

Website: [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org)  
Email: [ibby@ibby.org](mailto:ibby@ibby.org)  
Social Media: [@ibby.international](https://www.instagram.com/ibby.international)



# iBbY

INTERNATIONAL  
BOARD ON  
BOOKS FOR  
YOUNG PEOPLE



*Bringing Books  
and Children together*





The **International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY)** is a non-profit organization representing a global network dedicated to *bringing books and children together*.



Its members, currently comprised of IBBY Sections in **86 countries**, include writers, illustrators, publishers, librarians, educators, researchers, and all those who value the power of stories to connect cultures and generations.



IBBY was founded in 1953 by **Jella Lepman**, a German journalist and humanitarian who believed that children's books could serve as bridges of peace and reconciliation in the post-war world.

Her vision laid the groundwork for a lasting international movement promoting access to literature for every child.



### Organizational Structure of IBBY:

- The **General Assembly of IBBY Sections** convenes biennially during the IBBY Congress to elect the Executive Committee and make strategic decisions.
- The **Executive Committee**, elected and comprising ten voting members, is led by an elected **President**, alongside ex-officio members. Together, they steer the organization's mission and programmes between congresses.
- Daily operations are carried out by the **IBBY Secretariat**, based in Basel, Switzerland.
- **Specialized committees and juries** oversee awards, projects, and initiatives, reinforcing IBBY's global commitment to children's literature.

*“International understanding through children's books”*

Theme of Preliminary Conference held in Munich, 1951

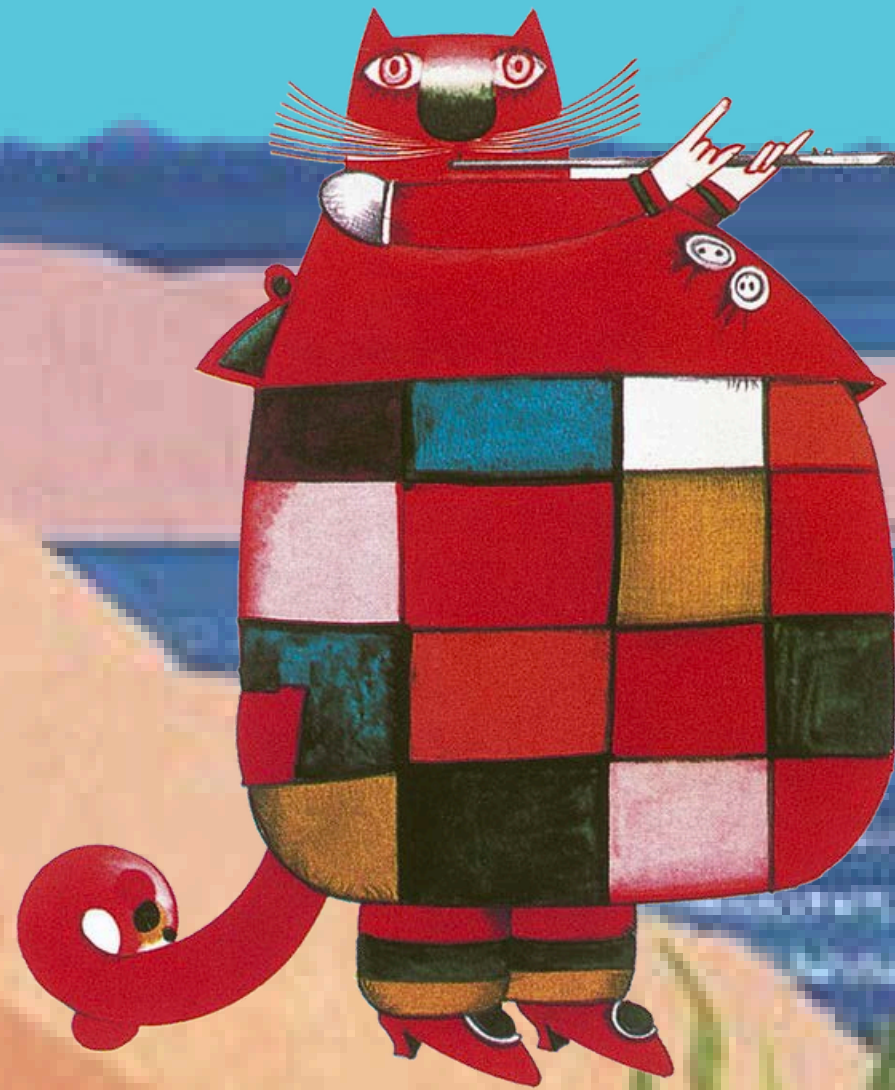


IBBY Executive Committee 2024 - 2026





# Our Mission



Promote international understanding through children's books

Support every child's right to become a lifelong reader

Uphold and protect the Rights of the Child in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Encourage production and ensure access to high-quality books, both print and digital, addressing the needs of young readers everywhere

Stimulate research and scholarly work in the field of children's literature

Support and train those working with children and children's literature

# iBbY Partners



INTERNATIONAL  
**LITERACY**  
ASSOCIATION



Internationale  
Jugendbibliothek

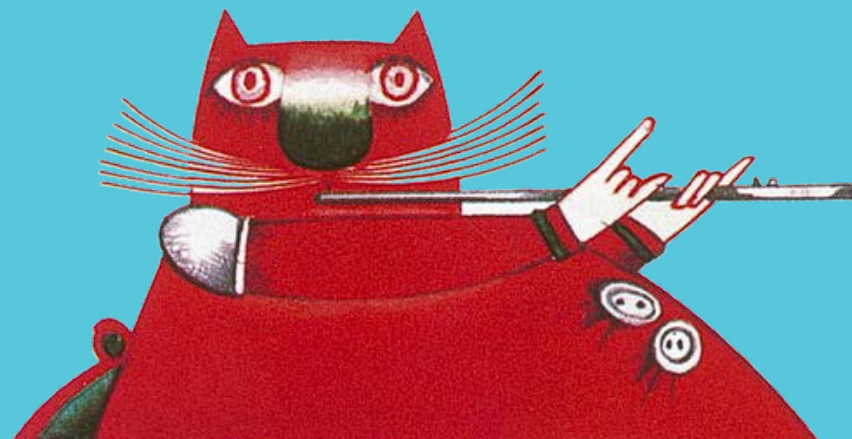


# iBbY Patrons and Sponsors



The Asahi Shimbun

山田養蜂場  
YAMADA BEE FARM



Penguin  
Random House  
TUNDRA BOOKS

editorial  
**JUVENTUD**

**Nord**  
*Süd*



ALDANA LIBROS



ORCA BOOK  
PUBLISHERS



GROUNDWOOD

## *Securing IBBY's Future Through Ethical and Strategic Fundraising*

The **IBBY Trust** exists to sustain IBBY's global mission of bringing children and books together by securing diverse, ethical, and sustainable funding sources. It protects IBBY's independence, supports key programmes, and ensures transparency and trust with all donors.

### **Mandate & Objectives:**


- Develop strategic fundraising from individuals, sponsors, and institutions
- Build financial reserves for IBBY's long-term stability
- Search for sponsorship to support core IBBY programmes, including: awards, collections, funds, and new initiatives
- Ensure transparency, donor privacy, and ethical stewardship

### **Governance & Oversight:**

- Led by a Chair and Board of fundraising and finance expert, and includes IBBY President, Treasurer, and Executive Director (as Secretary)
- Accountable to the Executive Committee and General Assembly

### **Ethical Fundraising in Action:**

- Sponsorships must align with IBBY's mission and values
- Promotes long-term partnerships that prioritize impact and integrity
- Models include the IBBY-Yamada Fund partnership, and the Hans Christian Andersen Award sponsorship with Nami Island Inc.



Through the IBBY Trust, we protect the future of IBBY's work and ensure that our shared commitment to children's rights, reading, and intercultural understanding continues to thrive.



# IBBY-HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD 2024

Sponsored by Nami Island Inc.  
South Korea



# iBbY

## Awards & Honours

*Bringing Books  
and Children together*



iBbY

# IBBY Awards & Honours

IBBY's prestigious awards and honours celebrate excellence in children's literature and outstanding contributions to literacy and reading promotion:



- **Hans Christian Andersen Award:** Recognizing lifelong achievement by authors and illustrators.
- **IBBY Honour List:** Biennial selection of outstanding titles in writing, illustration, and translation.

- **IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award:** For exceptional reading promotion projects.
- **IBBY-iRead Outstanding Reading Promoter Award:** Honouring individuals making extraordinary contributions to reading advocacy.



Established in 1956 for authors and 1966 for illustrators, the **Hans Christian Andersen Award** is the highest international distinction in children's literature. Often referred to as the "*Nobel Prize*" of the field, it celebrates lifelong contributions to writing and illustration that have deeply enriched the lives of children worldwide.

The award is presented biennially at the IBBY World Congress and includes a gold medal and diploma.

Since 2009, the award has been generously sponsored by **Nami Island Inc.** of Korea.



Nami Island Korea  
나미나라공화국. 남이섬

# HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD

Sponsored by Nami Island Inc.  
South Korea



The Hans Christian Andersen Award has honoured some of the most influential authors and illustrators in the history of children's literature. Each winner is selected by **an international jury of experts** based on literary excellence, artistic innovation, and the capacity to engage and inspire young readers.

This truly global award has recognized creators from diverse cultural backgrounds and linguistic traditions. Their works often serve as touchstones for generations of readers and have been **widely translated, adapted, and studied.**

### **A Few Past Winners:**

**Authors:** Astrid Lindgren (Sweden, 1958), Katherine Paterson (USA, 1998), Maria Teresa Andruetto (Argentina, 2012), Cao Wenxuan (China, 2016),  
**Illustrators:** Maurice Sendak (USA, 1970), Květa Pacovská (Czech Republic, 1992), Roger Mello (Brazil, 2014), Suzy Lee (Korea, 2022).

