office.





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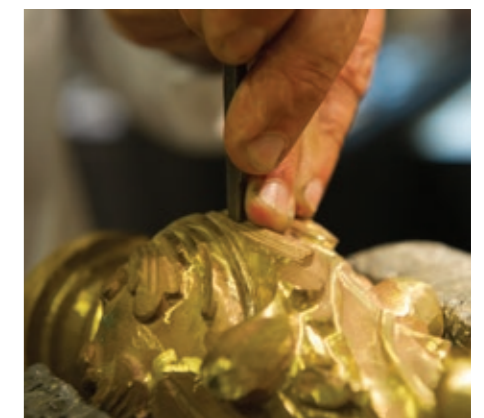
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Define your legacy through French Heritage Society. At the heart of our charitable mission is a belief that the most enduring expression of a culture is the preservation of its highest achievements. Thus, French Heritage Society exists to ensure that French cultural treasures in the United States and France survive and continue to inspire future generations. We are pleased to promote our Planned Giving Program and invite you to consider a legacy gift in your estate plan. Your support of our Planned Giving Program will ensure that our organization maintains its crucial role in promoting our shared beliefs and charitable mission in the United States and France for years to come.

Consider French Heritage Society in your estate plan. A bequest to French Heritage Society in your estate plan can support our charitable mission and enshrine your philanthropic legacy. When structured properly, charitable contributions can also provide donors with significant tax benefits, some extending beyond the gift year. Though there are many creative ways to provide for charity, a simple bequest in a will or designation on a beneficiary form may often suffice.

Please contact our New York office at 212-759-6846 to learn more or to obtain sample bequest language to include in your estate plan. If you have already named FHS as a beneficiary of your estate, please let us know so that we may welcome you into our Legacy Society. Requests for anonymity will be honored.



Make a gift in your will

Charitable bequests through a will or trust are among the easiest ways to make significant future gifts to the individuals and charities that matter the most. We hope that you will consider FHS in your estate plan.

Name FHS as a beneficiary of an account

Retirement accounts, life insurance policies, and other investment accounts can be dedicated to charity through beneficiary designation forms. Due to special tax considerations, these assets could make an excellent choice for funding a charitable gift.

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The annual Dîner des Mécènes was held on May 28th, 2018 at the Ritz Paris with two prominent Guests of Honor from the world of heritage preservation, Stéphane Bern, renowned journalist and television host, and Jean d'Haussonville, Director of the National Domain of Chambord. Under the leadership of our Gala Co-Chairmen Valérie de Condé, Sarah de Lencquesaing and Cassandra Surer, the Paris Gala brought together 170 French and American guests in support of French Heritage Society's mission. Elizabeth Stribling, FHS Chairman, and Denis de Kergorlay, President, welcomed distinguished guests including Prince Aymn Aga Khan, Louis Giscard d'Estaing and Prince Pierre d'Arenberg, leaders in the world of heritage and Franco-American relations. French Heritage Society's trophy from Lalique was presented to the Guests of Honor in recognition of their contributions in favor of French heritage.

Clockwise from top left: Valérie de Condé, Cassandra Surer, Elizabeth Stribling, Denis de Kergorlay, Sarah de Lencquesaing; Stéphane Bern, Elizabeth Stribling; Denis de Kergorlay presents Jean d'Haussonville with a trophy from Lalique; Annelise Franchet, Fabienne Salle, Cassandra Surer, Nadia Skhiri, Marc Craquelin

Young Friends Circle New York



On Wednesday, September 26, 2018, the FHS New York Young Friends Circle was welcomed by LALIQUE at their Madison Avenue boutique. Attendees sipped Taittinger champagne while admiring the remarkable crystal creations of the brand, which is an FHS Silver-Level sponsor. LALIQUE CEO James Mun was in attendance and welcomed Nick Dawes of Heritage Auctions, one of the foremost experts on LALIQUE in the United States. Mr. Dawes discussed the life of René Lalique with those gathered, highlighting unique aspects of his legacy that live on into the modern day. This year is LALIQUE's 130th Anniversary and FHS will be honoring them at their Black and Orange Ball Gala Dinner Dance on Wednesday, October 31st, 2018.

