

guide TO THE
CULTURAL SERVICES

OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN THE UNITED STATES



www.frenchculture.org

The Cultural Services and FACE thank **PLAYBILL** for its generous support.

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*And last but not least,
many thanks to the
interns who help us
throughout the year.*



Dear Friends,

The **Cultural Services of the French Embassy** promote the best of French arts, literature, and education to cultural and academic institutions across the United States, with a strong focus on the contemporary. Under the direction of the French Ambassador to the United States, Pierre Vimont, our mandate is to prompt and sustain a high-spirited cultural exchange between the most promising French and American artists, writers, thinkers, students, and educators, and to continually enhance the number and caliber of opportunities available to them. With our headquarters in the former Payne Whitney

residence on Fifth Avenue in New York City and at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., we also have regional offices in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, and San Francisco.

Each year, we collaborate on more than 1,000 events throughout the United States. Without our presence, the innovative and dynamic partnerships that we develop, and which have significantly nurtured the arts scenes in both the United States and France, would not exist. The work of the Cultural Services is variously advisory, conceptual, developmental, promotional and administrative. The Cultural Services regularly conceive, organize, and support large-scale initiatives to draw attention to exciting developments in French culture. The titles of these festivals reflect the dynamism of our work: **France Moves** (2001), **Sounds French** (2003), **Playing French** (2004), **Act French** (2005), **Lyon via Houston** (2005), **French Kissin' in the USA** (2007-2008), **Cultures Urbaines** (2008), and **French Fiction** (2008).

This brochure provides details on the many programs and initiatives offered by our Departments and Offices, which include: **Visual and Performing Arts, Audiovisual Industries, Books, French Language, Universities and Higher Education, and Non-Governmental Relations**. It also presents the offices that support them: **Communications, Development and Press**. Each program is offered either directly by the Departments and Offices or in conjunction with our non-profit partner **FACE** (French American Cultural Exchange). The Cultural Services also coordinate the nominations and award ceremonies for French decorations conferred upon Americans and U.S. residents in recognition of their exceptional artistic and academic accomplishments.

May the information in this brochure provide you with useful resources, and please do not hesitate to contact us directly.



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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

Kareen Rispal,
Cultural Counselor



VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

VISUAL ARTS, ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN OFFICE



Photo: Orange Slice Chair - Courtesy of M2L

The Visual Arts Office regularly holds exhibits at our N.Y. offices, such as one celebrating the 80th birthday of designer Pierre Paulin

The Visual Arts Office seeks to increase recognition of emerging talent and encourage interest in the work of established artists who remain influential. The Office offers grants and guidance for projects, conferences, curatorial research, artist residencies, and exhibitions at American arts and academic institutions. The Office nurtures and maintains professional and curatorial networks in France and in the United States, and often serves as a liaison between artists and professionals, resources and organizations.

Established in cooperation with the Ministries of Culture and Foreign Affairs, CulturesFrance, the Cultural Services and FACE, **Etant donnés: the French American Fund for Contemporary Art** awards grants to American non-profit institutions presenting the work of artists living in France, and to French organizations showing the work of artists based in the United States. In its first ten years, the fund has distributed nearly \$2 million to support more than 190 visual art projects at major French and American museums, art centers, and related institutions. Since 2005, the Etant donnés Fund also offers Curatorial Research Grants for the professional development of American curators through a stay of up to three months in France for contemporary art research projects. These grants, allowing extended stays, favor in-depth artistic cooperation between France and the United States.

Deadline: **March 31, annually**

Website: www.facecouncil.org/etantdonnees/contemporaryart.html

Contact: contemporaryart@facecouncil.org

The Visual Arts Office, in collaboration with CulturesFrance, coordinates and supports **residency programs** in New York City, which offer workspace, housing, stipends, professional introductions and studio visits.

The annual **Triangle Studio Program** awards a year-long residency in New York City to an **emerging** French artist.

Website: www.triangleworkshop.org

Under the **International Studio and Curatorial Program** (ISCP), six-month residencies are offered to four French artists every year.

