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Please check the [calendar](#) or your booklet for the full winter schedule. If you find these events interesting, you may wish to browse these [books related to events](#).

Director's Letter

Happy New Year! As all of us at the Boston Athenæum reflect on the year just ended, we find much to celebrate. More than 150 special events, including a groundbreaking panel series on the future of the art museum; thousands of volumes acquired, borrowed, and read; impressive works of art, rare books, and artists books added to the collections; three critically acclaimed exhibitions; expanded open hours; a successful public open house; and the introduction of many new benefits of membership, including discounted parking privileges and an expansion of online resources.



2015 promises to be equally successful. We are beginning the year by looking forward, working to develop an operational plan that will position the Athenæum for sustainable, increasing excellence in the years immediately to come. Because that plan can only be as robust as the ideas and information on which it draws, we will soon be seeking contributions from you, our insightful members. In the weeks ahead, I will circulate a comprehensive survey addressing various aspects of our services, and providing opportunities for open-ended responses that will allow you to answer any questions we may have forgotten to ask. Thank you for making the time to participate. With your help, future New Year's Day reflections will mark still greater accomplishments.

We look forward to seeing much of you here at 10½ in the months ahead, and wish you a year of thought-provoking reading, viewing, discussing, and thinking.

Elizabeth E. Barker, Ph.D.
Stanford Calderwood Director

Credit for image above: Elizabeth E. Barker on the second floor spiral staircase (Mark Ritter, 2014)

Book Talk: Pamela Paul, *By the Book: Writers on Literature and the Literary Life from The New York Times Book Review*

Monday, Jan. 12,

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Children's Book Talk: Paul Czajak, *Monster Needs His Sleep*

Saturday, Jan. 24,
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Book Talk: Colin Calloway, *The Victory with No Name: The Native American Defeat of the First American Army*

Wednesday, Jan. 28,
Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Book Talk: Sarah Chayes, *Thieves of State: Why Corruption Threatens Global Security*

Friday, Jan. 30,
Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Exhibition Closes

The final day for *Over Here: World War I Posters from around the World* is Sunday, February 1.

The exhibition may close but you can read about World War I posters, history, etc. for as long as your interest holds. Recent publications have been added to the **WWI recommended reading list**.

**Athenæum
Encyclopædists**

Happily Ever After: Children's Books at the Athenæum

In 2013, inspired by news of an upcoming exhibition of children's books and related objects at the Grolier Club, I decided to explore the Athenæum's special collections to see if we could display a selection of books featured in their showcases. *100 Books Famous in Children's Literature* is on view at the Grolier Club from December 10, 2014, through February 7, 2015 and includes books dating from 1600 to



2000, chosen for literary merit, influence, and lasting popularity. The books were all widely known at the times of publication and have remained famous ever since. Titles from the last 400 years include *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and *Where the Wild Things Are*, right on up to *Harry Potter*. There are also letters, toys and other realia on display, all chosen to demonstrate the relationship between the books and the culture of their time. Accompanying the exhibition is a lavish 320-page catalogue.

The Boston Athenæum owns 70 of the 100 titles, although not necessarily the same editions. Due to space limitations, a small sampling of six books, listed below, will be displayed in the cases in the sitting room on the first floor. Different in age, country of origin, and artistic style, they celebrate the best in picture book illustration at the time.

- Robert McCloskey, *Make Way for Ducklings* (New York: Viking Press, 1941). From the income of the bequest of George Francis Parkman, 1969
- Jean de Brunhoff, *Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant* (Paris: Hachette, ca. 1939). Gift of John Woolsey, 1995
- Charles Seddon Evans, *Cinderella* (London: William Heinemann; Philadelphia: J.B. Lippincott Co., 1919). Gift of Mrs. Douglass Campbell, 1991. Illustrated by Arthur Rackham
- Oliver Goldsmith, *Elegy on the Death of a Mad Dog* (London: Warne, ca. 1900). Gift of Mrs. Douglass Campbell, 1991. Illustrated by Randolph Caldecott
- Heinrich Hoffman, *Struwwelpeter* (Frankfurt am Main: Literarische Anstalt, Rütten & Loening, 1888-1894).
- Alan Alexander Milne, *Winnie-the-Pooh* (New York: E.P. Dutton & Company, ca. 1926). Gift of Mrs. R.E. Danielson, 1983. Illustrated by Ernest H. Shepard

The new group, **Athenæum Encyclopædists**, will meet Thursday, January 8, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the Trustees' Room.