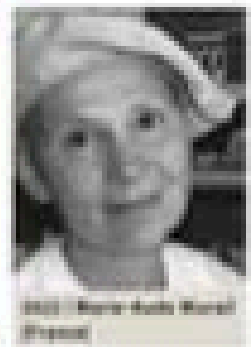


**Sydney Smith**  
(Canada)  
Illustration



**Heinz Janisch**  
(Austria)  
Writing

**IBBY-HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD WINNERS 2022-1956**  
**Author**



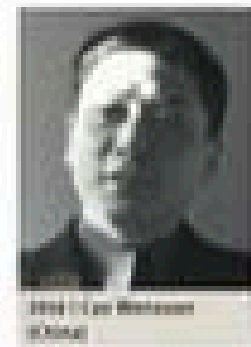
2022 Berni Sude (France)



2021 Jorgina Wiedeman (USA)



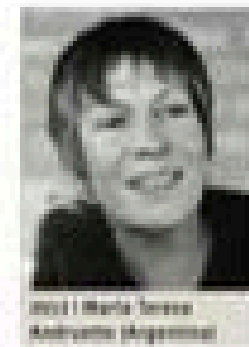
2020 Lisa Sakuma (Japan)



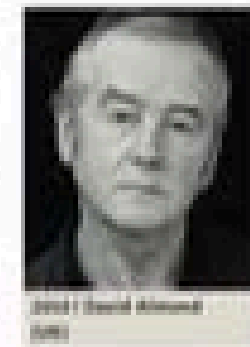
2019 Eric Weisberg (USA)



2018 Rehana Chahki (Spain)



2017 Maria Teresa Andruetto (Argentina)



2016 David Almond (UK)



2015 Jrg Schinger (Denmark)



2014 Margaret Mahy (New Zealand)



2013 Marita Wessell (Denmark)



2012 Robert Olen Butler (USA)



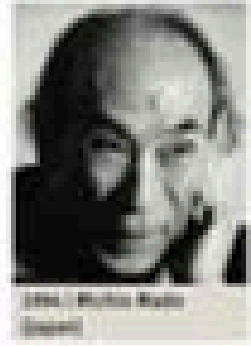
2011 Ana Maria Machado (Brazil)



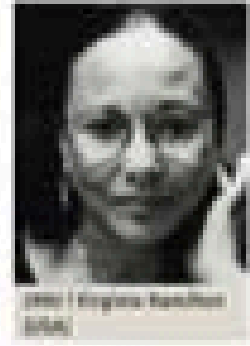
2010 Barbara Ehrenreich (USA)



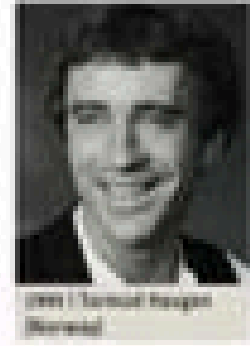
2009 Gill Lewis (UK)



2008 Michio Kaku (Japan)



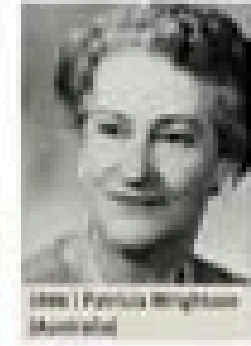
2007 Virginia Hamilton (USA)



2006 Tormod Haugen (Norway)



2005 Anne M. H. Schout (Netherlands)



2004 Pyrusia Wrightson (Australia)



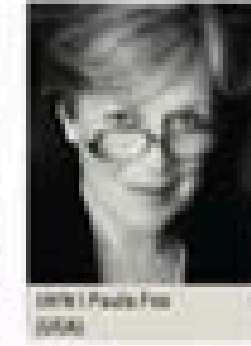
2003 Christine Stangor (Australia)



2002 Olga Toropova (Russia)



2001 Richard Price (Czech Republic)



2000 Paula Fox (USA)



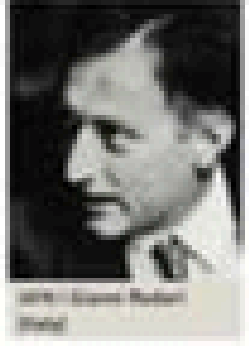
1999 Carl Heston (Denmark)



1998 Maria Gripe (Sweden)



1997 Scott O'Neil (USA)



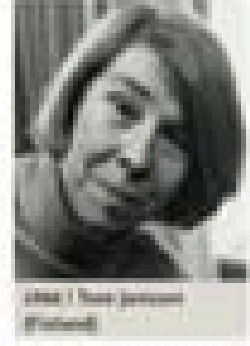
1996 Christa Wolf (East Germany)



1995 Jost Wittig (East Germany)



1994 James Krus (Germany)



1993 Tove Jansson (Finland)



1992 Beate Kullik (France)



1991 Reinhold Jelling (USA)



1990 Erik Linde (Germany)



1989 Astrid Lindgrn (Sweden)



1988 Emma Vilgen (UK)

**IBBY-HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD WINNERS 2022-1966**  
**Illustrator**



2022 Tany Lee (Republic of Korea)



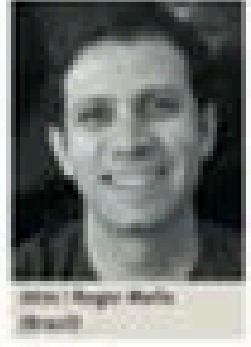
2021 Barbara (Switzerland)



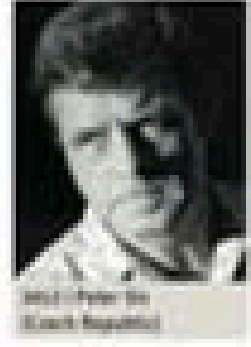
2020 Igor Pivovarov (Russia)



2019 Renate Isenhardt (Germany)



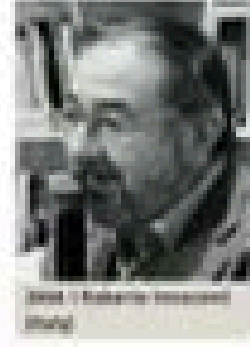
2018 Roger Mello (Brazil)



2017 Peter He (East Republic)



2016 Lynda Bauer (Germany)



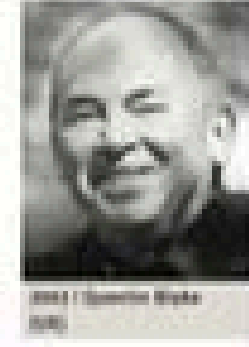
2015 Roberto Innocenti (Italy)



2014 Wolf Erlbruch (Germany)



2013 Max Velthuis (Netherlands)



2012 Gennadiy Shteyn (UK)



2011 Anthony Browne (UK)



2010 Tom Unger (France)



2009 Klaus Kinkel (Germany)



2008 Jrg Keller (Switzerland)



2007 Renka Pavonova (East Republic)



2006 Judith Cheng (Australia)



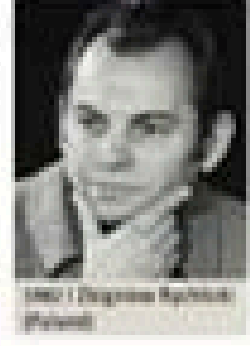
2005 Susan Kufus (Czech Republic)



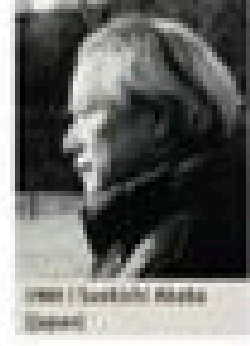
2004 Robert Inger (Australia)



2003 Wilosiana Soto (Spain)



2002 Dragana Rupnik (Poland)



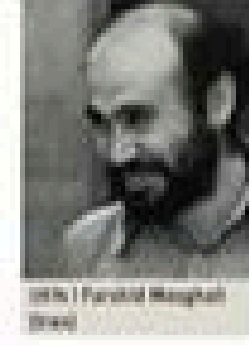
2001 Susumu Kawa (Japan)



2000 Svend Erik S. (Denmark)



1999 Tereza Burianova (Czech Republic)



1998 Farouk Mughal (Iraq)



1997 Ni Spang Olsen (Denmark)



1996 Maurice Sendak (USA)



1995 Jiri Trnka (Czech Republic)



1994 Hans Gieger (Switzerland)





**Brenda Dales**  
(USA)



**Nadia El Kholy**  
(Egypt)



**Giorgia Grilli**  
(Italy)



**Diana Laura Kovach**  
(Argentina)



**Morgane Vasta**  
(France)



**Shailaja Menon**  
(India)



**Mare Mürsepp**  
(Estonia)



**Margaret Anne Suggs**  
(Ireland)



**Tan Fengxia**  
(China)



**Holly Tonks**  
(UK)



**Shereen Kriedieh**  
(Lebanon)  
Jury President

# THE JURY

2026 Hans Christian Andersen Award





<b>Country</b>	<b>Author</b>
ARGENTINA	Sandra Siemens
AUSTRALIA	Emily Rodda
AUSTRIA	Elisabeth Steinkellner
BELGIUM	Thomas Lavachery
BULGARIA	Maya Dalgacheva
CANADA	David A. Robertson
CHILE	María José Ferrada
CHINA	Jin Bo
COLOMBIA	Irene Vasco
CROATIA	Sanja Pilić
CYPRUS	Andri Antoniou
DENMARK	Kim Fupz Aakeson
ECUADOR	Edna Iturralde
EGYPT	Rania Hussein Amin
ESTONIA	Andrus Kivirähk
FINLAND	Timo Parvela
FRANCE	Timothée de Fombelle
GERMANY	Andreas Steinhöfel
GREECE	Manos Kontoleon
IRAN	Ahmad Akbarpour
IRELAND	Eoin Colfer

