



Annual Report

2023



Fiscal Year 22-23
Sept 2022-August 2023



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About Us

The Alliance Française was created in Paris in 1883 by a group of eminent men, including the scientist Louis Pasteur, the writer Jules Verne, the diplomat Ferdinand de Lesseps and the publisher Armand Colin. Headquartered in Paris, the Alliance had 829 centers in 135 countries on every inhabited continent in 2022. In the United States only, there are 105 chapters.

The Philadelphia chapter was founded in 1903 by a group of Francophiles who wanted to promote French language and culture in the city of Philadelphia. At the time, French was considered the language of diplomacy, and the Alliance aimed to foster cultural understanding and exchange between France and the United States. In the early years, the Alliance Française de Philadelphie held cultural events, lectures, and language classes. It also supported French-speaking immigrants and helped them to integrate into American society. During World War I, the Alliance Française de Philadelphie provided assistance to French soldiers and their families, and during World War II, it helped French refugees who fled Nazi-occupied France. Over the years, the Alliance Française de Philadelphie continued to expand its programs and activities, including French language classes for adults and children, cultural events, film screenings, and art exhibitions. Today, it remains an important cultural institution in Philadelphia, promoting French language and culture through a range of educational and cultural programs.

Alliance Française de Philadelphie is a non subsidized organization and is entirely funded by its school, programs, and your contributions.

Learn more than a language !



Alliance Française de Philadelphie



From our leaders



PHILIPPE POIRIER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

The fiscal year 2023 (September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023) was an engaging and exciting one for the Alliance Française de Philadelphie, as we celebrated 120 years of existence.

We started the year by refreshing our mission and vision statements to better reflect our commitment to serve as the heart of Philadelphia's thriving community of Francophone culture and language enthusiasts. Throughout the year, we have once again offered excellent educational programs as well as cultural experiences that reflect the rich diversity of our community. The year 2023 was also a year of outreach, connections and new partnerships.

I would like to thank our dedicated administrative team, our volunteers and all our excellent teachers for their hard work. I am also grateful for our Board of Directors who support the Alliance Française in so many ways. Furthermore, I'm thankful for our partners who help us grow our audience.

As I am undertaking my new role as Executive Director in 2023-24, I am grateful to be given the opportunity to carry on the mission of the Alliance. We have exciting opportunities ahead of us. Together with the many individuals that gravitate around the Alliance family, I'm committed to bringing the organization to new heights!



BETH DIFFLEY PRESIDENT

I am proud to present our annual report for Fiscal 2023, which was another dynamic and successful year at the Alliance Française de Philadelphia.

My term as the president of the board has been personally rewarding, allowing me to meet and work with this diverse and engaged community of members who are committed to learning and growing. We are fortunate to have a talented, highly experienced, qualified and dedicated team of teachers and a top-notch management team.

I hope you also value your membership in this welcoming community. Please continue to join me in learning a language, exploring other cultures and thriving as a community. I encourage you to take classes, attend events, use our library resources, volunteer your time and donate what you can.

Meet Our Team

EXECUTIVE TEAM



PHILIPPE POIRIER
Executive Director



ALISSIA HAUTEVILLE
Director of Educational Programs
and Examination Center



NAOMI UREY
Marketing Assistant



AMIRA GAREN
Administrative Assistant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Beth Diffley | President
Amanda Barber | Vice-President
Sheree Petrone | Treasurer
Alicia Porter | Secretary

Sheri-Ann Cowie
Therese Dolan
Michelle Erickson
Nancy Gabel
Danièle Cohen Grossman

Kedra Kearis
Catherine Kosman
Monique Laird
Remy Nshimiyimana
Zabeth Teelucksingh

TEACHERS

Our highly qualified and experienced teachers come from various Francophone nations: **Algeria, France, Haiti, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Senegal and Switzerland**. Some have been teaching with us for more than 20 years.

Myriam Adyadou
Soumia Bendadache
Zaza Benslafa
Sarah Boss
Claudia Brown
Monique Coval
Christiane De Boisseson
Abigail De Soto
Dominique Désir
Jean-Claude Djéréké
Caesar Dommar
Candat Dorcimil

Norman Ellman
Esther Gordon
Alissia Hauteville
Junior Jeanty
Tania Jekic
Catherine Kaplanski
Gigi Kuhn
Monique Laird
Nicole Layseca
Anna Michel
Lennon Mullen
Jennifer Murphy

Mareme Niasse
Agnes Paysson-Zeiss
Emily Rockhill
Sophie Schaller Wright
Marie Tassy
Isabelle Tennenbaum
Caroline Texier
Ingrid Thuilière
Paulina Wiczorek
Françoise Zanchetta
Wafa Zarrad

Mission, Vision & Values

Alliance Française de Philadelphie engages the greater Philadelphia community in the study and exploration of French language and Francophone cultures, in all their rich diversity, through welcoming educational and cultural experiences.