Clockwise from top left: Allen Yu and Valerie O'Halloran; Jean Shafiroff, Nick Dawes, and Jennifer Herlein; Margaux Lacroix, Youna Rivallain, Juliette Lopin, and Roxana Bartolomé; Niki Pietruszco

Young Friends Circle Paris



The Young Friends Circle Paris enjoyed a visit to the Paris showroom of the Maison Pouenat specializing in metalworks. The company's early work can be found on the gates of the Château de Versailles, on the banisters and lights of the Musée des Beaux Arts, on the Place Stanislas in Nancy and encasing lights in the gardens of the Château de Fontainebleau. In 2003, under the leadership of Jacques Rayet, Pouenat began crafting bold, contemporary lighting and furniture designed by prestigious architect-designers that has earned it international renown.

Clockwise from top left: Pouenat CEO Jacques Rayet, right, welcomes the group; Agathe Bommart of Esprit de France, Anne Fager, Thibault Lemarié; Jacques Rayet, CEO, with YFC Paris members; YFC Paris members enjoy a glass of champagne at the Pouenat showroom

Atlanta



Shane Thomas, Ansley Atlanta Real Estate and Michael Bishop hosted a private tour and champagne reception for the Atlanta Chapter at the recently opened retrospective *Pierre Cardin: Pursuit of the Future* at SCAD FASH at Savannah College of Art and Design in Atlanta on September 6th, 2018. The new Cultural Attaché, Pascale Beyaert, and her husband Frank also joined the group.

Clockwise from top left: 1. Michael Bishop; Pascale Beyaert, new Cultural Attaché; Shane Thomas; Suzy Wasserman, Atlanta Chapter Co-Chairman; Debi Akers, new Atlanta Chapter Co-Chairman; Frank Beyaert; 2. Liddy Chapman and Debi Akers, Atlanta Chapter Co-Chairman; 3. Shane Thomas, sponsor; Jean Astrop; Suzy Wasserman, Atlanta Chapter Co-Chairman; Michael Bishop; 4. Atlanta Chapter members Valerie Alston, Joann Dunbar, Anna Henson

Boston

Dr. Francis de Marneffe, Co-Chairman of FHS' Boston Chapter, was awarded the distinction of Chevalier (Knight) of the Legion of Honor by President Macron. At a ceremony at his residence in Westwood, MA. on June 11th, 2018, Consul Général de France in Boston Valéry Freland gave him the decoration after a very moving tribute in the presence of many Boston Chapter members and friends.

Except from the speech by Consul General Valéry Freland :

“Dear Francis, when I informed you a couple of weeks ago that you were a Legion of Honor recipient, you asked me: “why me?” My answer was evident: because of you! Because you are “a man of honor”!

During the Second World War, as the Germans were invading Belgium, you demonstrated at the age of 16, tremendous bravery. Indeed, born of a British mother and a Belgian father, you left your home country and your beloved family to escape from the war and reach London. With only a bike and 500 Francs, you left Brussels and crossed France from the North to the South-West, in order to take a boat from Bordeaux to London: the last boat for England...

Recounted in your memoir, “The Last Boat from Bordeaux”, your story...reflects all the qualities of a man of honor and courage...You have always displayed these qualities throughout your life, especially with your prestigious medical career as a psychiatrist, reflecting your humanist values, that were also shared by your wife Bobbie de Marneffe, whom we all cherished. You have always held firm to these values and this courage, from your escape from Belgium, your service in the Royal Air Force, from 1943 to 1945, your admirable medical career, and even your recent participation as a rower in the Henley Royal Regatta.

You have continuously promoted this attachment to French values and heritage through your immense implication in French Heritage Society, since the end of the 1990s. As Co-Chairman of the Boston Chapter, you have considerably contributed to the influence of Francophonie, French culture and architecture in New England, and helped others to find a relationship with their French roots... Your participation in fundraising for the restoration of many American monuments, closely linked to France, greatly fostered Franco-American relations. Your efforts helped revive the splendor of monuments such as Gore Place, The Mount and Trinity Church in Massachusetts, the Petite Plaisance in Maine, and the Château de la Grange in France.

Cher Francis de Marneffe, au nom du Président de la République, nous vous faisons Chevalier dans l'ordre de la Légion d'Honneur.”