Website: www.isco-nyc.org

The **Location 1 International Residency** annually provides a four-month residency in New York for a French artist working in new media. For its part, the city of Paris—in collaboration with the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (www.lmcc.net)—hosts two American artists in Paris for three months each.

Website: www.location1.org

The **Villa Medicis Hors les Murs** program has no specific location and its characteristics vary according to the requirements of the artist.

For all these programs, applications must be submitted by the artists to CulturesFrance. For information and deadlines, please contact the Visual Arts Office in New York City (see back cover) or CulturesFrance in Paris.

Website: www.culturesfrance.com

The Visual Arts Office participates in forums and exhibitions at American universities and at other academic institutions. The **International Cooperation Program for Art Schools** facilitates dialogue between French and American visual artists, architects, and designers through academic conferences, workshops, master classes, and roundtables.

THEATER AND DANCE OFFICE

The **Theater and Dance Office** promotes theater, dance, circus, and puppetry. In recent years, American performing arts projects involving innovative French artists—actors, aerialists, directors, playwrights, puppeteers, dancers, and choreographers—have attracted enthusiastic audiences. The Theater and Dance Office works closely with American theaters, festivals, producers, and cultural organizations to present contemporary and emerging talents from France. To that end, it underwrites production, touring, and research travel costs, and participates in conferences (such as APAP and the TCG Conference).

The **Etant donnés Fund for the Performing Arts**, in conjunction with FACE, offers grants to American and French non-profit institutions to support artist residencies, translations, productions, and tours of contemporary theater, including new circus and puppetry projects. French-American partnerships are also encouraged. Over the past nine years, the fund has distributed \$1.3 million to support 132 theater projects at major French and American theaters, festivals, and companies.

Deadline: **February 1, annually**

Website: www.facecouncil.org/etantdonnes/performingart.html

Contact: performingarts@facecouncil.org

The **French-US Exchange in Dance**, known as **FUSED**, encourages curatorial dialogue and exchange between the French and American dance communities. In partnership with the New England Foundation for the Arts/National Dance Project, CulturesFrance, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and FACE, FUSED was created following *France Moves*, the successful 2001 contemporary dance festival in New York. Its mandate is to initiate and consolidate professional relationships, generate new work, and introduce dance communities on both sides of the Atlantic to important emerging talents.

The **FUSED program** offers grants to American and French non-profit institutions willing to pledge to a new bilateral dance project or programs by providing residencies, commissions, and/or touring the work of at least one choreographer from the partner country. Since its creation in 2004, the program has supported 22 choreographers and 20 presenting partners. Co-productions between presenters are encouraged.

Deadline: **February 1, annually**

Websites: www.facecouncil.org/fused

www.nefa.org

Contact: performingarts@facecouncil.org

To keep abreast of French Performing Arts events in the United States, subscribe to our newsletter by sending an email to performing-arts@frenchculture.org.

MUSIC OFFICE

The **Music Office** assists French and Francophone musicians and composers by creating opportunities for Americans to discover and present their work. The Office supports French music in a multiplicity of forms—baroque, classical, contemporary, jazz, and pop music—through artist residencies, academic exchanges and partnerships with institutional American arts presenters and festivals. In partnership with the French Music Export Office in New York, the Music Office keeps the American music industry aware of new music being produced in France, particularly in the areas of pop/electronic and world music through conferences and promotional events such as **APAP** in New York and **South by Southwest** in Austin, TX.

Website: www.french-music.org

Established following **Sounds French**, a contemporary music festival held in New York in 2003, the **French-American Fund for Contemporary Music** confers grants to non-profit institutions on both sides of the Atlantic for commissions, residencies, performances, tours, master classes and other forums of cultural exchange. Projects involving living French and American composers, particularly collaborations, are especially encouraged.