The objective of this group is to review, improve, and extend Wikipedia content that pertains to the history and collections of the Boston Athenæum. Those interested may contact **Mary Warnement** with their questions or simply show up at a regular meeting any second Thursday of the month.

New Electronic Resource: Loeb Classical Library

The Athenæum is pleased to announce another addition to its electronic resources: the **digital Loeb Classical Library**. Designed to be carried easily in one's pocket, the original red and green volumes were intended by James Loeb to make classics of Latin and Greek literature accessible to a wide audience as both objects and ideas. Now that effort has been expanded, and the classics can be read wherever a member has an internet connection.

Fellowships

The Boston Athenæum offers competitive fellowships to those interested in using its collections for research or creative purposes. There are three different deadlines:

February 1

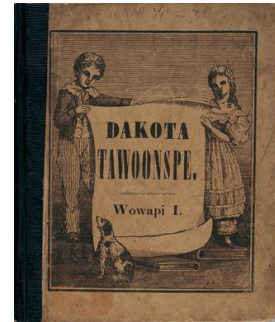
The Boston Athenæum participates in the **New England Regional Fellowship Consortium**, a collaboration of twenty-one major cultural institutions with a stipend of \$5,000 offered for a minimum of

Suzanne Terry
Children's Librarian

Credit for image above: page 2 from Heinrich Hoffman, *Struwwelpeter*. (Frankfurt am Main, 1888-1894). Boston Athenæum

New Digital Collection: Schoolcraft Collection

In February of 1871, Mary Howard Schoolcraft donated a collection of books published in Native American languages to the Boston Athenæum. Although not a large collection, it is significant in that its contents were part of the personal collection of American geographer, geologist, ethnologist, and Indian Agent, Henry Rowe Schoolcraft (1793-1864), who was noted for his early studies of Native American cultures.



Henry Rowe Schoolcraft encountered Indians in their own environment in 1820 while traveling as the geologist for the Lewis Cass expedition to the Upper Mississippi and Lake Superior copper region. He was appointed Indian Agent for the tribes of Lake Superior in 1822. There he recorded Chippewa tales and religious beliefs, studied their language, and attempted to understand their outlook. Schoolcraft ultimately served as an Indian Agent and the Michigan Supervisor of Indian Affairs for 19 years.

The Athenæum's **collection of Schoolcraft** materials numbers 200-plus pieces published in the nineteenth century. Approximately 35 Native American languages are represented, mainly those of tribes located east of the Mississippi River but also some in the western U.S. and in Canada. The majority of the works are either biblical or educational, sometimes both at once. Numerous publications bound together in one volume are not uncommon. A small number of volumes purchased by the Athenæum have been added to the collection. Almost 100 have already been digitized and are now online, and more will be made available as work continues on the project.

Robert Kruse
National Endowment for the Humanities Head of Technical Services

Credit for image above: Stephen Return Riggs, *Dakota Tawoonspe: Tamakoce Kaga* (Dakota Lessons), (Louisville, KY, 1850). Boston Athenæum, Gift of Mary Howard Schoolcraft, 1871

eight weeks of research at three or more participating institutions.

February 15

The Boston Athenæum and the Massachusetts Historical Society offer the **Suzanne and Caleb Loring Fellowship on the Civil War, Its Origins and Consequences** with a stipend of \$4,000 for research residencies of at least four weeks at each institution.