Our vision is to serve as the heart of Philadelphia's thriving community of Francophone culture and language enthusiasts. We achieve this by cultivating a sustainable network through collaborative engagement, strengthening personal and organizational connections, promoting equity, and nurturing cross-cultural appreciation.

Excellence in Teaching

Our language instructors have experience and credentials, and we offer opportunities for continuing professional development.

Curiosity and Exploration

We nurture a lifelong love of learning for people of all ages, backgrounds, language levels, financial resources and interests through a variety of offerings and a supportive environment.

Cross-Cultural Appreciation

Through classes, cultural programs, trips, scholarships and partnerships, we promote understanding of the diverse richness of Francophone cultures and heritage, including history, politics, gastronomy, the arts, literature, and sports, as they continue to evolve.

Community

We build relationships, we connect people and we seek to be a welcoming, inclusive community.

Learn more than a language !



Enrollment

Alliance Française de Philadelphie is the premier destination in greater Philadelphia to learn French **in-person** and **online**. Each year, hundreds of French learners of all ages choose our high-quality, interactive, and engaging classes. We welcome learners of all levels (A1 to C1).

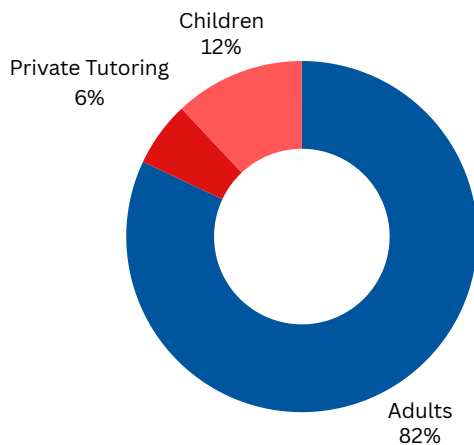
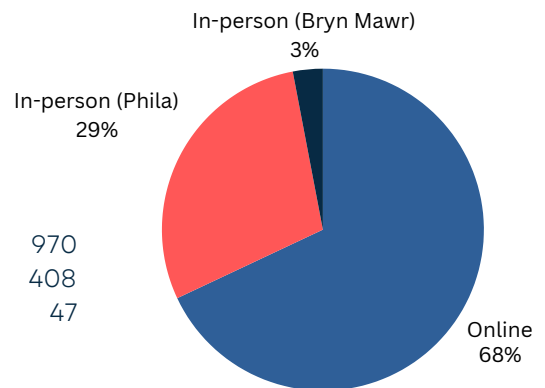
The 2023 School Year in numbers

732 Students	985 Hours of Private Tutoring
1,425 Class Registrations	90 Delf Dalf TCF Exam Candidates
262 Courses	8 Bootcamps Workshop
23,349 Hours in Group Classes	3 Immersion Class Days

From 100% of our classes going online during the pandemic, we're now seeing more and more students coming back for class in person.

Class Location

Online	970
In-person (Phila)	408
In-person (Bryn Mawr)	47

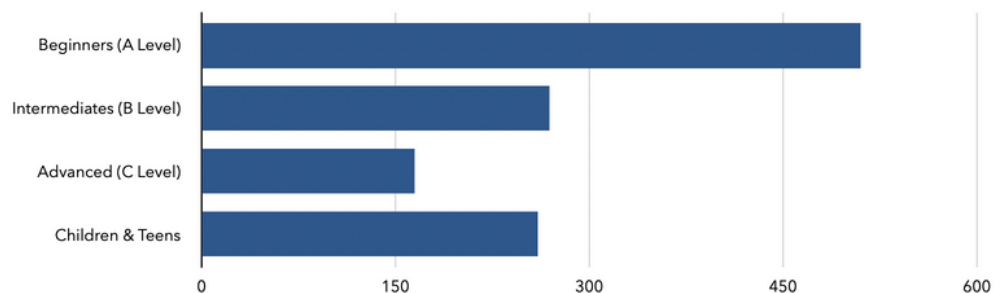


Class Demographics

Adults	1,163
Children	175
Private Tutoring	87

During the last fiscal year, we had a total of 1,425 class registrations. That is a **10% increase** compared to the previous year.

