

# La Renaissance Française – USA Awards Ceremony and Reception

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*under the auspices of*

**His Excellency Gérard Araud**

Ambassador of France to the United States

Honorary President of La Renaissance Française – USA



**Tuesday, June 30, 2015**

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Residence of France  
2221 Kalorama Road, NW  
Washington, DC

# History of La Renaissance Française

La Renaissance Française was founded in 1916 as a private cultural organization by French president Raymond Poincaré in anticipation of the allied victory in World War I. Its original mission was to facilitate a return to French language and culture in the regions of Alsace and Moselle after years of German domination. As this objective was accomplished between the two world wars, the association was recognized as a public non-profit organization benefiting from the patronage of the French Ministries of Foreign Affairs, of the Interior, of Defense, and of Education.

In recent years, La Renaissance Française has broadened its mission to include the promotion of French culture generally, as a cradle of humanism and respect for all beliefs and nationalities. In the 1980s the organization extended its reach to include all French-speaking countries. Accordingly, delegations were formed in countries recognizing French as an official language such as Switzerland and Belgium, along with Argentina, Canada and Romania. La Renaissance Française continues to establish and encourage delegations worldwide, including the United States, and has formed, or is in the process of forming delegations in China, Italy, Lebanon, Madagascar, Morocco, and Russia.

M. Denis Fadda currently serves as international president of La Renaissance Française in Paris. His background includes roles as: *Professeur des Universités, Fonctionnaire international, Administrateur de l'Université Senghor d'Alexandrie, Membre de l'Académie des Arts, Lettres et Sciences de Languedoc, and Président (h) de l'Académie des Sciences d'Outre-Mer de France.*

His excellency Gérard Araud, Ambassador of France to the United States, serves as *Président d'Honneur* of the Delegation in the United States. Mrs. Jane Robert is the Honorary President of the United States Delegation. Madame Simone Veil, former *Ministre d'Etat*, past president of the European Parliament and current member of the *Académie française*, serves as *Présidente d'Honneur* of La Renaissance Française in Paris.

## Founding in the United States

On October 9, 2009, the United States Delegation of La Renaissance Française held its first official meeting at La Maison Française at New York University, courtesy of Professor Tom Bishop. La Renaissance Française – USA continues its cooperative tradition of Americans selecting honorees in the United States to be considered for awards by La Renaissance Française in Paris. We express our appreciation to Antoine Guerrier de Dumast, immediate past president of La Renaissance Française, at whose initiative the Delegation in the United States was founded.

# **Awards Ceremony**

Tuesday, June 30, 2015

6:00 p.m.

## **La Renaissance Française – USA**

*Delegation of La Renaissance Française in the United States*

### **Program**

Welcome by Gérard Araud

Ambassador of France to the United States

History of La Renaissance Française by Bernard Duhaime

President, Delegation in the United States

Recognition of Honorees and Presentation of Medals

Ambassador Araud and President Bernard Duhaime

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*La Renaissance Française – USA expresses its appreciation to  
Ambassador Araud for his warm welcome in the Residence of France.*

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### ***Medal Recipients – 2015***

**La Médaille d'Or de La Renaissance Française**

Nicole Yancey

**La Médaille d'Or du Mérite Francophone**

Gladys C. Lipton, Ed.D.

**La Médaille d'Or du Rayonnement Culturel**

Daniel Johnnes

**La Médaille d'Or de Solidarité et Valeur**

Adèle Boufford Baker



## Nicole Yancey

### *La Médaille d'Or de La Renaissance Française*

*This medal recognizes persons who have rendered eminent and exceptional service in areas supported by La Renaissance Française.*



The events surrounding Nicole Yancey's birth influenced her goals in life, having been born in the Berry region of France at the most desperate of times for her parents, who were of Jewish descent. Soon after, she and her sister were taken in by a farmer's family, which resulted in her wanting to make an impact on a better understanding between nations and their peoples.

America was at the heart of the liberation of France, and although she was much too young to remember it all, the name always carried a magical sound. Later she learned of the French aid in the American Revolution, which increased her desire to discover America.

She was given that opportunity through the Franco-American Women's Club of the US Army Communications Zone, enrolling in college in Virginia. There she met her husband and has lived in the "Peninsula" for the last 50 years. She has dipped into the region's rich history, and has served as liaison for French participation in the celebration of the American bi-centennial. She has contributed to American participation in events in France commemorating the bi-centennial of 1789, especially a "son et lumière" at the Rochambeau estate.