From top: Dr. Francis de Marneffe; Dr. Francis de Marneffe and Valéry Freland, Consul Général de France in Boston

Louisiana



Louisiana Chapter Co-Chairman Michael Harold and Quinn Peeper hosted a reception on July 16th, 2018 at their home in New Orleans for FHS members and for French interns taking part in FHS' Student Exchange Program. They were also feted by local families including Vivienne and Peck Hayne and Reese and Lil Pinney. To complete their Louisiana experience the interns enjoyed a tour of the swamp near Thibodeaux

Clockwise from top left: Back row: Quinn Peeper, Yohan Mainguy, Michael Harold and guest, seated, Madeleine Balansino, and Siti Ahmed, intern at St. Anthony's Garden; Madeleine Balansino, intern at the Historic New Orleans Collection, and Yohan Mainguy, intern at the WWII Museum; Yohan Mainguy, Alice Balazy, intern at Louisiana State Museum; Michael Harold takes a tour of the swamp with interns

New York



Last spring the FHS New York Chapter held a magnificent fundraising dinner that evoked the thrill of a Renaissance fair hosted at the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in support of their grant to the Château de Montréal in Dordogne. Ambassador Bernard de Montferrand, the owner of the chateau and President of the Society of the Cincinnati in France, attended the dinner and gave a presentation. The evening was such a success that additional funds were raised beyond the initial grant award. The Château de Montréal will receive a grant of \$33,000 for the restoration now underway of its northern façade.

Clockwise from top left: 1. Guy N. Robinson, New York Chapter co-Chairman; Ambassador Bernard de Montferrand; Elizabeth Stribling, FHS Chairman; 2. Guests enjoyed the festive Renaissance evening in red attire and accessories; 3. The Château de Montréal in Dordogne; 4. The northern façade of the Château de Montréal under restoration

Northern California



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French cuisine and the culture it represents were celebrated by the Northern California Chapter with a Luncheon Provençal on July 22nd, 2018, hosted by Susan and Chris Paulson. Guillaume de Pracomtal, President of Taransaud, barrel makers for the greatest wineries and spirits worldwide, presented the history of wine barrels, using art as the guide to depict centuries of the cooper's craft.

Clockwise from top left: Bottom row: Jeanette Brooks, Tom Larsen. Top row: McGavock Bransford, Gail Perez, Pascal Ledermann; Dori Bonn, Jean-Jacques Vitrac, Susan Paulson; Susan Paulson, Michael Paulson, Heidi Paulson, Harriet de Pracomtal, Guillaume de Pracomtal; Marcy Parker, Tom Parker, Chris Paulson, Susan Paulson

Paris



The Paris Chapter has organized a fascinating array of exciting visits recently. Paris Chapter members enjoyed an exclusive visit, guided by Françoise Kamara, Counselor at the First Civil Chamber of the Court of Appeals; Freddy Dressen, representative of The Florence Gould Foundation; a tour of the Hôtel Salomon de Rothschild and its gardens; a day in the North Region, where they discovered the iconic Villa Cavrois built by Mallet Stevens, under the guidance of Jocelyn Bouraly, administrator of the Villa Cavrois, had lunch at la Maison Méert, a true Lilloise institution, and relaxed around coffee and “Méert Waffles” at Mr. Landron’s Mansion, the Hôtel de Lamissart. After a fascinating lecture on the *Art de la Table from the Middle Ages to Today* by Manuela Finaz de Villaine, expert in ancient ceramics, we parted for the summer.

Clockwise from top left: 1. Françoise Kamara, Counselor at the First Civil Chamber of the Court of Appeals; Freddy Dressen, representative of The Florence Gould Foundation; 2. Anne-Martine Ducreux-Picon, Danie Akesson, Aurore Sibley; 3. Paris Chapter members with Jocelyn Bouraly, administrator of the Villa Cavrois; 4. Paris Chapter members with Monsieur Thierry Landron, owner of Maison Méert, enjoying coffee and waffles; 5. Dominique Biarnès, Paris Chapter Vice-Chairman; Madame Cousté Manuela Finaz de Villaine, expert in ancient ceramics; Renaud Finaz de Villaine; Astrid Stanfield-Pinel, Paris Chapter Chairman

Philadelphia



French Heritage Society’s Philadelphia Chapter celebrated Bastille Day 2018 with a party featuring live music, fine wine, and French Gypsy Jazz with Phyllis Chapell and Baird Standish at the Philadelphia Cricket Club. The Philadelphia Chapter organizes a variety of cultural and social events for its members throughout the year in order to raise funds for restorations projects that were voted by the FHS Board members. Julia Ward is the current Philadelphia Chapter Chairman.

Clockwise from top left: Bastille Day Party committee members Georgia Shafia, Patti Scullin, Noelle Wister, Julia Ward, Naomi Breman, Gaëlle Dyevre, Barbara Delacato and Anne Jensen on the terrace at the Philadelphia Cricket Club; Leonardo Politzi, Laurenson Ward, Polly Myer, Stacia Politzi, Harry Surer and Julia and Chris Ward; Frances and Michael Jones with Naomi and Stephen Breman; Keith and Cynthia Day, Adele Gray, David Orthwein and Virginia Baltzell



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