Enrollment per Level

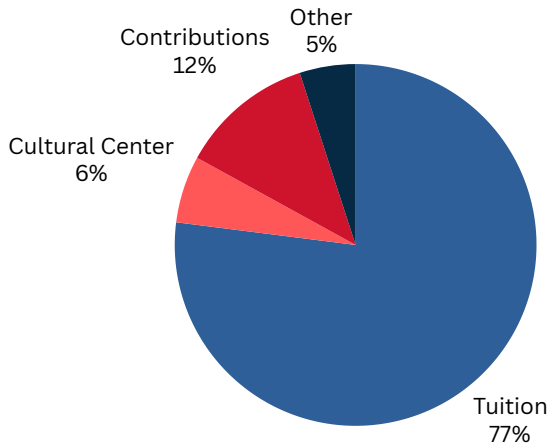


We conduct placement tests to ensure that all students will join the appropriate level to optimize their learning.

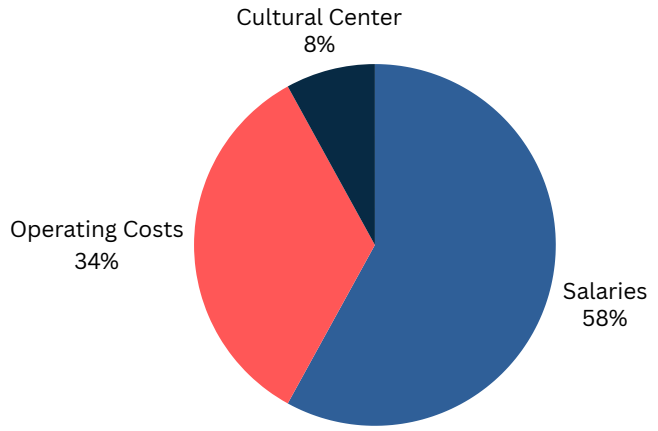


Finance

2023 Revenue



2023 Expenses



Scholarships

Each year, the Alliance Française de Philadelphie awards two scholarships for francophone students and young professionals. The purpose of the **Pierre C. Fraley Scholarship** is to give students the opportunity to increase their language proficiency in French and to enrich their understanding of French culture and contemporary society. The **Marie-Louise Vermeiren Jackson Scholarship** enables recipients to obtain proficiency in speaking the French language, unobtainable in normal classroom work, by attending an accredited summer program of study for that purpose or by applying to the TAPIF program. In 2024, the Alliance Française will once again offer \$3,000 scholarships to two new recipients, for a **total of \$6,000**.

MADLINE MCDONALD

PIERRE C. FRALEY SCHOLARSHIP 2023 RECIPIENT



Madeline McDonald attended Princeton's Aix-en-Provence Summer Program.

"I would like to offer endless gratitude to the Alliance Française for supporting this life-changing experience."

EZRA CAMPOS-PEREIRA

MARIE-LOUISE VERMEIREN JACKSON 2023 RECIPIENT



Ezra Campos-Pereira used the scholarship to attend Rutgers six week Summer-in-Paris term.

"For me, this experience was the culmination of my French degree, and I couldn't ask for a better way to bridge these chapters of my life."



Cultural Center

In fiscal 2023, we held **63 cultural events**, welcoming **1,522 attendees**. We continued our popular events, like the Newsroom and the monthly Bookclub. In addition, we offered new events and created new partnerships with our community, such as the bilingual Story Time at the Free Library of Philadelphia and the Movie Nights at Frieda.

The Alliance Française has **235 active members** who can take advantage of many benefits, like a free access to Culturethèque and our own Library (**2,877 books in French**).

Here are a few highlights from the past year:

FALL 2022

Gala du MET | Monde des Enfants Terrible (Children's event)
Focus Haïti | The Women of Madan Sara
Cinéma | Les Indes Galantes
La Naissance du Jazz en Louisiane

WINTER 2022

Une Soirée à l'Orchestre
Fête de l'Hiver
Wine & Délice Club
Parlons Histoire | Rosa Bonheur
Théâtre | Frenésies
Genet | A Remarkable Writer

SPRING 2023

Parlons Histoire | Femmes Peintres
French Story Time | Free Library
Cinéma | Visages, Villages
Rencontre Littéraire | Jennifer Tamas
Ballet Coppélia | Delibes



Bastille Day 2023

14 JUILLET

FLAG RAISING CEREMONY | CITY HALL

Proclamation from the Mayor
Participation of PhilaFLAM children

BASTILLE DAY DINNER | FRIEDA

PICNIC | FDR PARK
Performance by John Jarbeaux and
The Bearded Ladies



Partnerships

Partnerships are essential for us to achieve our goals and effectively serve our community. By building strong partnerships, we have been able to create more opportunities for our members to learn and connect with French and Francophone cultures, as well as facilitate cultural exchange and understanding.