<b>Country</b>	<b>Author</b>
ITALY	Beatrice Masini
JAPAN	Yoko Tomiyasu
KOREA	Lee Geum-yi
LATVIA	Inese Zandere
LEBANON	Sanaa Chabbani
MOROCCO	Elhassan Benmouna
NETHERLANDS	Edward van de Vendel
NORWAY	Maria Parr
PALESTINE	Sonia Nimr
PHILIPPINES	Eugene Y. Evasco
PORTUGAL	Alice Vieira
SLOVENIA	Anja Štefan
SPAIN	Maite Carranza
SWITZERLAND	Franz Hohler
TURKEY	Aytül Akal
UKRAINE	Sashko Dermanskyi
UAE	Maitha Al Khayat
UNITED KINGDOM	Michael Rosen
USA	Pam Muñoz Ryan
UZBEKISTAN	Muhabbat Yuldasheva



<b>Country</b>	<b>Illustrator</b>
ARGENTINA	María Wernicke
AUSTRALIA	Bruce Whatley
AUSTRIA	Helga Bansch
BELGIUM	Leo Timmers
BULGARIA	Iassen Ghiuselev
CANADA	Josée Bisailon
CHINA	Cai Gao
COLOMBIA	Ivar Da Coll
CYPRUS	Louiza Kaimaki
DENMARK	Rasmus Bregnhøi
EGYPT	Walid Taher
ESTONIA	Anne Pikkov
FINLAND	Linda Bondestam
FRANCE	Grégoire Solotareff
GERMANY	Nikolaus Heidelbach
GREECE	Photini Stephanidi
INDIA	Atanu Roy
IRAN	Alireza Goldouzian

<b>Country</b>	<b>Illustrator</b>
ITALY	Beatrice Alemagna
JAPAN	Hiroshi Abe
KOREA	Kim Dong-soo
LATVIA	Gundega Muzikante
LEBANON	Joelle Achkar
NETHERLANDS	Thé Tjong-Khing
NORWAY	Øyvind Torseter
PHILIPPINES	Beth Parrocha
POLAND	Iwona Chmielewska
PORTUGAL	Teresa Lima
RUSSIA	Anton Lomaev
SLOVENIA	Alenka Sottler
SPAIN	Elena Odriozola
SWITZERLAND	Catherine Louis
TURKEY	Ayşe İnan
UKRAINE	Kateryna Shtanko
UAE	Abdullah Alsharhan
UNITED KINGDOM	Emily Gravett
USA	Sophie Blackall

# iBBY Honour List

The **IBBY Honour List** is a biennial selection that highlights outstanding recent books from around the world. Each IBBY Section nominates one title in each of three categories: **writing, illustration, and translation.**

These books represent excellence in children's publishing and reflect the diversity and richness of global literature.

The **IBBY Honour List Catalogue** is often sought out as *an essential resource* by authors, educators, publishers and reading promoters alike, in the search for inspiration and books to translate into new languages. *It's available for free download or print purchase on [ibby.org](https://ibby.org).*

## 2024 Highlights:

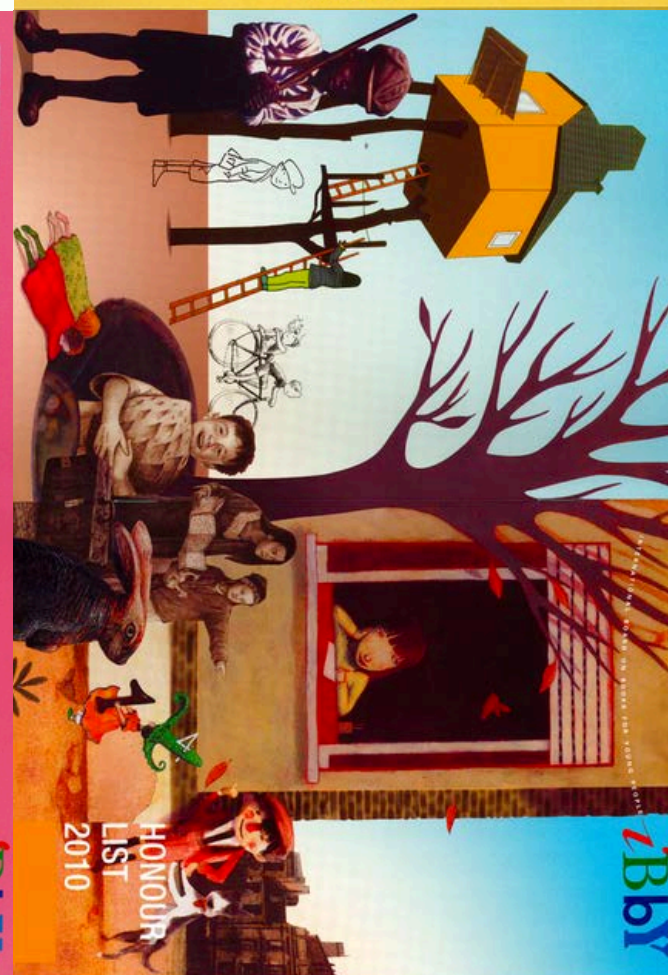
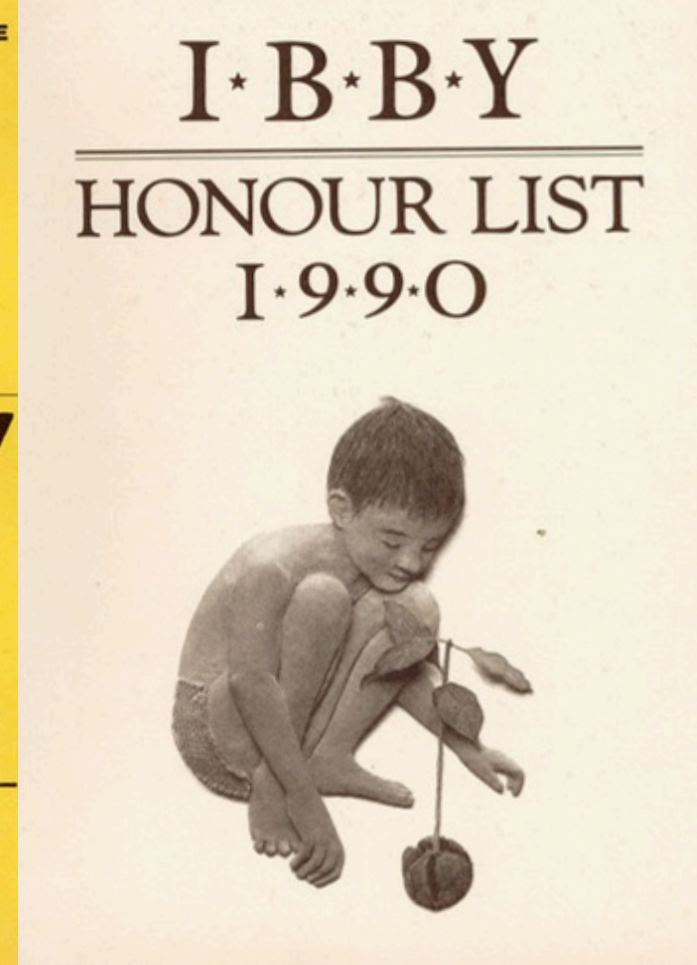
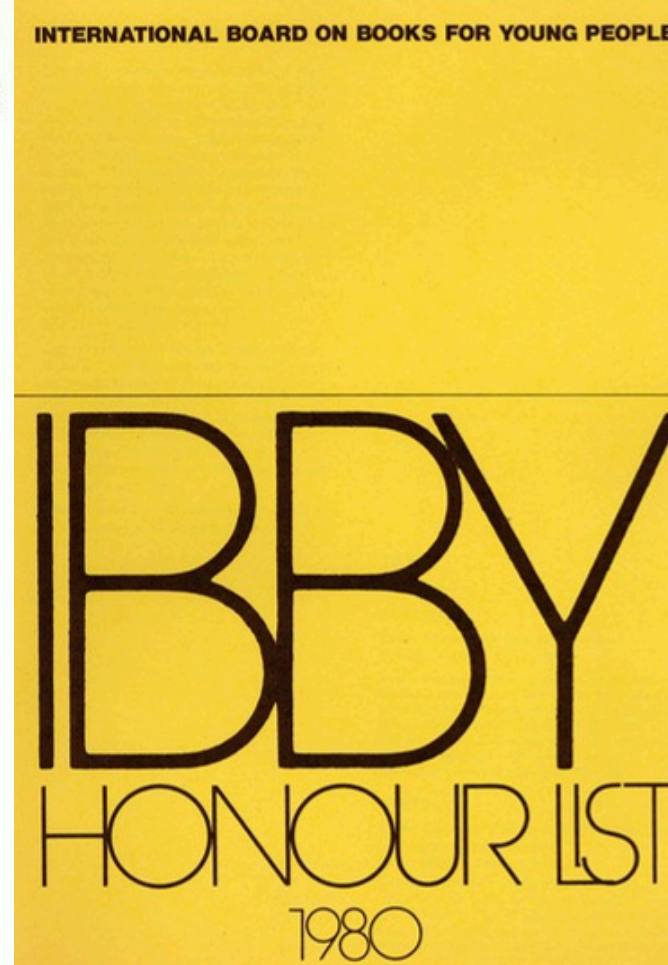
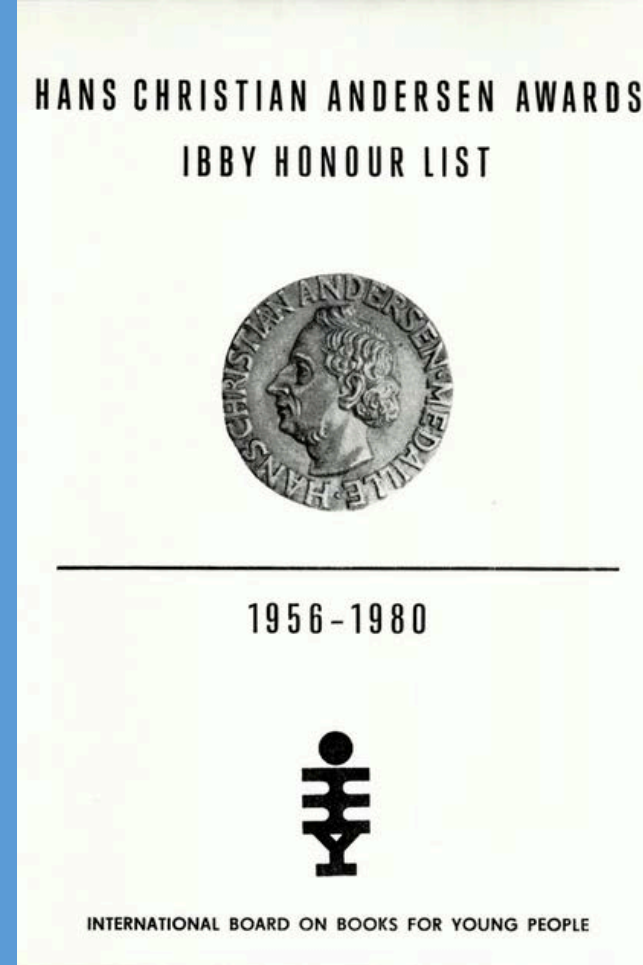
- 184 titles selected
- 59 countries represented
- 52 languages featured



