

THE AMERICAN FRIENDS
of
VERSAILLES

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

A Legacy of Light

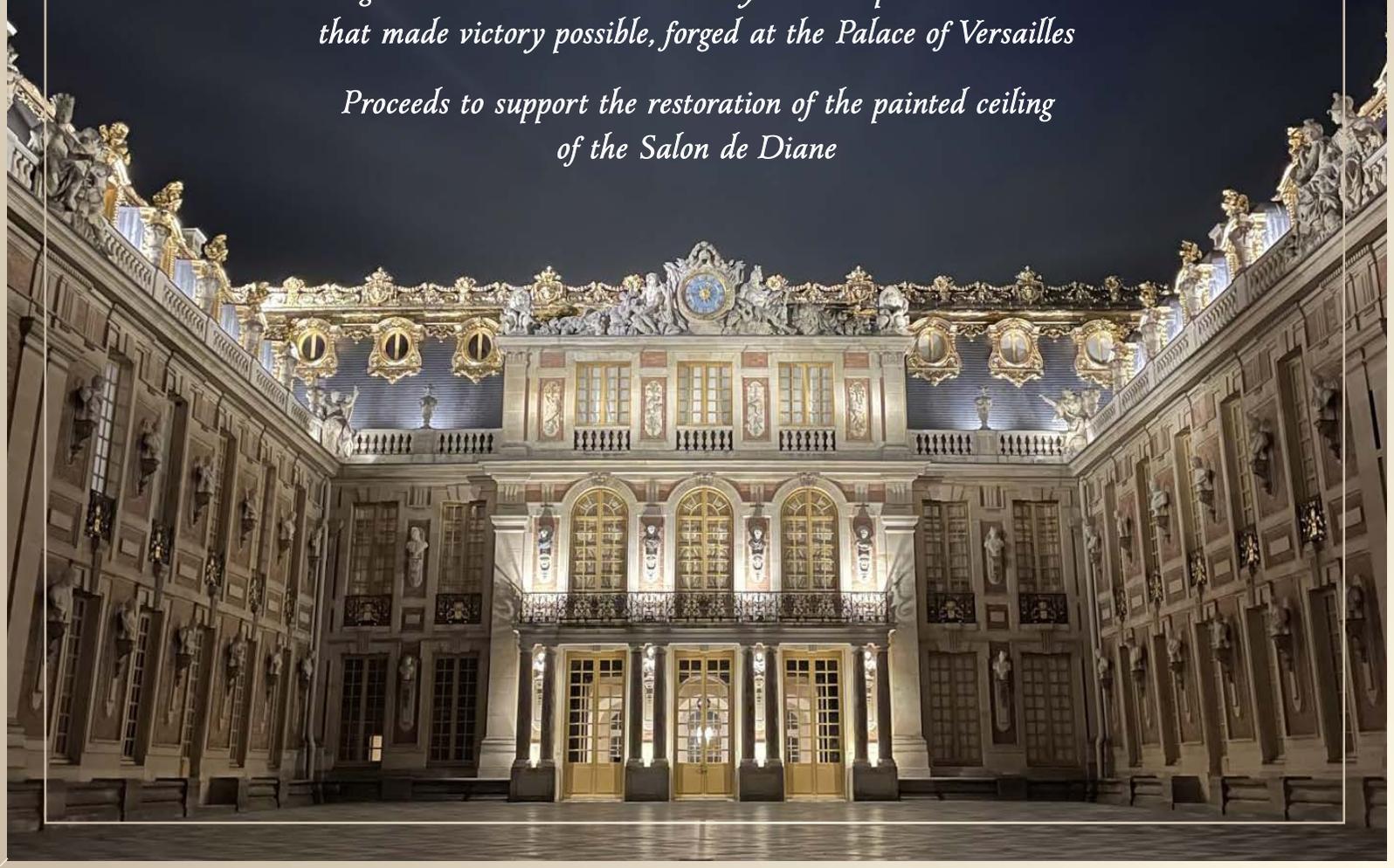
United by Purpose, Illuminated by Versailles

A BENEFIT WEEKEND IN FRANCE

JUNE 5 – 8, 2026

*Celebrating America's 250th anniversary and the pivotal French alliance
that made victory possible, forged at the Palace of Versailles*

*Proceeds to support the restoration of the painted ceiling
of the Salon de Diane*



