



Dear member,

We would like to thank you for your membership to the Alliance Française de Cincinnati and your support throughout the year 2009-2010.

A transition phase rich in opportunities for the Alliance, this year's accomplishments enabled us to build a strong base for a promising future.

Our first important milestone was to complete the previous Board's effort to incorporate the Alliance. The incorporation brings peace of mind as we establish ourselves in the community.

Our second achievement was to start using more competitive and high-performing communication tools:

- We have revamped our website: [www.afcincinnati.com](http://www.afcincinnati.com). Now members can more easily renew their membership on-line for 2010-2011. The Alliance Française can also make more frequent and attractive updates to the newly designed site.
- We can now send you our monthly newsletter and news of all our events directly via your e-mail inbox thanks to the e-mail marketing solution Constant Contact.
- We have transformed the forum--at present, it serves primarily to welcome and integrate our francophone members into the community.

Thanks to our active and committed Board members, we have diversified our event program to benefit the tastes and needs of our members in including the following activities:

- Many movie-related events with several local partners. We even secured several free tickets for the much acclaimed « Seraphine » movie.
- Conferences and cultural events.
  - Taft/Duncanson Society Artist in Residence (Chair – Thierry Lorthioir)
  - Hitch-hiking around the World 2007-2012 (Co-chairs – Annie Cardin-Bierbaum & Anne-Marie Jezequel)
  - French Contemporary Architecture Conference Series with DAAP (Chair – Anne-Marie Mazzega)
  - Influence of American Jazz on French Society & Jazz (Chair – Anne-Marie Mazzega)
  - Graphology: science, art or magic? (Chair: Martine Somers)
  - Matisse Art Lecture by celebrated Dr Elderfield (Chair: Lesley Chapman)
- Celebration of traditional French customs:
  - Bastille Day Bal (July 14<sup>th</sup>) @ Swaim Lodge as a partnership with FABA
  - Mid-Summer Picnic (August 15<sup>th</sup>) @ Woodland Mound Park
  - Réveillon (December 24<sup>th</sup>) in Anderson Township

- Friendly and epicurean get-togethers
  - Summer potluck events
  - Harmony Hill Vineyard wine tasting (Chairs : Anne-Marie Jezequel, Annie Cardin & Martine Somers)
  - Beaujolais Nouveau @ historical Arnold's (Chair : Thierry Lorthoir)
  - Fête de la Chandeleur @ Cafe Europa (Chair : Angela Lucarelli)
  - Diner à La Petite France restaurant with Marc Billon, representant of French people living abroad. (Chair : Thierry Lorthoir)
- Our traditional Francophonie festival was hosted this year by NKU (Chair : Barbara Klaw)
- We worked on strengthening our conversation groups at the Mercantile Library, in Newport, Hyde Park and launched a new poetry-focused group in Anderson Township.
- Last but not least, we have embraced a more active role in the community by donating French books for children to the AMIS program of Cincinnati Public school (Chair : Anne-Marie Mazzega) and by fulfilling the Christmas wishes of children in Foster Care.

Heartfelt thanks to the Board members and all the volunteers for their time, energy and enthusiasm! Without you, such a rich and diverse program would not be possible!

Director of the French Alliance Institute, Lesley Chapman, continues to run a dynamic AF Institute that offers evening French classes for adults at all levels as well as classes for children. Private tutoring is also available. Please tell your friends about us: they might want to start or continue learning French language and culture in an affordable yet high quality environment.

Finally, many members benefited from the membership advantages: 25% discount at the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra (CSO), 20% discount at Cincinnati Ballet and « get-one-get-one-free » ticket at the Mariemont and Esquire movies on Wednesdays.

We have an optimistic vision for the years ahead! In the spirit of further sharing French culture, we wish to maintain a varied choice of events to serve our members' diversity, and to build stronger relationships with the community by collaborating with other non-profit organizations. We continue our search for a more permanent place to keep alive the conviviality so dear to the French way of life: finding such place would allow us to open a multimedia library, host informal activities and offer more ambitious community programs.

Your ideas and comments are always welcome: do not hesitate to contact us or even to join the Board to encourage our progress!

Thank you for your continued support!

Aude Roumégoux,  
President

Sylvie Chamba-Linneman  
Vice President/Secretary

Alliance Française de Cincinnati