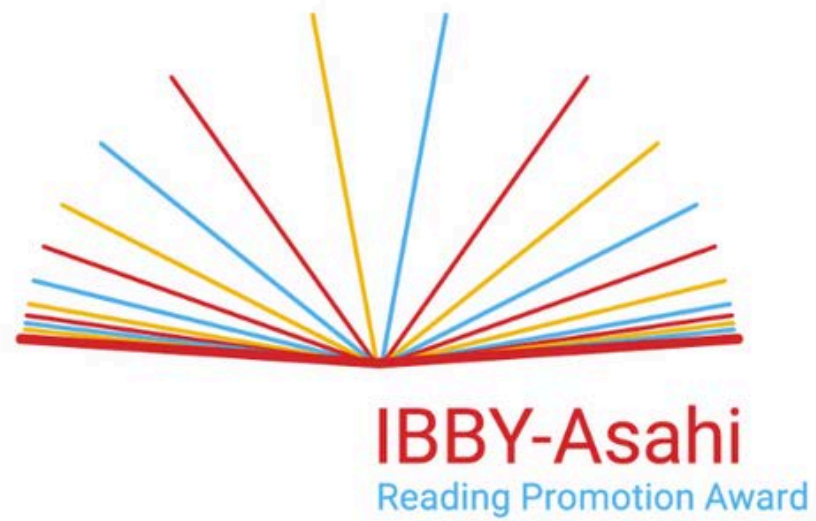
After its presentation at the IBBY World Congress, the Honour List becomes a traveling exhibition and is made available for loan.

Permanent collections of the Honour List are also maintained at:

- Munich (International Youth Library);
- Zurich (Swiss Institute for Child and Youth Media, SIKJM);
- Bratislava (Bibiana Research Collection);
- St. Petersburg (RBBY Central Children's Library);
- Tokyo (JBBY);
- Kuala Lumpur (Book City Corporation of Malaysia);
- Tucson (Worlds of Words);
- and, until 2014, in Evanston (Northwestern University Library).







Sponsored by **The Asahi Shimbun**, this biennial award, established in 1986, honours **extraordinary reading promotion projects** that foster reading habits among children in difficult circumstances.



## 2024 Winner:

- ATD Fourth World Street Libraries (Nominated by IBBY France)

Operating in marginalized communities across France, ATD's Street Libraries use books, music, and storytelling to build inclusive spaces of creativity and empowerment. Volunteers visit weekly, laying colourful blankets in public areas where children can gather, read, and discover their voices. This consistent presence fosters trust and nurtures a lifelong love of learning and reading.





Established in 2018 through the support of the **Shenzhen iRead Foundation**, this award celebrates the **transformative efforts of individuals** who make reading accessible to underserved communities.



## 2024 Laureates

### Irene Vasco (Colombia):

An author, educator, and reading advocate, Vasco brings literacy to rural and Indigenous communities, blending traditional stories and contemporary literature to build bridges through books.

### Basarat Kazim (Pakistan):

Founder of the Alif Laila Book Bus Society, she has turned buses into mobile libraries that reach underserved areas with innovative programming focused on education and girls' empowerment.



Every child has the right  
to become a reader

iBbY

Children in Crisis &  
IBBY-Yamada Fund

*Bringing Books  
and Children together*

iBbY

# IBBY Children in Crisis Fund

The IBBY Children in Crisis Fund was established in 2005 following the devastating tsunami in Southeast Asia in 2004. Rooted in the vision of IBBY's founder, Jella Lepman, the Fund is based on the belief that *books are always essential to children*, especially in times of crisis when safe spaces, education, and normalcy are disrupted.



The Fund supports initiatives that restore access to books, promote healing through reading, and build resilience among children facing difficult circumstances through **crisis response** or **preventive approaches**.

It enables, but is not limited to, the following:

- **Bibliotherapy and storytelling** to help children process trauma and rebuild emotional strength
- **Library reconstruction** and the creation of reading spaces
- **Distribution of books and literacy materials** in crisis settings
- **Training of local volunteers and educators** to support reading-based psychosocial recovery

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# Crisis Response

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These are **immediate, short-term actions** taken to address emergencies. The goal is to stabilise the situation for impacted children, provide support through literary materials or bibliotherapy, and reduce harm. Crisis situations may arise from, but are not limited to, the following:

- Natural or environmental disasters/emergencies:
- Civil unrest or violent outbreaks
- Sudden disruptions such as pandemics or economic collapse
- Displacement
- Armed conflicts

Turkey and Syria  
Earthquake, 2024



Refugee children in  
Afghanistan, 2013



Refugee children from  
Syria in Lebanon, 2016



Bibliotherapy in  
Ukraine, 2023



Refugee children in  
Gaza, 2025



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# Preventive Approaches

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These are **proactive, long-term efforts** designed to prevent crises or reduce their impact. They include:

- Building community resilience through education and safe spaces
- Establishing reading programs in vulnerable areas
- Promoting literacy to counter systemic violence, exclusion, or inequality

Both approaches are essential. The **Crisis Fund** supports initiatives that may begin as crisis responses but lead to long-term positive change.

Reading promotion to at-risk youth in Iran, 2019



Community libraries in Pakistan, 2013



Rebuilding libraries after Beirut explosion, 2020



Reading promotion to at-risk youth in El Salvador, 2018



Training librarians and establishing libraries in Gaza, 2009





### Palestine

Bibliotherapy and destroyed IBBY Libraries in Gaza



### El Salvador

Library of Dreams, La biblioteca de los sueños



### Afghanistan

Mobile Libraries in camps for Internally Displaced Persons



### Lebanon

Crisis relief through books in Lebanon



### Ukraine

Bibliotherapy for children impacted by war



### Iran

"Read with Me" libraries in deprived sectors of ethnic and religious minorities



### US/Mexico

#### Border

IBBY-REFORMA Project with migrant children detained in the US Southern Border

# IBBY-Yamada Fund

Every child has the right to become a reader

Established in 2005 with the generous support of the **Yamada Bee Farm**, the IBBY-Yamada Fund strengthens the capacities of communities to promote literacy and reading through annual campaigns that support projects, both new and old.

IBBY Sections establish projects and through the fund support sustainable development by training teachers, librarians, and reading promoters, while fostering book creation and distribution in local languages.

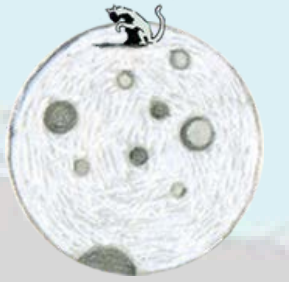
山田養蜂場

YAMADA BEE FARM



IBBY Venezuela 2024 Project  
San Mateo lee más y mejor  
(San Mateo Reads More and Better)

IBBY



Projects funded through the Yamada Fund have spanned over **40 countries**, addressing barriers to education and nurturing a love of reading in communities affected by poverty, displacement, or limited infrastructure.



### IBBY Dominican Republic

Lleva un libro en la maleta  
(Take a book in your suitcase)

### IBBY Egypt

Capacity Building in  
Basic Library  
Management and  
Reading Promotion  
Skills in Al Asmarat,  
New Cairo

### IBBY Indonesia

The Magic of Reading in the  
Hands of Young People:  
Letting Them Shine

### IBBY Lebanon

Library for Refugees for  
the Tahaddi Teaching Centre

Reports are  
available on  
the IBBY  
Website.





**IBBY Malaysia**  
Bibliotherapy for  
Undocumented  
Children in East Malaysia:  
A Training for Trainers

**IBBY Peru**  
Leer en familia  
(Reading in family)

**IBBY Uganda**  
Developing Creative Writing  
Interest and Skills Among  
Children  
in Vulnerable Communities

**IBBY Zimbabwe**  
Empowering new authors  
for young people

Reports are  
available on  
the IBBY  
Website.



# IBBY

## Events & Programmes

*Bringing Books  
and Children together*

# IBBY WORLD CONGRESS



Since its inception, the **IBBY World Congress** has stood as a beacon for the unifying power of children's books. Rooted in the vision of IBBY founder Jella Lepman, the Congresses serve to:

- Promote international understanding through the **exchange, translation, and appreciation** of children's literature.
- Bring together **authors, illustrators, publishers, scholars, and literacy advocates** from across the world.
- Champion the idea that children's books, especially those that transcend borders and languages, can **foster empathy, peace, and cultural respect.**



39<sup>th</sup> IBBY World Congress in Trieste, 2024



The very first conference was held in **Munich, 1951**, where Jella Lepman organized a special meeting on **“International Understanding Through Children’s Books.”** This gathering directly led to the founding of IBBY in its foundation Congress in 1953 and initiated a decades-long tradition of Congresses that explore critical themes in children's literature.