SCHEDULE *OF EVENTS*

A weekend of extraordinary access to places few ever see - a rare journey through the diplomatic, cultural, and royal heart of France. From historic rooms to private châteaux to the Palace of Versailles at night, each moment reveals a world ordinarily beyond reach.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

Evening

An intimate welcome inside the restored rooms of the Hôtel de Talleyrand

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Evening

Cocktails, apéritifs, and a formal dinner by Yannick Alléno within the diplomatic quarters of the Quai d'Orsay

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Afternoon

A garden fête and equestrian spectacle at the private Château de Champlâtreux

MONDAY, JUNE 8

Evening

THE LEGACY OF LIGHT GALA AT THE PALACE OF VERSAILLES

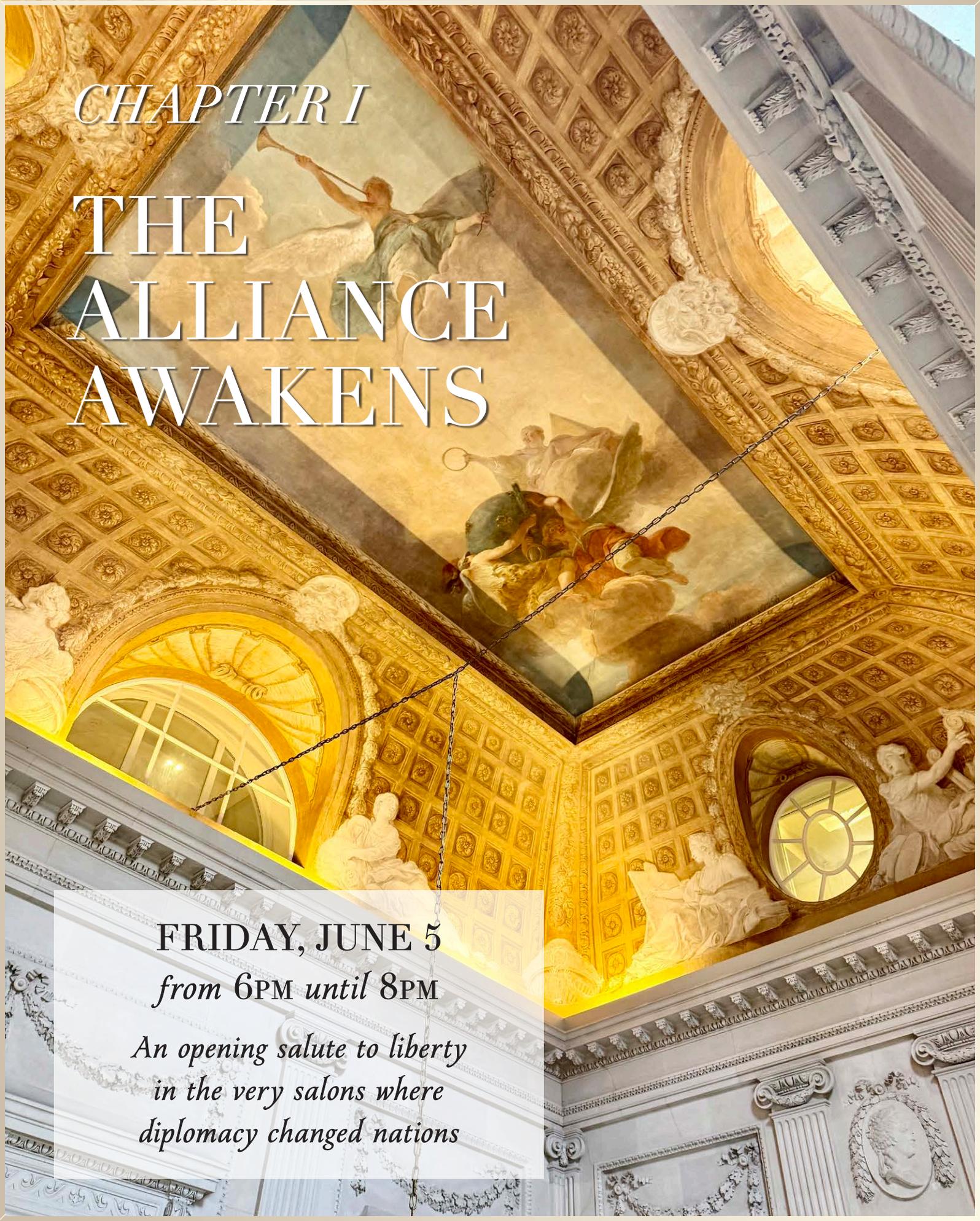
Private access to the Royal Apartments and the Hall of Mirrors

