



Janvier 2024

## NOTE DE LA PRÉSIDENTE

Chers membres de AF Grosse Pointe,  
As we enter a new year, I wanted to thank each one of you for being a member or a friend of our AF chapter. In today's world where everyone is busy with work, family, and life in general, your loyalty to our organization and just choosing to participate in our events is much appreciated. I wanted to especially thank our board of directors for their dedication and their time. We see you and we appreciate you.  
For 2024 and beyond, I wish you all good health, peace of mind, and joyful moments with loved ones.

Bonne Année chers amis.  
A bientôt, j'espère.

Amal Elhosni  
[alliancefrancaisegrossepointe@gmail.com](mailto:alliancefrancaisegrossepointe@gmail.com)  
<https://afdegrossepointe.org/>

## FRENCH CLASSES WITH AF DE GROSSE POINTE

**Winter Session (Registration Open)**

**January 11 - March 14, 2024**

**Please register at your earliest convenience, in order to avoid class cancellations. Our classes are starting very soon!**

### LEVELS:

1. **BEGINNER FRENCH**  
Thursday, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. with Dr. Dib Saab
2. **INTERMEDIATE FRENCH**  
Thursday, 5:30-7:00 p.m. with Dr. Dib Saab
3. **ADVANCED FRENCH**  
Thursday, 5:30- 7:00 p.m. with Mme Makhoul

For more information and to register online, head to our website:

<https://afdegrossepointe.org/classes/>

## ÉVÈNEMENTS À VENIR



### JOIN US AT THE DIA FILM THEATRE

Sunday, Feb 11, 2024

2:00 PM

Detroit Film Theatre  
5200 Woodward Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48202

### Princess Tam Tam

(France/1932—directed by Edmond T. Gréville)

Known as the "Black Venus" during the zenith of her popularity

Known as the "Black Venus" during the zenith of her popularity in the 1920s and 30s, singer, dancer, and actor Josephine Baker was the first Black woman to become an international film star, and a legendary icon of beauty and rare courage. Baker achieved her success far from Hollywood; she moved to Paris and appeared in silent films there. After the introduction of sound, she starred in singing roles for French musicals including *Zou-Zou* (1934) and *Princess Tam Tam*.

In this film, Max (Albert Préjean) is a novelist who escapes his social-butterfly wife in Paris to vacation in Tunisia, where he becomes infatuated with a young shepherdess named Alwina (Baker). He decides to present her to French society as a Bedouin princess to elicit his wife's jealousy. *Princess Tam Tam* was wildly popular throughout Europe but never granted an exhibition visa and went unseen by American audiences until it was rediscovered in 1989. (77 min.) Free with museum admission.

### AFGP FRENCH CONVERSATION GROUP

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

#### Village Grille

16930 Kercheval Ave.  
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230

We are meeting again at the Village Grille in our favorite private area. Join us for dinner, drinks, and good conversation "en français"!

As promised, we have shifted our Conversation Group information and RSVP to our own website. We hope this change will make it easier and mainstream all our events on one platform. Follow the direct link for more information and please remember to RSVP so we can make sure we have the proper arrangements with Village Grille.

<https://afdegrossepointe.org/group-de-conversation/>

**Nos niveaux de langue française varient largement, donc n'hésitez pas à nous rejoindre, du moment que vous essayez de garder la conversation en français.**

## CINE CLUB

Saturday, January 20

1:30 pm

Grosse Pointe Public Library, Woods Branch



**LES GOÛTS ET LES COULEURS (Not My Type)**  
Comedy directed by Michel Leclerc, 2022

Marcia, a young singer, is working on an album with Daredjane, a rock icon of 70's who accidentally dies, before the album release. Marcia faces difficulties in getting approval from Daredjane's right-holder Anthony and her eyes are opened to the realities of show business. But love might get in the way...

## CERCLE DE LECTURE

Notre groupe de lecture se réunit toujours mensuellement et discute une oeuvre sélectionnée par nos membres. Les prochaines réunions se tiendront le:

20 janvier: **Le liseur du 6h27**, de Jean Paul Didierlaurent

17 février: **La famille Martin**, de David Foenkinos

16 mars: **Au bonheur des dames**, de Émile Zola



**Pour plus d'informations concernant le Cercle de Lecture, prière de nous contacter**  
[alliancefrancaisegrossepointe@gmail.com](mailto:alliancefrancaisegrossepointe@gmail.com)

## AF FEDERATION -USA ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The national AF organization is a wonderful source to supplement your exposure to different French experiences, linguistic and cultural.

The Federation organizes multiple cultural, virtual opportunities every year and make them available to Alliance Française chapters, at no cost to members. Your membership dues give you the privilege to sign up for free to any or all programs of interest.

Please refer to the Upcoming Events section on the homepage of the AF Federation-USA website.

Make sure to register early in order to get the Zoom link.

<https://afusa.org/>

## SPOTTED ONLINE

Here are our recommendations for this month. All programs are in French with optional English subtitles.

## NETFLIX

**C'est du gâteau! (Nailed it! France)**

2019 - 6 episodes

On this fun and funny competition show, home bakers talented in catastrophe struggle to recreate desert masterpieces and win a 5,000 euro prize.

## AMAZON PRIME

### Hawa (2022)

*(make sure to set your audio to French, since several languages are available)*

Hawa, a 15-year-old girl, lives alone with her severely ill grandmother and refuses all the "replacements" her grandmother offers her. Until one day she decides that the only woman who can adopt her is... Michelle Obama.

## KANOPY

### Le dîner des cons (The Dinner Game), 1998

When Pierre decided to play a game to see who could bring the biggest idiot to a dinner party he never imagined he'd be the one playing the fool. But when Pierre's selfish ways come to light before the main course, he gets his just dessert.

## LE SAVIEZ-VOUS?

Like most countries in the world, France has its fair share of anachronistic laws. Although they might have made sense in the original context, we cannot help but be amused (or shocked) by them.

Following is a prime example:

### **You cannot kiss in train stations while the train is on the platform.**

Apparently, the law was born from reports by train drivers, who, tired of travel delays, promoted this measure. Since 1910, in accordance with a law introduced by the Société Nationale du Chemin de Fer (the precursor to the SNCF), it has been illegal to kiss in French train stations and especially on their platforms. The ban was intended to avoid costly delays to the service and overcrowding in the stations. It's unclear for how long the law was enforced or, indeed, what the punishment was for an illicit smooch, but there is certainly no formal penalty in place today

That's the country of love for you!

Source: <https://theculturetrip.com/europe/france/paris/articles/10-unbelievable-french-laws-you-need-to-know>