Jella Lepman (left), Elisabeth Ekström (director of the Working Group for Youth Literature in Munich), Astrid Lindgren and librarian Elsa Olenius at the IBBY Congress in Stockholm 1956

© Photo: Lepman-Mortara Family



*“The chief message is the unity of interest of all of us — teachers, librarians, authors, illustrators, parents, publishers, printers... Vision, tolerance and humility are the most basic requirements for this work.”*

— Niilo Visapää, 1972, IBBY President at the 13th Congress in Nice, France

### Notable Themes of Past IBBY Congresses

- 1963, Vienna: "Children’s Literature and International Understanding"
- 1976, Athens: “ How Can Children's Literature Meet the Needs of Modern Children: Fairy Tales and Poetry Today”
- 1988, Oslo: “Children's Books in the New Media”
- 1998, New Delhi: “Peace Through Children's Books”
- 2004, Cape Town: “Books for Africa”
- 2014, Mexico City: “Reading as an Inclusive Experience”

# Congress Proceedings

## Each Congress, a Story of Its Own

Held every two years, the IBBY World Congress proceedings traditionally feature:

- **Keynote Speeches** from renowned authors, illustrators, academics, and literacy advocates exploring current themes in children's literature, education, and reading promotion.
- **Panels and Roundtables** featuring international voices on topics such as translation, inclusion, literary trends, and the future of storytelling.
- **Workshops and Forums**, locally created by young readers, artists, and professionals for interactive engagement and shared learning.



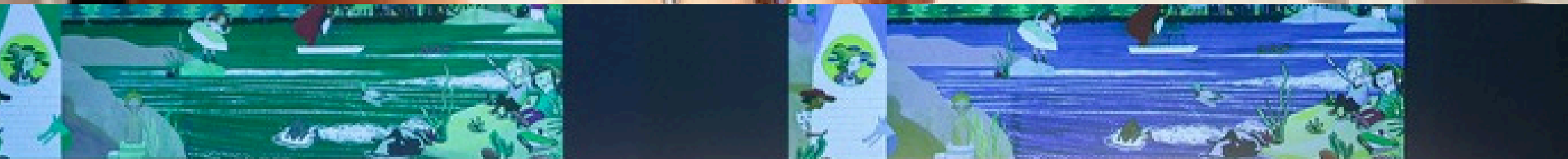
### Special Events:

- Presentation of the **IBBY Honour List**
- **Hans Christian Andersen Award Ceremony**
- **IBBY-Asahi and IBBY-iRead Awards**
- **Exhibitions**, including tributes or thematic displays, and **Special Events** created by host countries.

From the opening ceremony to public exhibitions and community events, every Congress is imbued with **the spirit of its setting, allowing the host nation to showcase its literary landscape, social values, and cultural richness** in ways that leave lasting impressions on the global IBBY community.

### Governance and Collaboration:

- The **IBBY General Assembly** convenes during the Congress, serving as the central decision-making body for the organization. Delegates from IBBY Sections review reports, elect new Executive Committee members, and vote on upcoming initiatives.



IBBY Events & Programmes: 39<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Trieste, 2024



**36th IBBY INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ATHENS 2018**

East meets West around children's books and fairy tales

30, 31/8 & 1/9/18 Athens, Greece

Megaron International Athens Conference Centre (MIACC)

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΤΜΗΜΑ **iBbY**

ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΙΑΚΟ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ ΣΥΜΠΕΡΙΦΟΡΑΣ ΤΩΝ ΠΟΛΙΤΩΝ

CITY OF ATHENS

**17. IBBY kongres**

INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

MEZINÁRODNÍ SDRUŽENÍ PRO DĚTSKOU KNIHU

**Praha 28.9.-3.10. 1980**

**O LIVRO ENSINA A VIVER BOOKS TEACH YOU HOW TO LIVE**

CONGRESSO DA ORGANIZAÇÃO INTERNACIONAL PARA O LIVRO INFANTIL E JUVENIL CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE HOTEL GLÓRIA — RIO DE JANEIRO — BRASIL 21 A 25 DE OUTUBRO DE 1974

**IBBY 39TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS**

Trieste Italy 30/8-01/09 2024

Join the revolution! Giving every child good books

**iBbY** **iBbY** **ITALIA** **REGIONE AUTONOMA FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA**

INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

**23rd IBBY WORLD CONGRESS 7.9-12.9.1992 IN BERLIN**

The World of Children in Children's Books - Children's Books in the World of Children

**A FORÇA DAS MINORIAS LA FUERZA DE LAS MINORIAS THE STRENGTH OF MINORITIES**

32º CONGRESSO INTERNACIONAL DE IBBY 32nd INTERNATIONAL IBBY CONGRESS

8 - 12 DE SETEMBRO DE 2010 8 - 12 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2010

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

**IBBY CONGRESS 1990 INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE! SEPTEMBER 2-7 WILLIAMSBURG, VA.**

INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE **iBbY** 50 YEARS OF IBBY

**CHILDREN AND BOOKS A WORLDWIDE CHALLENGE**

28th IBBY Congress 29 September-3 October 2002 Basel, Switzerland

**IBBY-OSLO-1988**

21st CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE Oslo, Norway, 26-30 September 1988 CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AND THE NEW MEDIA

WHY DO YOU WRITE FOR CHILDREN? CHILDREN, WHY DO YOU READ? **なぜ書くか・なぜ読むか**

WORLD CONGRESS ON CHILDREN'S BOOKS '86-20th IBBY Congress Tokyo

**1986年子どもの本世界大会 第20回IBBY東京大会**

**IBBY '86 TOKYO**

開催時期・昭和61年 1986年8月18日(月)→23日(土)

開催場所・こどもの城 NATIONAL CHILDREN'S CASTLE, TOKYO

主催・社団法人 日本国際児童図書評議会 JAPANESE BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE JIBBY

後援・外務省、文部省、厚生省、日本ユネスコ国内委員会、東京府、国際交流基金、日本児童手帳協会、ユネスコ・アジア文化センター、フジテレビジョン、カワシマ、朝日児童協会、日本放送協会、朝日新聞社

24TH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE SEVILLA 11-15 OCTOBER 1994

**Literatura infantil, espacio de libertad Children's Books, a Place of Freedom**

**IBBY Events & Programmes: Congress Posters**



# Looking Ahead: 40th IBBY World Congress



Listening to Each Other's Voices |  
Écouter la voix de l'autre | Pizindàdidà Ekidong

**IBBY Canada** will proudly host the 40th IBBY World Congress in Ottawa, Canada, from **6 to 9 August, 2026**. Under the resonant theme “Listening to Each Other’s Voices,” the Congress will bring together over 350 participants from across the globe for a meaningful celebration of books, inclusion, and cultural dialogue.

The Congress theme will be explored through six intersectional lenses in children’s literature:

- Disability
- BIPOC identity
- Migrant and refugee experiences
- Mental health
- Gender and sexuality
- Environmental sustainability



Listening to Each Other's Voices  
Pizindàdidà Ekidong  
Écouter la voix de l'autre



40<sup>th</sup> IBBY World Congress  
Ottawa, Canada  
6-9 August 2026

[www.ibbycongress2026.org](http://www.ibbycongress2026.org)



**iBbY** INTERNATIONAL  
BOARD ON  
BOOKS FOR  
YOUNG PEOPLE

IBBY Events & Programmes: The 40<sup>th</sup> IBBY World Congress



# IBBY Regional Conferences

While the IBBY World Congress unites the international community every two years, **IBBY Regional Conferences** and Meetings serve as vital spaces for localized exchange, collaboration, and action in the years between congresses.

These regional gatherings are **organized by IBBY Sections** to:

- **Strengthen relationships** among neighbouring countries and linguistic communities.
- Foster **professional exchange** across diverse fields—publishing, education, illustration, research, and more.
- Provide a platform to **amplify local voices, challenges, and innovations** in children's literature.
- Deepen **regional cohesion** while aligning with IBBY's global mission of bringing books and children together.

IBBY African Regional Conference, 2019



IBBY European Regional Conference, 2025



IBBY Asia Pacific Regional Conference, 2025



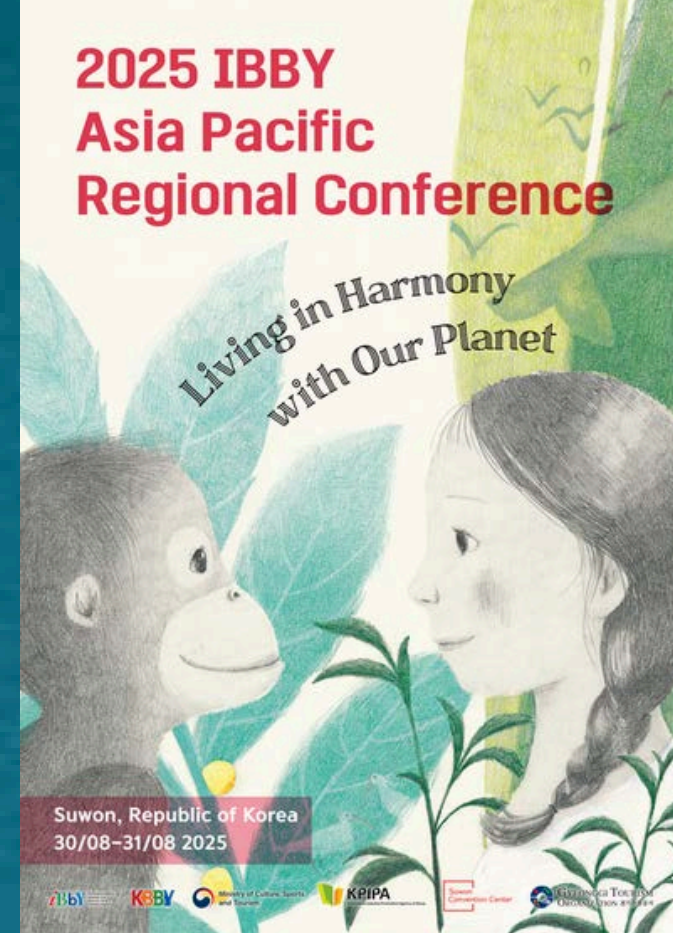


**4th Ibero-American Seminar on Children's Literature and Youth Online**  
 11–12 March 2025  
**Theme: Los Derechos (Children's Rights)**

**BOOKS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**  
 Children's right to read in challenging times  
**IBBY EUROPEAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2025**  
 3 April 2025, 9:00 - 13:30, Sala Concerto, 1st floor, Wing D, Centro Servizi



**IBBY Europe Regional Conference**  
 Bologna, Italy  
 3 April 2025  
**Theme: Books make a difference!**  
*Children's right to read in challenging times*



**IBBY Asia-Pacific Regional Conference**  
 Suwon, Korea  
 30–31 August 2025  
**Theme: Living in Harmony with Our Planet**



**IBBY North America Regional Congress**  
 7–9 November 2025  
 Boston, MA

**hands-on in the hub**



**IBBY North America Regional Conference**  
 Boston, MA, USA  
 7–9 November 2025  
**Theme: Hands-on in the Hub!**



Exhibition at IBBY Asia-Pacific Regional Conference, 2025

# International Children's Book Day

Celebrating Children's Books Since 1967

Each year on or around **April 2**, the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen, IBBY celebrates **International Children's Book Day (ICBD)** to ignite a passion for reading and spotlight the vital role of children's literature in fostering empathy, creativity, and global understanding.