Grand dinner in the splendor of the Salle des Batailles

Fireworks baroque followed by late night revelry



*Detailed timings, precise addresses, entry protocols, and dress codes
will be provided to our guests in the weeks ahead.*



CHAPTER I

*THE
ALLIANCE
AWAKENS*

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

from 6PM until 8PM

*An opening salute to liberty
in the very salons where
diplomacy changed nations*



THE WEEKEND UNFURLS IN GRAND STYLE within the Hôtel de Talleyrand, an 18th-century Parisian landmark intimately linked to the shaping of modern Europe and the Franco-American alliance. Entering these spaces is to step into the very setting where statesmen forged history. Normally closed to the public, these restored rooms are revealed to our guests through the support of our host, His Excellency the American Ambassador to France. Following cocktails, guests are invited to explore the culinary pleasures of Paris and dine at the restaurant of their choice.

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a highly ornate, gilded gallery. The central focus is a large, classical-style marble statue of a woman, possibly a personification of Liberty or Justice, standing in an arched niche. She is holding a torch aloft in her right hand and a bundle of symbols in her left. The statue is flanked by two winged cherubs (putti) sitting on a decorative ledge. The entire scene is set against a wall of intricate gold leaf carvings and a large, ornate fireplace mantel with a central clock face. The lighting is warm and golden, highlighting the textures of the marble and the richness of the gilding.

CHAPTER II

DIPLOMACY ILLUMINATED

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

from 7PM onward

*An exclusive dinner designed by
Yannick Alléno held in gilded galleries
where history has spoken*



RARELY SEEN ROOMS OF SUPREME OPULENCE are opened exceptionally for our patrons this evening at the Quai d'Orsay, a seat of French diplomacy for over two centuries. Within walls normally reserved for state leaders, curated cocktails and canapés will precede a formal dinner envisioned and executed by Chef Yannick Alléno, currently awarded seventeen Michelin stars. Through our partnership with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, guests experience the diplomatic heart of France from within its most emblematic setting.