April 15

1. **Mary Catherine Mooney Fellowship**
2. **Caleb Loring, Jr. Fellowship**
3. **American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Fellowship**
4. **American Congregational Association-Boston Athenæum Fellowship**
5. **Mudge Teacher Fellowship**

Check the [fellowship webpage](#) for details, requirements, and conditions of each.

New Member Benefit

Members can cut 50% off the cost of parking at the Boston Common Garage when you visit the Athenæum at night or on the weekends.

Discounted vouchers can be purchased for \$9 at the Circulation Desk with cash, check, or credit card.

To qualify for the discounted rate:

on **weeknights**, enter between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., and exit by 8:00 a.m.

on **weekends**, enter after 6:00 a.m. and exit by 8:00 a.m. the following day

Upon exit, simply insert the parking voucher in lieu of payment.

A French Family, A World War One Poster, and the Boston Athenæum

A poster in the current exhibition *Over Here* has led to a fascinating discovery. *The Fatherless Children of France* poster was included in the exhibition to illustrate the many relief organizations that sprang up during World War I. The American group, Fatherless Children of France, was established in 1915 to assist French children whose fathers had been killed in the war. Subscribers to the organization paid thirty-six dollars and fifty cents a year to "adopt" a French youth; this money paid for food and clothing but, most importantly, enabled the child to remain at home with surviving family members. Curatorial research on the poster revealed a long-forgotten Athenæum connection with the Fatherless Children of France. In 1917 staff members of the Athenæum subscribed to the organization and were assigned a seven-year-old boy from Brittany, Marcel Huiban, as their "godchild." One of the core missions of the Fatherless Children of France was to foster Franco-American relations and Americans were strongly encouraged to correspond with their French families. The Athenæum's archive contains a remarkable trove of letters and photographs documenting the friendship between the Huiban family and Athenæum staff members.



The adoption ended in 1924 when Marcel Huiban was old enough to work on the family farm and knowledge of the Huiban and Athenæum friendship passed from memory. The story would have ended there if Marie Saddier Paquette had not visited the Athenæum's WWI poster exhibition. A native of France and a long-time resident of Boston, Ms. Paquette was intrigued by the story of the Athenæum's "godchild" and curious to know what had happened to the Huiban family. After contacting the town hall in Marcel's hometown of St. Thurien, Brittany, Ms. Paquette began correspondence with Daniel Huiban, a retired physics teacher and, as it turned out, the son of Marcel Huiban. Surprisingly, the Huiban family was unaware that Marcel and his siblings had been adopted by the Fatherless Children of France. Correspondence between Daniel Huiban, Marie Saddier Paquette, and the Athenæum staff soon revealed unknown facts about Marcel's life including his conscription and imprisonment in Germany during World War II. As the Huiban letters in the Athenæum's archive were filled with details about the Huiban's family life

Please note that you cannot use more than one voucher per parking ticket.

Posted rates apply if you exit after 8:00 a.m.

it was decided that this material should be shared with Daniel Huiban. In December Graham Skinner, Digital Projects intern, scanned the materials and, through the kind assistance of Ms. Paquette, these digital letters will soon be sent to Daniel Huiban and his family in Brittany. It is heartening to think that, out of the innumerable tragedies of World War I, friendship and kindness survive. Thanks to the efforts of Marie Saddier Paquette, the Athenæum staff looks forward to renewing its friendship with the Huibans of Brittany.

Catharina Slutterback
Curator of Prints & Photographs

Carolle Morini
Caroline D. Bain Archivist, Reference
Librarian

Credit for image at top: Walter Godfrey DeMaris (1877-1947), *Avez Vous Place dans Votre Coeur pour Nous?*, n.d. Photomechanical print. Gift of Bartlett H. Hayes, 1985

Credit for image at bottom: Marcel Huiban and his sister, Joséphine, in Athenæum Godchild Scrapbook, vol. 1 (1917-1924). Boston Athenæum, Archive