Ms. Yancey has taught French, and was appointed Honorary Consul of France. This role opened the door for her to further promote French language and culture, as well as the Franco-American friendship through cultural events, international festivals, lectures, concerts, exhibits and loans from French museums.

In 2009 she initiated the creation of the French-American school in Norfolk, VA which is working with the Mission Laïque Française, the Ministry of Defense and Norfolk Public Schools.

In addition, she has cooperated in the creation of sister cities across her state and serves as liaison with the National Park Service to trace the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail. The new wayside marker "Converging on Yorktown" will be unveiled on June 5, 2015, as the Hermione sails into the York River.

Nicole left the consular office after 25 years, and was awarded the National Order of Merit, the National Order of the Legion of Honor and the Commonwealth of Virginia House Resolution No. 976.

## Gladys C. Lipton, Ed.D.

### *La Médaille d'Or du Mérite Francophone*

*This medal recognizes those who devote themselves to the development or tightening of linguistic or cultural ties between France and other countries sharing the French language, or to the development of the French language and culture in their country.*



Gladys C. Lipton has been recognized, nationally and internationally, as an expert in foreign language education, and particularly for her pioneering focus on foreign languages at the elementary school level (FLES\*). She founded and is the Director of the National FLES\* Institute. She was the former Modern Languages Department's Outreach Coordinator at UMBC, and she was the former Head of Foreign Languages for the NYC schools. For many years she served as a consultant on foreign language programs throughout the country and abroad.

Her accomplishments were recognized by the French government in awarding her the ranks of Chevalier (1974), Officier (1981) and Commandeur (2010) in the Order of Academic Palms. Dr. Lipton has also received numerous awards from foreign language professional organizations, such as ACTFL's Steiner National Leadership Award (1996), and NECTFL's Brooks Distinguished Leadership Award (2014).



While serving as President of the A.A.T.F. (1998-2000), Dr. Lipton spearheaded a national promotion of the French project, "National French Week." Countrywide, French teachers continue to celebrate this event each year, bringing French and the achievements of their students to the attention of their school communities.

Author of books, professional articles, chapters in books, bilingual dictionaries, A.A.T.F. Presidential letters, book reviews, etc. (160 publications), Gladys' book on FLES\* methodology (5<sup>th</sup> edition) continues to be used by FLES\* teachers throughout the United States.

Several years ago Dr. Lipton enrolled in her first painting class. Her first solo art exhibition took place at a prominent Gallery in Chevy Chase, Maryland in January, 2015. She is scheduled for additional art shows later this year and next.

After a lifetime of successful teaching, supervision and consultations on foreign language programs and methodology, Dr. Lipton continues her strong advocacy for French and her well-received art work.



## Daniel Johnnes

### *La Médaille d'Or du Rayonnement Culturel*

*This medal recognizes persons who have rendered distinguished service in the following fields: French language, literature, fine arts, science and technology, artisans, promotion and visibility of the French patrimony (including traditions and artistic heritage).*



When **Daniel Johnnes** first visited France he immediately fell in love with the language, cuisine, wine and culture. For the last forty years Daniel has been a devoted Francophile, building his career around food and wine.

After graduating from college with a BA in French, Daniel left for Paris to work in the kitchens of Guy Savoy. Upon returning to New York City, he helped open Montrachet, quoted as “New York’s finest wine restaurant,” which won a Wine Spectator Grand Award.

Daniel also formed his own import company, featuring personal selections of unique French wines. He now represents some of the most famous estates in Burgundy and beyond.

The James Beard Foundation honored Mr. Johnnes in 1995 with the ‘Outstanding Wine Service Award,’ and in 2006 as ‘Outstanding Wine and Spirits Professional of the Year,’ the highest honor awarded to a wine professional in the United States. In 2000 he was named ‘Wine and Spirits Professional of the Year’ by Santé.

In 2000, he created his event La Paulée de New York, described as “the greatest Bacchanalia on the face of the earth” by *The Financial Times*. Through tastings, dinners and seminars, this event celebrates Burgundy’s greatest winemakers, boasts extraordinary cuisine, and has raised over \$2,000,000 to charity.

After spending twenty years as the Wine Director for Montrachet and the Myriad Restaurant Group, Daniel joined Daniel Boulud’s Dinex Group as the corporate Wine Director.