CHAPTER III

*A FÊTE OF
HERITAGE &
HOSPITALITY*

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

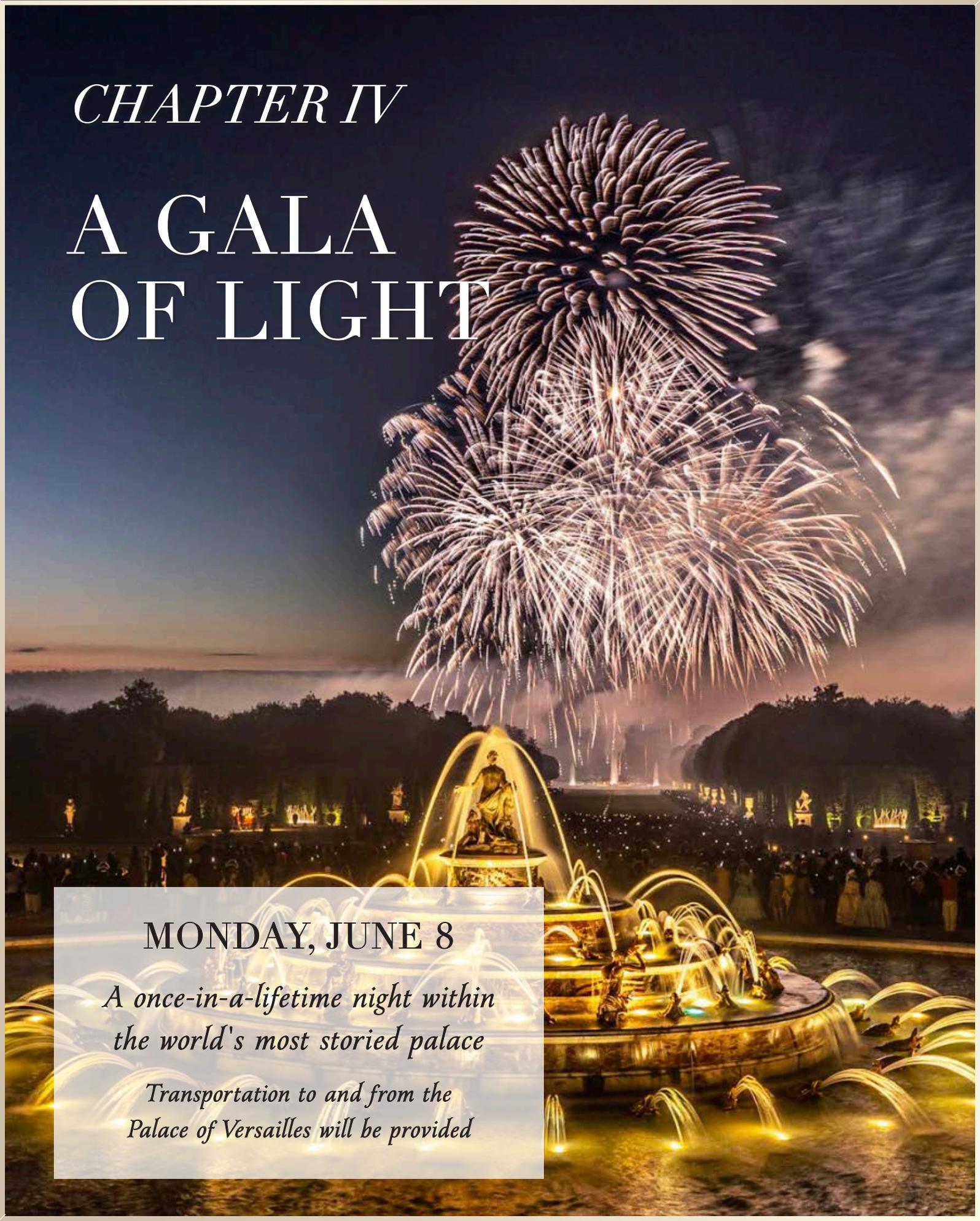
from 1PM onwards

*A countryside interlude where French
elegance meets relaxed conviviality*

*Transportation to and from Château de Champlâtreux
will be provided*



AMUSEMENTS, ARTISTRY AND EQUESTRIAN PAGEANTRY will mark our garden party luncheon held just beyond the gates of Paris. The Duc de Noailles, whose family story is woven into the history of France, opens the doors to his private estate, the Château de Champlâtreux. A spectacular equestrian show in these historic parklands caps off an afternoon of authentic French savoir-vivre – a moment made possible through the generosity of the Noailles family and our French board members, Madame Marie de Noailles and Comtesse de Montmort.



CHAPTER IV

**A GALA
OF LIGHT**

MONDAY, JUNE 8

*A once-in-a-lifetime night within
the world's most storied palace*

*Transportation to and from the
Palace of Versailles will be provided*



OUR CELEBRATIONS REACH THEIR PINNACLE at the Palace of Versailles, where centuries of ceremony, artistry, and diplomacy have shaped the course of history. As honored guests of Président Christophe Leribault, patrons will enjoy private access to the Royal Apartments, the Hall of Mirrors, and witness the reveal of the newly restored ceiling of the Salon de Diane, before gathering for dinner in the majestic Galerie des Batailles. A grand baroque fireworks display ignites the sky, opening the way to an unforgettable night of dancing and revelry within the palace.

We extend our sincere thanks to the Château de Versailles for granting this exceptional honor.



MS. ALICIA BRYAN, *President*
**2026 GALA
COMMITTEE**

MADAME BECCA CASON THRASH

Distinguished Honorary Chair

MR. AND MRS. BRUCE BARTLETT

THE CORA FOUNDATION

COMTESSE DE MONTMORT

MS. CLAIRE DWOSKIN

MRS. CHRISTOPHER B. GALVIN

MR. ROBERT GIARDINELLI

THE HONORABLE KATHERINE HARRIS

MRS. MAHA KHAN

MRS. JOHN H. KREHBIEL, JR.