Deadline: **March 1, annually**

Website: www.facecouncil.org/music/music.html

Contact: contemporarymusic@facecouncil.org

Music is known to bridge differences of age, race, and nationality. In that spirit, the **French-American Jazz Exchange** was created jointly by Chamber Music America, the French Embassy, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and FACE to foster collaborations among French and American jazz artists. Grants underwrite, but are not limited to, the costs of composition, touring, recording and audience development. Applications from musicians working in electronic and other experimental genres are welcome; in all cases, public performance is required.

Websites: www.facecouncil.org/jazz

www.cma.org



BOOK DEPARTMENT

AUTHORS ON TOUR

Every year, the Book Department makes it possible for 30 contemporary French and Francophone writers, philosophers, and social scientists to come to the United States to present their work at universities, libraries, bookstores, and other literary institutions. These readings and lectures by thought-provoking French authors encourage lively dialogue. French writers whose work has never been translated are thus able to meet American publishers and literary agents.

AMERICAN BOOK FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

Since April 2005, the Book Department has underwritten the annual cost of a delegation of 10 French writers to the PEN American Center to participate in the World Voices Festival of International Literature, which champions free expression and literature in translation. The Book Office also brings French authors to major book fairs and festivals such as the Los Angeles Times Festival and the Miami and Missoula book fairs.

TRANSLATIONS

Frenchbooknews.com was created by the Book Offices in London and New York. The website offers selections of new and recent French fiction and non-fiction, the rights to which are available for translation into English. The website's monthly E-newsletter features a selection of newly published books in France and news of other developments on the French literary scene. The website also offers a variety of resources for writers and publishing professionals including directories of translators, publishers, booksellers, and libraries; as well as information about literary events, festivals, competitions, and prizes. A database of all the French books translated into English since 1990 is under construction.

Newsletter Subscription: www.frenchbooknews.com/abonnement.php

GRANTS

The Book Department coordinates two grant programs for translations: Hemingway Grants and French Voices.

Hemingway Grants assist American publishers with commissioning expenses. Approximately 20 awards of \$1,000 to \$6,000 each are granted annually.

Deadlines: **February 15 and July 15**



FILM, TV AND NEW MEDIA DEPARTMENT

FILM OFFICE

Although **50 French films** are released each year in the United States, foreign films represent only 1% of box office receipts here. For many U.S. cities, universities, festivals and cultural institutions are often the only places to see French films. Each year, the Film Office helps these institutions bring more than **200 French films** to the U.S. It also underwrites dozens of retrospectives, thematic festivals (animation, African-French film, short subjects, etc.) and other screenings at museums, libraries and educational institutions across the United States. With **Unifrance USA**, special attention is paid to promoting contemporary French cinema.

In collaboration with the organization “Le meilleur du cinéma français,” the Film Office offers an **Internet portal, Universciné**, that enables universities and cultural centers to access films online and to organize public screenings more easily throughout the U.S.

Website: www.universcine.com

To bring new French cinema to American campuses, the Film Office and FACE created the **Tournées Festival** 12 years ago, which helps universities launch their own self-sustaining French film festivals.

Deadlines: **July 31** and **October 1, annually**

Website: www.facecouncil.org/tournees

Contact: tourneesfestival@facecouncil.org

The **Ciné2000** program, also run with FACE, serves the film departments of U.S. colleges, universities and other non-profit film institutions. It supports guest lectures, conferences, and master classes by French directors, cinematographers, animators, and other film professionals.

Website: www.facecouncil.org/cine2000

Contact: cinema@facecouncil.org

The Film Office also sponsors bilateral exchanges between Film Schools such as the collaboration between La Fémis and Columbia University or a program for high school students considering careers in film.

The Film Office keeps U.S. distributors informed of French cinematic news through a monthly E-newsletter. To receive it, please email cinema-ny@frenchculture.org.

TV OFFICE

The TV Office, in partnership with TV France International (French television program exporters association), promotes French TV programs to specialized markets. The Office participates in professional gatherings such as the annual New York Licensing Show, the NATPE, the Kid Screen, and the Real Screen market. It offers consulting and administrative support to a variety of quality projects for U.S. television channels, such as Sundance, Discovery and PBS.

