

French Immersion Day



Alliance Française du North Shore

November 1, 2025

Programme

Time	Intermediate (B1)	Upper Intermediate (B2) and Advanced (C1)
9:30	Café Fellowship Hall	
9:45	Bienvenue Karen Baldwin, Fellowship Hall	
10	La Nouvelle France : le patrimoine français de la région de Chicago Randa Duvick, Fellowship Hall	L'influence de l'architecture française à Chicago Laurie Petersen et Anna Maria Kostecki, en bas
10:50	Pause	
11	L'influence de l'architecture française à Chicago Laurie Petersen et Anna Maria Kostecki, en bas	La Nouvelle France : le patrimoine français de la région de Chicago Randa Duvick, Fellowship Hall
12	Déjeuner Fellowship Hall	
12:40	La Vielle à Roue et la Musique Traditionnelle de la France Mary Vanhoozer, Fellowship Hall	
1:30	Pause	
1:45	Arts et Métiers : les inventeurs français Karen Baldwin, Fellowship Hall	
2:15–2:30	Fin du programme Fellowship Hall	

Détails

La Nouvelle France : Le patrimoine français de la région de Chicago

Discuss and interact around topics focusing on the historical French presence in the Chicago region and the "pays des Illinois." Through conversation and games, participants will hone French-language skills as they learn about and reinforce knowledge of the Midwest's French heritage—Ouilmette and more.

Randa Duvick taught French language, literature and culture at Valparaiso University for 35 years before retiring. She has researched and written historical and teaching modules for the French Heritage Corridor on the French presence in the upper Midwest from the 1600s on. Her most recent research concerns a French-Canadian fur trader, Joseph Bailly, who worked in the upper Midwest and settled in Porter County, Indiana, in the early 1800s. She's presented many times on topics related to the teaching of French as well as the French Heritage Corridor.

L'influence de l'architecture française à Chicago

Learn about *l'architecture française* in our own city. AFduNS members Anna Maria Kostecki and Laurie Petersen will provide photos and bilingual descriptions of familiar sites such as Buckingham Fountain and will facilitate small-group discussions in French.

Anna Maria Fiorese Kostecki received her BA from Dominican University in River Forest and her MA from Northwestern University in Evanston. Throughout her thirty years as a teacher, she taught a myriad of levels of French from kindergarten through college level. She retired in 2018 from Lyons Township High School where she taught French, Italian and German.

Laurie Petersen is the editor of *AIA Guide to Chicago*, the most comprehensive guidebook covering the city's built environment. She lectures about Chicago architecture throughout the metro area. Laurie leads the AFduNS Cercle de lecture literary group.

La Vielle à Roue et la Musique Traditionnelle de la France

Mary Vanhoozer brings to life forgotten traditions from 17th–19th-century France and demonstrates how the hurdy gurdy ([la vielle à roue](#)) and [bal folk](#) music are slowly regaining popularity in France today.

Multi-instrumentalist Mary Vanhoozer grew up in Edinburgh, Scotland, where she learned to play the Scottish fiddle and developed an enduring love of folk music. Traditional noëls from southern France played an equally formative role as they introduced her to the hurdy gurdy. Since acquiring her first gurdy, Mary has eagerly continued to research and perform a variety of repertoire on the instrument, from medieval dances to French baroque suites and sonatas. She is a member of the critically acclaimed Ciaramella ensemble. Her hurdy gurdy debut with Ciaramella featured a concert of renaissance dances broadcast live in southern California on KUSC radio.

Arts et Métiers : les inventeurs français

Attendees will test their knowledge of and discuss French inventors.