ICBD is a cherished tradition among IBBY Sections and literary communities across the world. It is observed through **festivals, school events, library programmes, author visits, and reading initiatives.**

ICBD materials, posters and messages, are **translated, shared, and displayed** in classrooms, libraries, and cultural centers around the world.



IBBY Events & Programmes: International Children's Book Day



These words belong to you, even though they came from me.

Deze woorden zijn van jou, ook al kwamen ze uit mij.

Dizze wurden binne fan dy, ek al kamen se út my.

Même s'ils viennent de moi, tous ces mots sont à toi.

Diese Worte kómen zwar aus mir, doch jetzt sie sind dein.

Son tuyas estas palabras que han salido de mi boca.

هذه كلماتك، وإن صدرت مني.

这些话虽然由我说出口，但却属于你。

እነዚህ ቃላት እነዚ ናትካ እዩ። ወላ እኔ ካብይ ዝወጸ እናት ንኩ።

Ці слова твої, хоч і з уст моїх.

Text: Rian Visser

Image: Janneke Ipenburg



Each year, an **IBBY Section sponsors ICBD**, choosing a unique theme and commissioning:

- A prominent national author to write a message to the children of the world.
- A renowned illustrator to create a poster reflecting the year's theme.

In 2025, **IBBY Netherlands** proudly sponsored ICBD under the theme:

**"The Freedom of Imagination"**

*"Make pictures for my poem, and please feel free:*

*these words belong to you even though they came from me."*

*— from The Language of Pictures by Rian Visser*

2025 Message Author Rian Visser



2025 Poster Illustrator Janneke Ipenburg



The 2025 celebrations of **IBBY Netherlands** featured the following activities to bring reading to children around the world:

- An **international illustration competition** invited children to submit artwork inspired by the poem's imagery, fostering global creative dialogue.
- **Lesson plans for ages 4–6, 6–9, and 9–14** (available in English and Dutch) to assist educators in exploring the theme in schools and libraries.
- **ICBD materials, posters, and teaching guides** on the IBBY Netherlands website for communities to celebrate worldwide, using the hashtag #ICBD2025.

# Bookbird

A JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

*Bookbird: A Journal of International Children's Literature* has been the flagship publication of IBBY since its founding in 1963, offering readers a global perspective on books for young readers and reading cultures. Published quarterly by Johns Hopkins University Press on behalf of IBBY, *Bookbird* is indexed on Scopus and other major scholarly data bases.

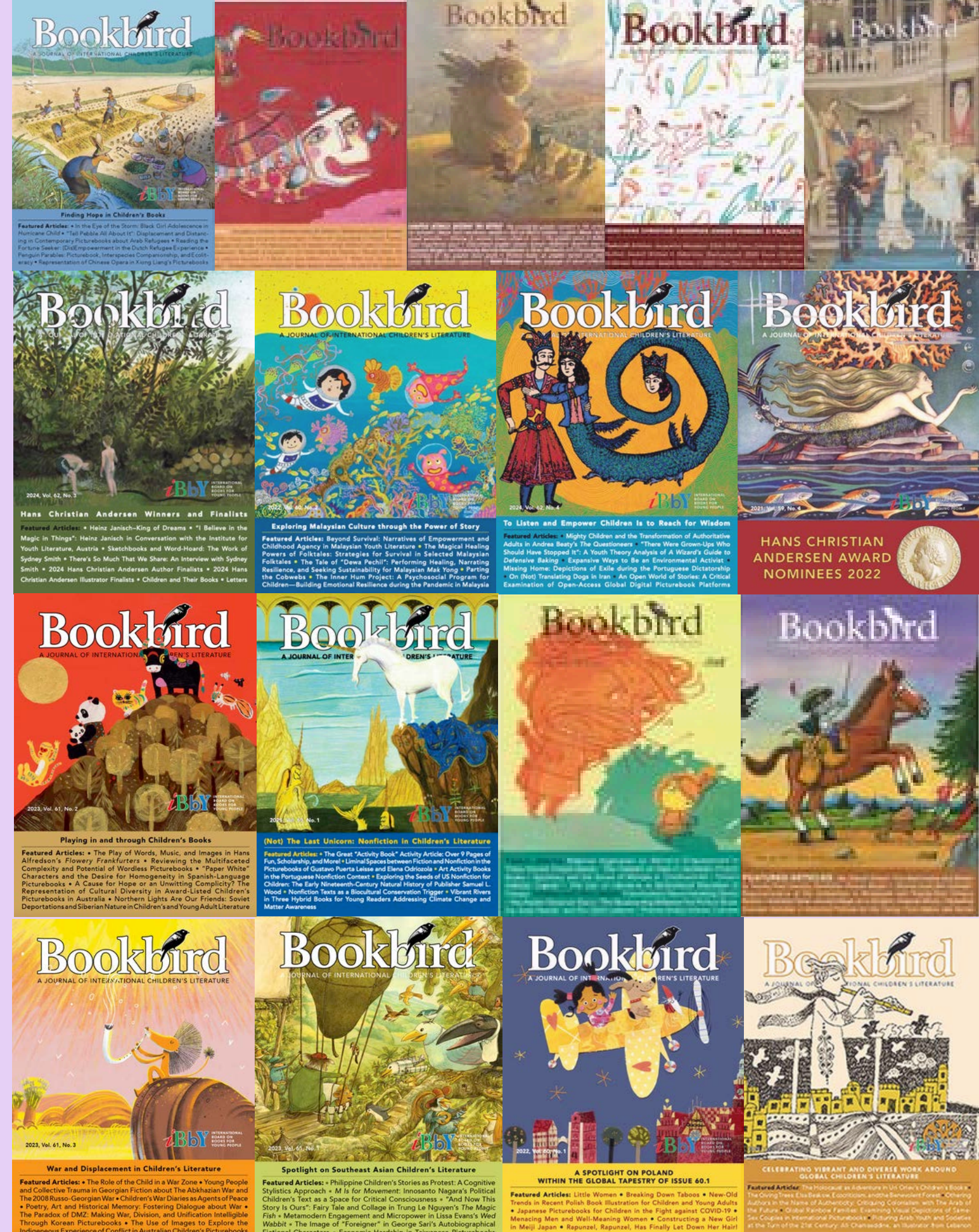
Bookbird is unique in bringing research, advocacy and best practice together in its pages through peer-reviewed and open articles. It welcomes contributions from around the world, connecting readers to the latest research, trends and initiatives that support children's and young adult literature.



Bookbird promotes reading as a right and as a bridge between cultures.

### Regular Features Include:

- **Peer-reviewed articles** on children's and young adult books and their creators from around the world.
- **Articles encouraging excellent practice** in the promotion of reading in many different situations internationally.
- **Themed and non-themed issues** with articles focusing on migration, climate sustainability, disability, indigenous literatures and much else.
- **Spotlight on global creators** – interviews with illustrators, authors, translators, editors and publishers.
- **Recommendations for books for children and young adults** and in-depth reviews of professional literature and of titles of general interest about books for young readers.
- **Focus IBBY** – updates from IBBY Sections, projects and highlights from IBBY events.



# Get involved with Bookbird!

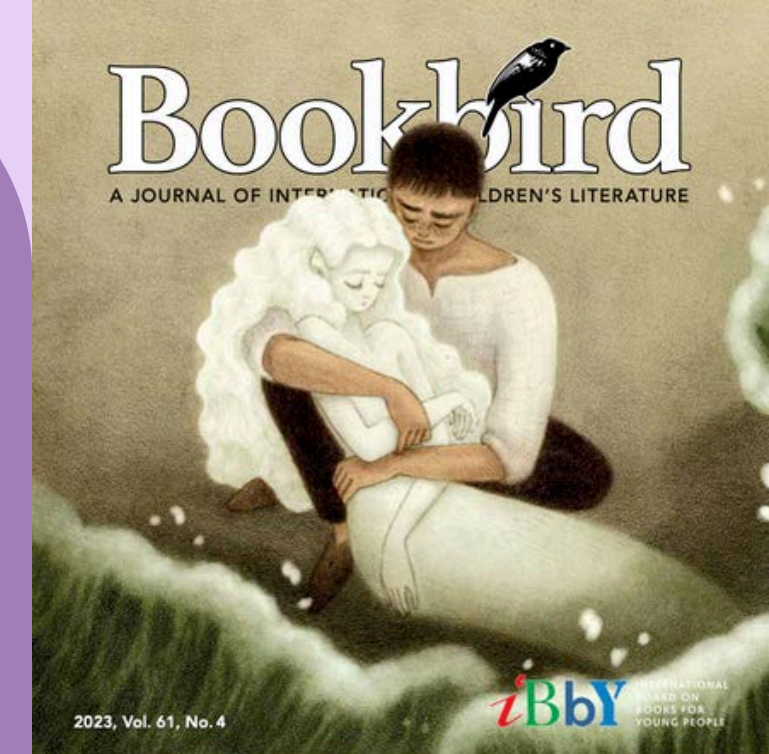
- **Contribute:** write about your research, your work promoting good books in the classroom, library and elsewhere or your passion for an author, illustrator or book promoter whose work you admire.
- **Subscribe:** individuals and institutions can subscribe through Johns Hopkins University Press: [www-press.jhu.edu/journals/bookbird](http://www-press.jhu.edu/journals/bookbird).
- **Access online:** Current articles and back issues are available to download via ProjectMUSE and older back issues are available on the Bookbird section of the IBBY website.
- Read *Bookbird: A Flight Through Time* to discover the story of the journal and of IBBY and the fascinating characters who have been involved over many years.