The TV Office promotes French and American co-productions and French programs through a monthly newsletter informing American professionals of hits in France. To receive the newsletter, please email frenchproductions@frenchculture.org. For more information about French-language channels broadcast in the U.S., visit Frenchculture.org.

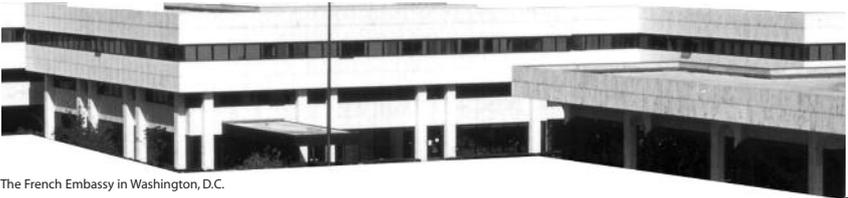
NEW MEDIA OFFICE

The New Media Office facilitates a lively dialogue between professionals in both countries by organizing bilateral conferences and seminars and by serving as a liaison to professional organizations such as the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), motion picture associations, and writers and directors guilds.

For the benefit of French professionals, the Film, TV and New Media Department has created **Mediamerica**, a comprehensive online database with directories of North-American film, TV, music and new media sources.

Website: www.mediamerica.org

Contact: mediamerica@mediamerica.org



The French Embassy in Washington, D.C.



FRENCH LANGUAGE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

TEACHER TRAINING

Each year, the Department underwrites training costs for 40 French teachers from America's primary and secondary schools so that they may visit France to improve their language skills and enhance their understanding of French culture. Grants are awarded in July. The Department also plans to develop an online continuing education program for American French teachers.

IMMERSION PROGRAMS

Many American public schools offer full or partial-day language immersion programs in which all classes and subjects are conducted in a second language. The second language becomes the medium of instruction rather than the subject being taught. For a complete list of participating schools, please see the website of the Center for Applied Linguistics, www.cal.org. In keeping with our efforts to offer students attending American public schools the opportunity to learn French, the French Embassy has initiated the **French-English Dual Language Program**. These programs are designed for English speakers, bilinguals, as well as French native speakers who do not yet speak English.

FRENCH-ENGLISH DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMS IN NEW YORK CITY



Students at the Jordan L. Mott Middle School in the Bronx show off their French skills.

For the first time in New York City, three public schools opened French-language programs. These schools serve mostly disadvantaged populations and the new programs are designed to promote open-mindedness and academic success among their students. The French Embassy, in partnership with the NYC Department of Education, the FIAF (French Institute Alliance Française) and EFNY (Education Française à New York), have joined forces to support this indispensable program. The French Embassy's contribution is manifold: we provide schools with hundreds of books, we train teachers and we offer logistical and financial contributions.

Website: www.frenchculture.org

FRENCH HERITAGE LANGUAGE PROGRAM (FHLP)

An initiative of the Education Service of the French Embassy, the FHLP is a FACE program. Launched in 2005 in several New York City public schools, the FHLP addresses the linguistic needs of mostly underserved students of French-speaking backgrounds. We promote English-French bilingualism and biculturalism by offering free, for-credit French classes that build on the students' cultures. This popular program will soon be offered in more public schools in California, Florida, and Louisiana. About 150 students participate every year in our three-week intensive Summer Camp. Finally, the FHLP is also an active contributor to scholarly research in the field of "heritage languages".

Website: www.facecouncil.org/fhlp

FRENCH SCHOOL NETWORK

There are currently more than 40 private schools in America offering French-American bilingual education programs, with their standards and content governed and approved by the French Ministry of Education. These programs therefore differ from immersion programs that offer an American curriculum in French. The Education Department oversees existing programs and assesses new projects.