MR. RICK LIBERTO

MR. THOMAS M. MIDDLEBROOK

MR. LANCE AVERY MORGAN

MADAME MARIE DE NOAILLES

MS. ELIZABETH PETERSEN

MS. GILLIAN SAROFIM

MR. AND MRS. BOB SHEMWELL

MR. ADAM AND MRS. SUZANNE STILES

MS. ROBIN TAUCK

MR. LUCAS SOMOZA

Gala Planning Director

The American Friends of Versailles

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ms. Alicia Bryan, *President*
Mr. and Mrs. Juan Pablo Molyneux, *Vice Presidents*
Mr. and Mrs. Steven Rockefeller, *Vice Presidents*
Mr. W. Brinkley Dickerson, *Esq. Treasurer*
Mr. Thomas Middlebrook, *Secretary*
Mr. Jonathan Marder, *Public Relations Officer*
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Horn, *Officers at Large*
Mrs. Christian Odasso, *Officer at Large*
Mrs. James N. Bay
Mr. Edward Lee Cave
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Jefferson Coolidge
Mrs. W. Brinkley Dickerson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Forbes
Mrs. Francine LeFrak and Mr. Rick Friedberg
Mrs. Bonnie Deutsch and Mr. Phillip Hartung
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Jordan, II
Dr. Susan Kendall and Sir Richard Hitt
Mr. and Mrs. John H. Krehbiel, Jr.
Mrs. John Ridings Lee
Mr. George Michael Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Ryan
Mrs. Henry Segerstrom
Mrs. Patricia Hearst Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Viola

HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. David R. Hamilton, *Founder and In Memoriam*
Mrs. Henry A. Kissinger
The Honorable and Mrs. Howard Leach
The Honorable Denise Campbell Bauer
Mrs. Frederick A. Krehbiel
S.E. l'Ambassadeur de France et Madame
François Bujon de l'Estang
Monsieur Christophe Leribault,
Président, Château de Versailles
Madame Catherine Pégard, *Former Présidente,*
Château de Versailles
Le Vicomte de Rohan, *Président Honoraire,*
Société des Amis de Versailles
Monsieur Jérôme Plouseau, *Président,*
Société des Amis de Versailles

FRENCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

S.A.R. La Princesse Béatrice de Bourbon des
Deux-Siciles
Madame Anne-Marie de Ganay
Comte et Comtesse Philippe de Montmort
Madame Marie de Noailles
Monsieur et Madame Jean de Yturbe
Monsieur et Madame Jérôme Fouan
Comtesse Serge de La Bédoyère
Madame Nicole Salinger
Madame Caroline Sarkozy
Monsieur Didier Wirth

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMEN

Mrs. Ann Carey
Ms. Claire Dwoskin
Mr. and Mrs. Pablo Edwards
Ms. Curry Glassell
The Honorable Katherine Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Hassen
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Hedberg
Mr. and Mrs. Harlow N. Higinbotham
Ms. Sharon King Hoge
Mr. Roy Johnston
Mr. and Mrs. André Michaëls
Mrs. Maurice Tobin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kristin N. Smith

Our restoration projects are a meaningful symbol of goodwill and collaboration. The American Friends of Versailles (AFV) first funded the restoration of André Le Nôtre's Bosquet des Trois Fontaines, followed by Ange-Jacques Gabriel's Pavillon Frais at the Petit Trianon. Next came Noël Coypel's baroque ceiling frescoes in the Queen's Guards Room, a highlight of the main visitors' tour. More recently, AFV contributed to the restoration of the Bosquet de la Reine, funding the return of Virginia tulip trees to the very location where they were originally planted for Marie-Antoinette. We are now supporting the restoration of the painted ceiling of the Salon de Diane, another centerpiece on the public tour.

RESERVATION *FORM*

A Legacy of Light

A BENEFIT WEEKEND IN FRANCE, JUNE 5–8, 2026

- \$15,000 per person includes all 4 events scheduled on June 5, 6, 7 and 8.
- \$5,000 per person additional to sit at the Presidents' Table at Versailles on June 8 with
Président Christophe Leribault and AFV President Alicia Bryan. Seats are strictly limited.

Please secure my Reservation(s). I have enclosed a check payable to the American Friends of Versailles
in the amount of \$ _____

OR Please charge my Visa, Mastercard or AMEX.

Card Number

Expiration Date

Name as it appears on card

Amount

I/We are unable to attend but would like to contribute to restoring the ceiling of the Salon de Diane.
Please find my payment enclosed for \$ _____

Wire transfer and ACH information available upon request. Reservations will be processed in the order in which they are received. Subscriptions are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law. The estimated value of goods and services to be received is \$5,500 per ticket. AFV is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and its Employer Identification Number is 36-4237214.