He most recently formed La Fête du Champagne with Peter Liem to educate and promote the wines of Champagne.

Dubbed “the dean of American Sommeliers” by Jay McNerny in *The Wall Street Journal*, Johnnes continues to mentor a new generation of sommeliers. He recently created the La Paulée Scholarship which brings young sommeliers to France to experience the “terroir” as he did during his early travels.



# Adèle Boufford Baker

## *La Médaille d'Or de Solidarité et Valeur*

*This medal distinguishes persons who have devoted themselves to public service, or to social works of a charitable, philanthropic, civic or sporting nature, intended to improve the quality of life.*



A native of Manchester, New Hampshire, Adèle is a second generation Franco-American and proud of her heritage. She attended Rivier University and the University of New Hampshire. Raised in a bi-lingual family, her love for the French language continued at the Berlitz School of Languages in Boston where she would later become the Director of The Translation Service.

Returning to Manchester, she substituted in French and Spanish in local High Schools and taught English as a Foreign Language to newly arrived French Canadians.

She was a partner in Baker, Pappas & Dastin, Marketing and Public Relations. As Director of Development at Notre Dame College, she coordinated all fundraising and planned giving activities.

From 1994 to 2004, Adèle served as Executive Director of The Centre Franco-Américain, a French cultural and heritage organization. In 1997 she was named Franco American of the Year. She is also a member of PI DELTA PHI, the French National Honor Society and the recipient of La Medaille d'Or du Richelieu.

In 2001 she became Honorary Consul of France and has been proud to represent the French government in New Hampshire to this day.

In 2004 the Alliance Française of Manchester was reinstated, after being inactive for 40 years. Bringing back the AF to her city was a tribute to her mother, who had been a member for many years. Adèle also collaborated on the Quebec 400 (1604-2004), the founding of Quebec, and served on The Champlain Committee to erect a commemorative plaque on the banks of the St. Lawrence River depicting the cities and towns in New England where the French Canadians settled at the turn of the 20th Century.

She volunteers in her city serving on the Boards of Directors of Catholic Medical Center, The Manchester Community Music School, The Gilbert French Language Foundation, The Holy Cross Family Learning Center, The Palace Theatre Advisory Board and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

In 2008 President Sarkozy named her Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite.





## His Excellency Gérard Araud Ambassador of France to the United States

*Président d'Honneur – Renaissance Française, United States*

Gérard Araud, 61, is a career diplomat and was appointed Ambassador of France to the United States in September 2014. He previously held numerous positions within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, notably including that of Director for Strategic Affairs, Security and Disarmament (2000-2003), Ambassador of France to Israel (2003-2006), Director General for Political Affairs and Security (2006-2009), and, most recently, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations in New York (2009-2014).

Over the course of his career Mr. Araud has developed specialized knowledge in two key areas: the Middle East and strategic and security issues. Regarding the latter, he was the French negotiator on the Iranian nuclear issue from 2003 to 2006. In New York, at the Security Council, he notably contributed to the adoption of resolutions on Libya (#1970 and #1973), Côte d'Ivoire (#1975), the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali and the Central African Republic, and participated in debates on the Syrian and Ukrainian crises.

He has written numerous journal articles, including one recently published in *Commentaire*, on the outbreak of World War One, and another in *Esprit*, on the search for a new world order.





## Simone Veil de l'Académie française

*Honorary President – La Renaissance Française*

**Simone Veil** is acknowledged as one of the world's most courageous, powerful and influential women and is one of the most popular public figures in France. She was the first elected President of the European Parliament, and also served as President of the Judicial Commission for this powerful group. From 1973 to 1979 she served as France's Minister of Health. In France she continues to exert significant political, legislative and social influence.

The recipient of honors in France, the Ivory Coast, Spain, Morocco, Germany, Greece, Venezuela, Italy, Belgium, Israel and the United States, Simone Veil is known for her work on behalf of women's rights, adopted children, older adults and immigration.

When Simone Veil was 17 years old, she and her family were deported to the Nazi concentration camps at Auschwitz-Birkenau and Bergen-Belsen. They suffered unimaginable atrocities. Her parents and her brother died in the camps. Simone Veil and one sister survived. This tragic experience has given her exceptional lifelong personal courage. Her autobiography has been published in English: *A Life: a memoir of Simone Veil* – Haus Publishing.