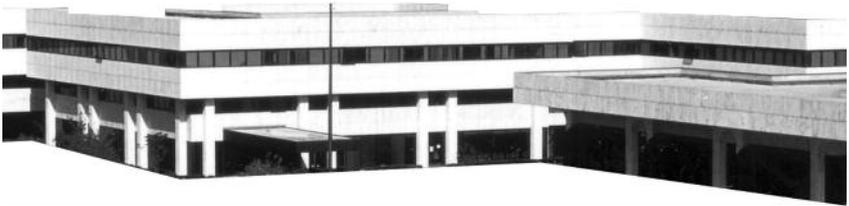
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

The **Yale Resource Center for the Teaching of French** disseminates innovative French language teaching models and materials throughout Connecticut. Likewise, the **Rutgers University Center for the Teaching of French** promotes new curricula and materials at all educational levels throughout New Jersey.

Websites: www.yale.edu/macmillan/pier/rctf
frenchrc.rutgers.edu
www.frenchresources.info

The Department also oversees the **EspaceFrancophone** Internet portal, created to serve French-speaking educators and Francophiles. Managed by our Louisiana Consulate and its partners, the website provides many useful links to information about French history, politics, economics, tourism, culture, media, and education. It is a particularly rich source of information about the Francophone communities of Cajuns, Creoles and southern Native Americans. The website recently received the highest possible rating from the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching. EspaceFrancophone also maintains a calendar of Louisiana events, blogs, podcasts, and offers teaching tools available for download, as well as French-speaking television and radio program guides.

Website: www.espacefrancophone.org



HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANTSHIP PROGRAM

The French Ministry of Education and the Cultural Services at the French Embassy offer approximately 1,500 teaching assistantship positions in French primary and secondary schools, as well as in various French teaching colleges (the “Instituts universitaires de formation des maîtres”—IUFM). This is a truly unique opportunity for young Americans not only to gain valuable teaching experience, but also to spend between 6-9 months in France or in one of its overseas departments. These programs facilitate the mastery of the French language through linguistic immersion while at the same time allowing for a privileged insight into contemporary France.

Website: www.frenchculture.org

INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTERS

Interdisciplinary Centers, active at 15 top American research universities, dedicate significant resources toward bilateral research into fields such as environmental science, the social sciences, musicology, art history, and Francophone literature. Each Interdisciplinary Center receives an annual grant, which is matched by local contributions. One such center is located at the Institute of French Studies of New York University (NYU) and its *Maison Française*, with a year-round calendar of cultural activities, concerts, film festivals, and lectures. Another is located at University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), where activities center on Francophone studies of the literature and philosophy of post-colonial francophone countries, as well as on globalization.

Since 1993, the French government has matched funds with four of the most prestigious American universities to create **Endowed Centers**: France-Berkeley, France-Chicago, France-MIT, and France-Stanford. Each center has an endowment of \$2 million to \$5 million for bilateral projects including co-doctoral theses and research projects in French and American universities. The French Government also supports the Alliance Program, an innovative institute that links Columbia University, Sciences-Po, Ecole Polytechnique and University Paris-Sorbonne.

Calls for projects and details: ies.Berkeley.edu
fcc.uchicago.edu

web.mit.edu/mit-france/about
ica.stanford.edu

PARTNER UNIVERSITY FUND (PUF)

Formerly known as the French-American Fund for University Partnerships, the Partner University Fund (PUF) was created in May 2007 to promote innovative partnerships in research and higher education between French and American institutions of higher learning and research. Thanks to private and public funding, PUF has a budget of \$1.4 million allocated to its first call for projects. PUF supports emerging transatlantic partnerships with a potential to be sustained after the phasing out of the grant. Partnerships may combine such elements as joint initiatives in research and publications, faculty and postdoctoral mobility, collaboration in teaching, shared programs, as well as joint and dual degrees at the master's and Ph.D levels.

Projects need to be jointly submitted by at least one American and one French university. They can be funded over a three-year period, subject to annual review by the selection committee. Interested parties are invited to visit our website.

Deadline: **December 15, annually**
Contact: puf@ambafrance-us.org

CHATEAUBRIAND SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, about 15 competitive **Chateaubriand Scholarships** are awarded by a jury of French and American academics to American doctoral candidates for advanced study in France for up to one year. Applicants may be engaged in the study of French arts and humanities, and Doctoral and Postdoctoral science students may also apply for support to conduct research in public or private French laboratories. All grantees are provided round-trip travel, a monthly stipend, and health insurance while in Europe. Language instruction is available for those not conversant in French.