Testimonials

“AFP gave me an essential foundation for my summer stay in France. My weekly classes complemented the AF weekend immersion sessions. It was great fun to speak French all day, with new people who could become friends with me.”

Julie, student in Level 308

“My expectations have been greatly exceeded. I enjoy the class very much, which is almost completely the result of my teacher Anna. She is very kind, patient and creates a relaxed atmosphere in which we can even try to be humorous (in French!).”

Frank, student in Level 204

“I first joined the Alliance in 1989. I have been a happy member ever since. I appreciate the library that keeps me supplied with novels in French to read at home. I also want to commend you for recommending contemporary authors from Francophone African countries. I have made several good friends through the Alliance Française. That has been an enriching experience.”

Frances, a member

“Since 2023, I have enjoyed putting my French to use as a volunteer for Alliance Française de Philadelphie at their office and events. The atmosphere is friendly, lively, and a great way to engage with Francophone culture. I am proud to be part of Alliance Française de Philadelphie!”

Tom, a volunteer





Our Supporters

We could not have done it without your help!

Donors

Anonymous
Diane Ambler
Gerald Ballough
Michael Bannerman
Amanda Barber
Robert Broggs
Barbara Borak
Baron Brockington
Kerry Bryan
Jennifer Cardy
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Martine Chauvet
Kenneth Cohen
Suzanne Conway
Martha Cooper
Lee Corey
Monique Coval
Sheri-Ann Cowie
Tricia Cummings
Christiane De
Boisseson
Karen Crequer
Melody Damis
Cynthia Decrucq

Elizabeth Diffley
Kathleen Diffley
Terry Dolan
Tom Donofrio
Linda Donovan
Barbara Edelstein
Eric Simonis
Michelle Erickson
Issy Esangbedo
Janet Evans
Lawrence Fiorini
Patricia Fleetwood
Amy Freeman
Nancy Gabel
Elizabeth Galaznik
Joseph McGinn
Gerard Mitchel
Danièle Grossman
Lisa Hemmings
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Lisa Kimbro
Stephanie Knopp

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Kathleen Meriwether
Lynn Miller
Allen Moucer
Remy Nshimiyimana
Priscilla Page
Stephen Page
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Sharon Parnes
Sheree Petrone

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Frances Rafferty
Virginia Rettig
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Karen Roggeman
Michael Scullin
Annick Semenol
Cheryl Shugars
Victoria Skelly
Betty & Julian
Slowinski
Nancy Smith
Lawrence Taylor
Zabeth Teelucksingh
Patricia Wachtman
Paul Weisberg
Chantal & George
Westby
Jameel Worthy
Jeanne Wroblewski

Donations in memoriam

For Jim McClelland
Nancy Gabel
Lynn Miller

Employer Matching Donations

Merck Foundation
Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath

Volunteers

Lois Beck
Aléric Brei-Lefebvre
Caroline Desbuquois
Amy Freeman
Mia Suaudeau

Contributions

Our sources of monetary support

- Individual contributions
- Donor directed funding
- Memberships
- Corporate sponsors
- Grants

In 2023, monetary donations enabled us to

- Maintain affordable class tuition and program attendance fees
- Acquire educational material for online and hybrid classes
- Upgrade our library



How You Can Help

The donations and support we receive from our community promote a virtuous circle. We hope to continue that circle by using those donations to our cultural programming and offer budget-friendly activities for everyone.

The Alliance Française is a tax exempt non-profit organization under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code and eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions.

DONATE

Make a financial contribution, either one-time or recurring at afphila.com/membership-support/donate



Double your donation !

This year again, we are honored and tremendously grateful that one of our generous donors has generously expressed its confidence in us by **pledging \$15,000 to match new and increased gifts** to the Alliance Française de Philadelphie made through August 2024.

Ask your employer about Matching Gifts

Many companies in the U.S. match charitable donations made by their employees. You may send an email to the human resources department at your company to find out if they offer a matching gift program.

Volunteering

Volunteer to help with events or our library at afphila.com/about-us/job-opportunities/

Sponsoring

Sponsor an educational or cultural programming series; sponsor a teaching position, or talk to us about how you can support our mission!*

*We welcome opportunities to discuss large or legacy gifts



Contact Us



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