Subscriber Information. Please Print. *For tables of 10 please contact the office for availability.

Attendee Name(s) _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Email _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I/We are to be seated at the table hosted by: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO INFO@AMERICANFRIENDSOFVERSAILLES.ORG



FROM THE RITZ HOTEL PARIS

WE ARE PLEASED TO SHARE THEIR EXCLUSIVE OFFER
AND PREFERENTIAL CONDITIONS FOR GALA GUESTS OF

A Legacy of Light

A BENEFIT WEEKEND IN FRANCE
JUNE 5–8, 2026

Period: Offer available from June 4 to June 9, 2026.

Booking conditions: Minimum stay of 3 nights applicable.

Pre & Post night requests subject to hotel booking conditions & restrictions.

Rooms & Suites upon availability.

Offer available until March 1, 2026.

Ritz Paris offers the American Friends of Versailles guests the following exclusive amenities:

- 10% OFF Best available rate
- Ritz Paris daily breakfasts (for two people)
- Guaranteed one category upgrade (up to our Deluxe Suite)
- Complimentary fiber optic wi-fi access
- Full access to the Spa, the Ritz Club

This rate is non commissionable.

Booking and Cancellation policies:

Credit card is required on booking time (no deposit will be taken).

This stay can be modified or cancelled up to 15 days prior to arrival, with no fee.

Total stay charge will be applied if modified or cancelled less than 15 days prior to arrival.

To reserve your room at the Ritz, please consult their booking form, which include amenities and direct contact information. <https://www.americanfriendsofversailles.org/ritz>

We also have offers at La Reserve Hotel, and Hôtel Barrière Fouquet's Paris and Maison Barrière Vendôme – located just moments from the Champs-Élysées and the Ritz, as well as the Waldorf Astoria at Versailles.

Please see the GALA tab at www.americanfriendsofversailles.org

June is a very high season in Paris, please book your accommodations as soon as possible.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Prices do not include flights to Europe, airport transfers, hotels, personal expenses, trip insurance, and personal tips. Included meals are as listed in the invitation. Roundtrip coach transportation is included from the Place Vendôme in Paris (near the Ritz Hotel) to the Château Champlâtreaux on Sunday, June 7, and to Versailles for the evening gala on Monday, June 8. All other transportation not included.

LIABILITY: The American Friends of Versailles is not liable for the safety of the locations that we visit or for the risks attendant to various means of transportation, and in no event bear any responsibility or liability for injury, death, damage, loss, accident or delay and we are not responsible for personal injuries or loss of property. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the subscribers.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Again, we suggest to all participants to arrange personal travel insurance. If a subscriber desires to cancel, prior to February 1, 2026, AFV will be able to refund the subscriber 50% of the amount paid. Beginning February 1, 2026, there will be no further refunds for cancellations by a participant. If the benefit weekend cannot proceed as scheduled due to unforeseen circumstances, such as a natural disaster, epidemic, or other factors, AFV will aim to reschedule the benefit for a later date and apply any payments previously received as credit toward the rescheduled benefit. Please note, there will be no refunds.

TRIP INSURANCE: Subscribers should consider getting private trip cancellation insurance.

ITINERARY: It is important to note the gala on June 8 will be inside the Palace with limited seating. All subscriptions will be processed in the order in which they are received. AFV will not hold reservations without full financial contribution. The invitation itinerary is subject to slight changes. AFV is extremely thankful to all the hosts and in-kind donors.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: Please remember to check your passport's expiration date. That expiration date cannot be within 6 months of your United States' departure date. There may be a new document required by the EU for travel to France. If so, please go to the ETIAS website and apply directly for travel authorization well in advance. Be sure to also check with your airlines for any specific documents they may require.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing you in June!

info@americanfriendsofversailles.org Office Tel: 312.943.0173





THE AMERICAN FRIENDS
of
VERSAILLES

THE JOHN HANCOCK CENTER

875 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 3100

Chicago, Illinois, 60611

Tel: 312-943-0173

info@americanfriendsofversailles.org

*If you are unable to subscribe, kindly know
donations of any size are greatly appreciated.*

*Please remember AFV in your estate planning
and help us continue the mission of restoration,
international volunteerism, friendship and education.*

THANK YOU