### **Congressional French Caucus** *Co-Chairs*

#### **United States Senate**

The Honorable John Boozman (R-AR)  
The Honorable Christopher Coons (D-DE)

#### **United States House of Representatives**

The Honorable William Keating (D-MA)  
The Honorable Bob Latta (R-OH)  
The Honorable Adam Schiff (D-CA)  
The Honorable Joe Wilson (R-SC)

The French Caucus is a bipartisan, bicameral congressional member organization, dedicated to enhanced US-French relations in the spirit of partnership and cooperation. Since its inception in 2003 under the leadership of the Honorable Amory Houghton, the Caucus has fostered dialogue and multicultural understanding around both policy debates and cultural events that contextualize the depth and dynamic nature of French-American relations. (Courtesy: *News from France*, Dec. 23, 2010) La Renaissance Française – USA maintains a close relationship with the CFC which has sent representatives to our awards ceremonies. Mr. Amory Houghton received *La Médaille d'Or de La Renaissance Française* in 2010 for his role in organizing the French Caucus.

## **La Renaissance Française – USA**

### **Past Honorees**

#### ***La Médaille d'Or de La Renaissance Française***

Ronald W. Tobin, Ph.D. – Santa Barbara, California - 2014  
Élyane Dezon-Jones, Ph.D. – Sarasota, Florida - 2014  
Robert D. Peckham, Ph.D. – Martin, Tennessee - 2013  
Elizabeth Rohatyn – New York, New York - 2012  
Jane and Bruce Robert – St. Louis, Missouri - 2012  
Ambassador Craig Roberts Stapleton – Greenwich, Connecticut - 2011  
Amory Houghton – Corning, New York - 2010  
Rebecca Valette, Ph.D. – Newton, Massachusetts - 2010

#### ***La Médaille d'Or du Rayonnement Culturel***

Jerome Henry Rudes – New York, New York - 2014  
Bernard Métais, Ph.D., P.E. – Berkeley, California - 2013  
Ryan Brown – Washington, DC - 2012  
Katharine Branning – New York, New York - 2011  
Hugh Macdonald – St. Louis, Missouri - 2010

#### ***La Médaille d'Or de Solidarité et Valeur***

Elain Uzan Leary – New York, New York - 2014  
Claude Lambert – San Francisco, California - 2013  
Robin Massee – Brooklyn, New York - 2012  
Reid Henri Lewis – Elgin, Illinois - 2011  
Lance Armstrong – Austin, Texas - 2010

#### ***La Médaille d'Or du Mérite Francophone***

Carl J. Ekberg, Ph.D. – Winchester, Virginia - 2014  
William C. Carter, Ph.D. – Birmingham, Alabama - 2013  
Mary B. Emory – Milwaukee, Wisconsin - 2012  
Christopher Paul Pinet, Ph.D. – Bozeman, Montana - 2011  
Albert Valdman, Ph. D. – Bloomington, Indiana - 2011  
Adam Steg – New Orleans, Louisiana - 2010  
Robert L. Miller – New York, New York (selected by Delegation in Italy) - 2010

## **Delegation in the United States**

Bernard Duhaime – Omaha, Nebraska, *President*  
Liza Forshaw – St. Louis, Missouri, *Secretary*  
Jane Robert – St. Louis, Missouri, *Honorary President*  
Elyane Dezon-Jones, Ph.D. – Sarasota Florida and Paris, France  
Mary Emory – Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
Thomas Horn – San Francisco, California  
George Sape – New York, New York  
*President*, American Society of the French Order of Merit  
Margot Steinhart, Ph.D. – Glenview, Illinois  
*President*, American Association of the French Academic Palms

# La Renaissance Française Delegation in the United States

## Mission Statement

*La Renaissance Française – USA, the American Delegation of La Renaissance Française, founded in Paris in 1916, aims to recognize persons who have raised awareness of the French language and francophone cultures among people living in the United States. The American Delegation will act at all times in harmony with the policies of La Renaissance Française.*



*The Residence of France in the United States, Washington, DC*

*The beautiful Tudor Revival mansion, built in 1910,  
has been the official residence of the French Ambassador since 1936.  
It has just been re-opened after an impressive 2 year renovation.*

*For information on La Renaissance Française:  
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<http://larenaissancefrancaise.org>*