Bookbird is also now available in Spanish, at: [www.bookbird-esp.com.ar](http://www.bookbird-esp.com.ar).

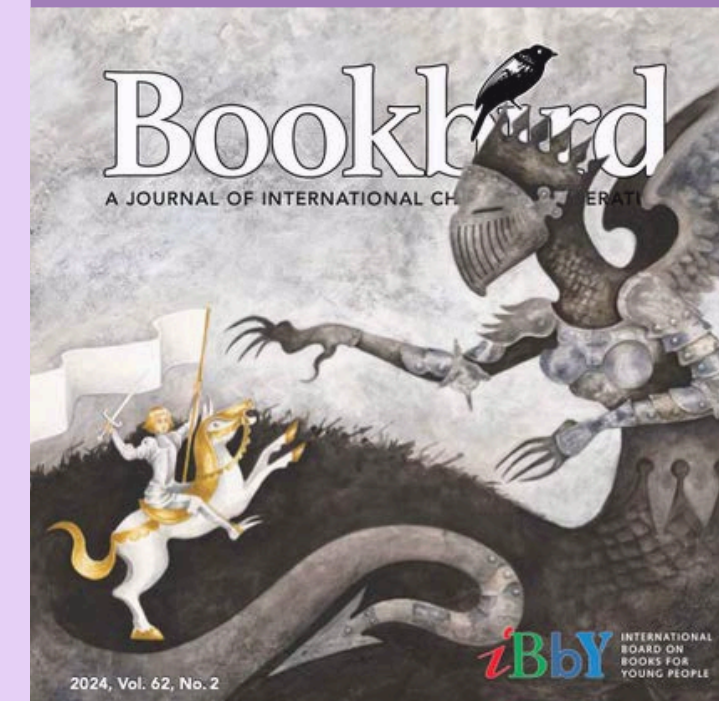
Visit [ibby.org/bookbird](http://ibby.org/bookbird) to learn more, view current calls for papers, and explore submission guidelines.

## Special Issues:

- *Bookbird* produces a biennial issue on the Hans Christian Andersen Award nominees and one carrying articles on the HCA winners and short-listed authors and illustrators.
- Literature for young readers from the host country features in an issue published in advance of each IBBY Congress.

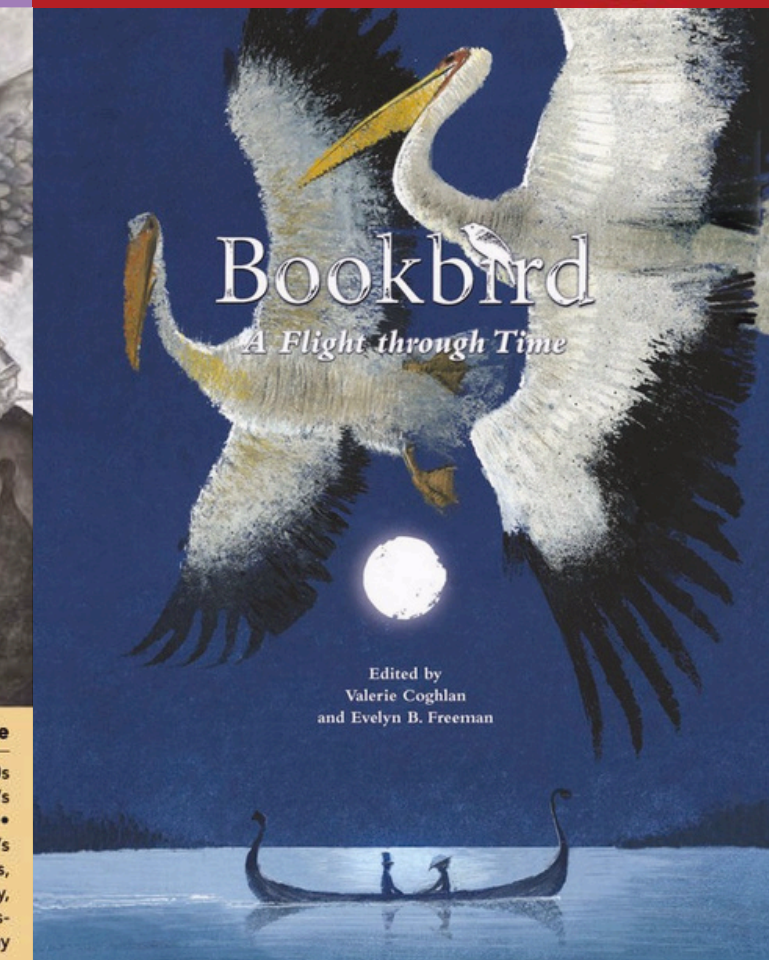


HANS CHRISTIAN  
ANDERSEN AWARD  
NOMINEES 2024



## Tracing the Evolution of Contemporary Italian Children's Literature

**Featured Articles:** • The Long Reach of Creativity: The Lasting Impact of 1970s Italian Children's Literature • Words at Play for Emerging Readers: Children's Poetry in the Framework of Italian Preschool Education (Ages Zero to Six) • From Queens to Rebel Girls? Biographies about Women within Italian Children's Literature • Diversity in Italian Picturebooks for Children: Themes, Limitations, and Provocations • The Sound of Silence: Metaphors of Childhood, Disability, and Incommunicability in Italian Children's Literature • The Power of Translation: Rediscovering the Work of Renée Reggiani for Young Readers Today



# iBBY Collections

In addition to the IBBY Honour List, IBBY curates a range of **permanent, travelling, and digital collections** that preserve and showcase remarkable children's literature from around the world.

These collections celebrate linguistic, cultural, and artistic diversity, and serve as vital tools for researchers, educators, publishers, authors, and reading advocates alike.



## Current Collections:

- IBBY Honour List
- IBBY Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities
- IBBY-UNESCO Collection of Remarkable Books for Young Readers in Indigenous and Endangered Languages
- Silent Books Collection
- Children's Books in Europe
- Children's Books from and about Palestine

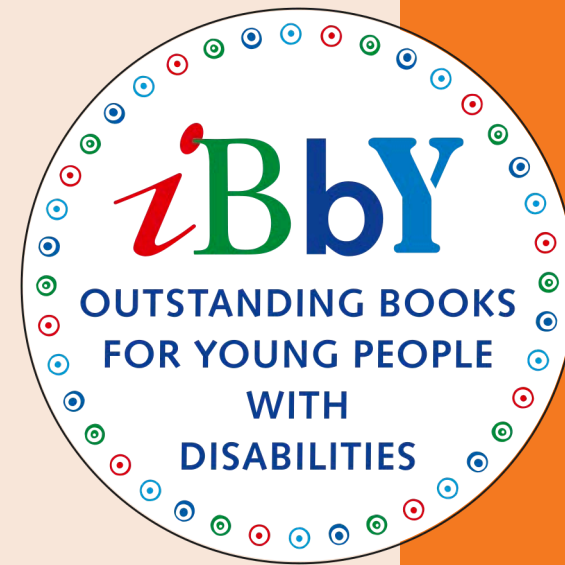
Many IBBY Sections also have their own collections to explore!



# IBBY SELECTION

## OF OUTSTANDING BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

*All young people need books they can read and enjoy independently.* In addition to identifying excellent picture books and novels that include characters with varied abilities, the **IBBY Collections of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities** emphasizes the importance of accessibility and independence in reading.



The IBBY Collection for Young People with Disabilities is housed at the Toronto Public Library. It features **over 4,000 books in more than 40 languages**, including:

- Books in special formats (Braille, Picture Communication Symbols, Sign language, Easy-to-Read language, tactile illustrations, dyslexia-friendly fonts, and more)
- Fiction featuring children and teens with disabilities
- Accessible titles for adults with developmental or language delays

The collection supports hands-on exploration, teacher and caregiver engagement, and research in accessible children's literature. It is accessible online at [www.torontopubliclibrary.ca](http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca).

The collection began in 1985 in Oslo and was transferred to the Toronto Public Library in 2014. It continues to be a leading global resource on accessible children's publishing and is available for exhibitions and conferences.

Every two years, **IBBY Sections** nominate accessible and inclusive books for this unique collection. The selected books are presented in a formal catalogue and showcased internationally.

### 2025 Selection:

- 200 submissions from 32 countries
- 40 books selected, representing 24 countries in 18 languages
- Launched at the 2025 Bologna Children's Book Fair

## IBBY Events & Programmes: Collections





# IBBY Events & Programmes: Collections

# IBBY-UNESCO Collection of Remarkable Books for Young Readers in Indigenous and Endangered Languages



## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: 15 December 2025

With over 40% of the world's 7,000 languages at risk of disappearing, many of them Indigenous, this collection responds to a global call for action. IBBY and UNESCO invite submissions of children's books published between 2018 and 2025 that are originally written in, or bilingually include, Indigenous or endangered languages.

This initiative is aligned with the **UNESCO International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022–2032)** and serves as a platform to spotlight exceptional children's books that preserve, revitalize, and promote vulnerable languages.

The selected titles will be unveiled at the **40th IBBY World Congress in Ottawa** (August 2026) and will form a global resource for promoting linguistic inclusion and cultural identity among young readers.