Deadline: **December 15, annually**
Website: www.frenchculture.org



OFFICE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Office of Non-Governmental Affairs seeks to sustain a productive dialogue between the French government and major American NGOs (non-governmental organizations) such as, for instance, CARE, Africare, Conservation International, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Clinton Foundation. Also, the Office assists NGOs on both sides of the Atlantic to develop partnerships. Indeed, we provide particular support to French NGOs and NGO platforms that seek to establish partnerships with American NGOs and foundations. Partners include civil sector organizations such as Coordination Sud and Médecins du Monde, as well as public sector organizations such as the Institut de Recherche sur le Développement of the Agence Française de Développement. The Office also sponsors and promotes conferences, forums, and debates on a variety of critical subjects and issues. Finally, the Office fosters collaborative projects between local authorities in both countries and abroad.

Contact: info.nongov@ambafrance-us.org

frenchCULTURE.org

COMMUNICATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Press Office keeps American and French correspondents abreast of our programs and initiatives, as well as of the activities of French artists and creators in the United States. Press releases and high resolution photos can be found on **Frenchculture.org**, and the Press Office regularly organizes press conferences to announce major new French Embassy projects and programs.

The Development Office cultivates public and private sources of bilateral financial support for all aspects of the arts and education programs, often in conjunction with FACE (French American Cultural Exchange), whose work is described on the following page.

The Communications and Development Department also coordinates the nominating process—and often hosts the ceremonies—for the awards and distinctions issued by the French government to artists and educators.



ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE

The Washington D.C.-based *Délégation générale* coordinates and assists the entire *Alliance Française* network, organizes tours of French lecturers and performers, and provides pedagogical expertise to the 60 *Alliance Française* chapters with French classes.



Délégation générale de l'Alliance française

Ambassade de France
4101 Reservoir Road, NW
Washington, DC 20007
Website: www.alliance-us.org
Contact: dgi@alliance-us.org

FACE (FRENCH AMERICAN CULTURAL EXCHANGE)

AN ENTREPRENEURIAL PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

FACE, an American 501(c)(3) operating foundation, is based in New York City and works in partnership with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States. FACE is independently administered by an Executive Director and a Board of Trustees comprised of French and American members. With a proven track record of successful events and programs, the Cultural Services lend professional expertise and provide general managerial support.

EFFECTIVE LEVERAGING OF RESOURCES

- Independent management structure ensures autonomy, flexibility, and transparency.
- Professional and logistical support from the Cultural Services keeps operating costs to a minimum and leads to a low administrative/fundraising expense ratio.
- Subsidies from the French government provide a guarantee of financial stability and ongoing program support, as well as seed money for new projects.
- FACE's non profit status enables receipt of tax-exempt contributions from France and the U.S.

A GUARANTEE OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Each program is monitored by a Program Officer of the Cultural Services, who is an expert in the field.
- A committee of French and American independent professional experts helps determine the emerging talents and ideas FACE will support.

AMONG FACE'S MAJOR INITIATIVES

- Cinema: *Tournées Festival* and *Ciné2000*
- Visual Arts: *Etant donnés: The French American Fund for Contemporary Art*
- Performing Arts: *Etant donnés: The French American Fund for the Performing Arts* and *FUSED* (French-U.S. Dance Exchange)
- Music: *The French American Fund for Contemporary Music* and *French-American Jazz Exchange*
- Higher Education: *The Partner University Fund (PUF)*
- Books: *The French American Book Fund*
- Secondary Education: *French Heritage Language Program* and *Dual Language Programs*
- Education: Funds for Louisiana: *Schools* and *Music*



Elisabeth Hayes
Executive Director

Laurent Auffret
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Oisín Muldowney
Administrative Manager

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Contact: info@facecouncil.org

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T 212 439 1425

BOOK DEPARTMENT

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