© 2019. Juan Palomino (ill). *La joven maestra y la gran serpiente*. Editorial Juventud. Irene Vasco (text).



## CRITERIA ON ENDANGERED LANGUAGES

The Collection is based on the following methodology:

- Out of use (0) includes languages that have presumably gone out of use after 1950;
- Critically endangered (1) spoken/used by < 25,000;
- Severely endangered (2) includes between 10,000 to 100,000 users left.
- Definitely endangered (3) has between 100,000 and 3.5 million.
- Potentially vulnerable (4) has between 3.5 million to 7 million.
- Endangered/Unsafe (5) ranges from small numbers to 7.5 million.



© 2019. Juan Palomino (ill). *La joven maestra y la gran serpiente*. Editorial Juventud. Irene Vasco (text).

## WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

- Books for children and young people (picture books, novels, biographies, graphic novels and nonfiction) presenting high-quality standards in terms of text and/or illustration;
- books published between January 2018 and December 2025;
- books originally published in an Indigenous and/or an endangered language, and original bilingual books including at least one Indigenous and/or endangered language;
- books expressing the intention of, or relation to, one or more of the 10 outputs of the Global Action Plan of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.
- Books and publications that adhere to UNESCO principles and respect political neutrality.

*We are looking for books that meet all of these requirements.*



For full regulations visit:

[iBbY.org](http://iBbY.org)

## TIMELINE

- Submission deadline: **15 December 2025**
- Notification of selection to nominating entities: **End of April 2026**
- Launch of the collection: **IBBY** 40<sup>th</sup> IBBY World Congress  
Ottawa, Canada  
6-9 August 2026



In 2012, IBBY and IBBY Italia launched the **Silent Books: From the World to Lampedusa and Back** project in response to the influx of refugees arriving on the Italian island of Lampedusa from Africa and the Middle East.

With no library on the island, IBBY aimed to create a safe literary space for both local and migrant children, bridging language and cultural divides through the universal language of wordless picture books.

The concept was simple yet powerful: books without words can be read and understood by anyone, regardless of language or literacy level. These **silent books** allow children to share stories, emotions, and imagination without the barrier of language. The first collection brought together over 100 books from more than 20 countries, establishing a shared visual narrative that speaks to all.

#### Goals:

- **Establish the first library on Lampedusa**
- **Provide children with high-quality, accessible books**
- **Promote intercultural understanding through visual storytelling**
- **Create a global traveling exhibition of silent books**

Since its inception, IBBY has curated **six collections** of Silent Books, each launched every two years and contributed by IBBY Sections worldwide. These collections are rich with narrative complexity, emotion, and design, chosen not only for artistic excellence but also for their ability to foster empathy and inclusivity across cultures.

Each new collection includes a **Honour List**, highlighting particularly outstanding entries. The books become part of the **Lampedusa Library**, join a traveling exhibition, and a permanent archive in Rome.



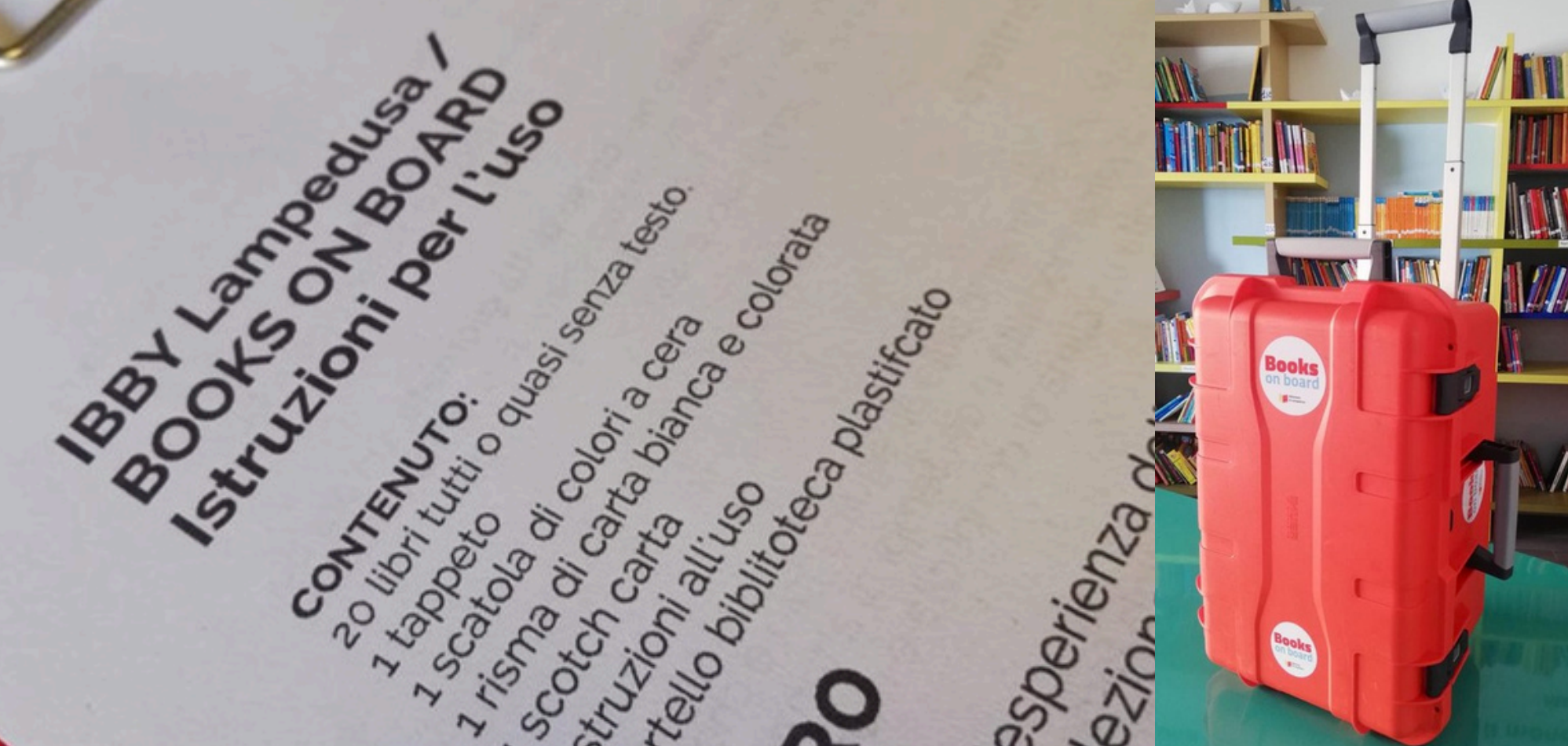
### Collections Highlights:

- 2023: 70 books from 22 countries
- 2021: 76 books from 22 countries (launched during virtual Bologna Fair)
- 2019–2013: Exhibitions held in Italy, New Zealand, Australia, Korea, UAE, Serbia, UK, and more

Each collection includes tactile design, emotional depth, and cross-cultural themes

*Resources such as “10 Tips for Reading Silent Books” (IBBY Italia) and the Silent Books Handbook (IBBY Sweden) offer guidance to educators and caregivers on using these books in multilingual or refugee communities.*





To sustain this project, **IBBY Camps** have brought volunteers —teachers, librarians, authors, and illustrators—from around the world to Lampedusa. These camps foster collaboration, train facilitators, and create a vibrant community.

In 2020, IBBY Italia introduced **Books on Board**, a pilot project placing Silent Books in red suitcases aboard rescue ships operated by NGOs such as Sea Watch, Open Arms, and Mediterraneo. These mobile reading kits include drawing materials and folding carpets, offering dignity and comfort to children immediately after rescue.

#### Key Initiatives:

- 13 IBBY Camps to date (most recently in 2025)
- Permanent reading space for children
- Portable book kits for use on rescue boats, hospitals, and refugee reception centres





# Children's Books in Languages Spoken in Europe

Recognizing the linguistic richness of the continent, **IBBY Europe** curates a growing, multilingual collection of outstanding children's books published in the languages spoken across Europe. This initiative celebrates both the literary heritage of European languages and the diversity brought by migrant and refugee communities.

The selections are created in collaboration with children's literature experts from across the region and are regularly updated. They serve as an **invaluable resource** for educators, librarians, parents, and children eager to explore the finest in contemporary literature in their own languages, or to discover others.

## European Languages

Armenian · Basque · Catalan · Croatian · Czech · Danish · Dutch · English · Estonian · Finnish · French · Galician · German · Greek · Hungarian · Irish · Italian · Latvian · Lithuanian · Polish · Russian · Slovak · Slovenian · Spanish · Swedish · Turkish

## Languages of Migrant and Refugee Communities

Arabic · Dari · Farsi · Pashto · Urdu

A dedicated *digital platform* offers access to these selections, allowing readers to discover books in the language that speaks most directly to them.

**IBBY Events & Programmes: Digital Collections**



**iBBY**

In a collaborative initiative led by **IBBY UK**, this ongoing project honours the voices, resilience, and cultural heritage of the Palestinian people through children's literature. It gathers and celebrates remarkable books from and about Palestine, offering young readers around the world a window into Palestinian life, identity, struggle, and hope.



### Resources & Partners:

- Tamer Institute for Community Education
- Hadi Badi Books
- ArabKidLitNow
- Beyond the Secret Garden (Books for Keeps)
- Takam Tikou (Bibliothèque nationale de France)
- Teach Palestine



# Children's Books from and about Palestine



# How to Get Involved

*Bringing Books  
and Children together*



## **Become a Member**

Join your country's IBBY Section or help establish one if it doesn't yet exist.

## **Support Our Work**

Donate to IBBY, sponsor a programme, become a Patron/Partner, or a Friend of IBBY.

## **Nominate & Participate**

Take part in our international awards and reading promotion programmes as an IBBY Member.

## **Attend IBBY Events**

Join regional conferences, local events, webinars, and the biennial IBBY World Congress.

# iBbY

INTERNATIONAL  
BOARD ON  
BOOKS FOR  
YOUNG PEOPLE

*Bringing Books and Children together*



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