

**57<sup>TH</sup> BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR  
30 March – 2 April 2020**

**THE AWARDS  
THE BOOK FAIR IS THE PRESTIGIOUS BACKDROP FOR  
THE MOST IMPORTANT SECTOR-SPECIFIC AWARDS**

**BolognaRagazzi Award  
Bop – Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publisher of the Year  
Premio Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi**

Bologna Children's Book Fair is the go-to venue for the children's publishing world. By promoting and supporting young illustrators and acknowledging international publishing excellence, the BCBF competitions and awards highlight new trends and talents as they appear. Down the years the evergreen awards have been joined by new prizes as new voices and players come onto the publishing scene - as in the case of the digital format, or as the book fair has teamed up with partners, foundations and publishers eager to progress the sector and help discover the people and processes of the future.

**BRAW – THE BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARDS AND BRAW DIGITAL**

For over fifty years, the **BolognaRagazzi Awards** have been selected from the books submitted by exhibitor publishers hailing from all over the world. The criteria have always been excellence in production and content and the ability of a work to dialogue with its young audience. As well as the traditional **Fiction, Non-Fiction** and **Opera Prima** categories, the BRAW now includes the new permanent **Comics** section. The Jury can also award a special **New Horizons** prize to a particularly innovative work that opens up new perspectives – new horizons – for its readers. These main prize categories are each year flanked by a special section. In the year of the centennial of the birth of Federico Fellini, the 2020 special section is aptly dedicated to **Cinema**.

**A record 1,888 books were submitted from 41 countries** for the 2020 BRAW edition – 300 more than last year, testifying to the fact that the BolognaRagazzi Awards are not just welcome acknowledgements of quality but also a great international copyright business opportunity for the winners.

Since 2012, the **BolognaRagazzi Digital Award** has acknowledged the best online products and most innovative apps for 0 to 15 year olds. Organized in partnership with the Children's Technology Review, the award flags up the latest digital content trends in the sector.

The BRAW award ceremony of the winners and mentions – **the names of which were announced today** – will take place at **Palazzo d'Accursio on 30 March, the first day of the trade show, at 6.30 p.m.**

**BOP – BOLOGNA PRIZE FOR THE BEST CHILDREN'S PUBLISHERS OF THE YEAR**

Promoted and organized by BCBF in partnership with AIE (Italian Publishers Association) and IPA (International Publishers Association), the BOP acknowledges the publishing house which, in the opinion of fellow publishers exhibiting at the fair, most distinguished itself for the creativity and quality of its products in the previous year.

Created in 2013 to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bologna Children's Book Fair, the prize has six categories based on geographical region (Europe, Africa, Asia, North America, Central and South America, and Oceania). This encourages assessment of each publishing house within its particular context, but also provides a basis for exchange and partnerships with other players in different parts of the world.

As is the tradition, the BOP winners will be announced at the award ceremony on **Monday, 30 March at Palazzo d'Accursio, at 6.30 p.m.**

**PREMIO STREGA RAGAZZE E RAGAZZI**

Now in its 5<sup>th</sup> edition, **Premio Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi** is sponsored by the **Maria and Goffredo Bellonci Foundation** and by **Strega Alberti Benevento** – organizers of the Premio Strega – in partnership with **Centro per il libro e la lettura** (the Book and Reading Centre) and **BolognaFiere – Bologna Children's Book Fair**, in

collaboration with **BPER Banca**. Set up in 2016, the aim of the prize is to promote reading and appreciation of the value of reading at an early age. This year the Strega Ragazzi has involved more than 2000 school children between 6 and 15 years of age from more than 140 schools, reading groups, libraries and teaching institutions in Italy and beyond (Brussels, Madrid, Munch, Paris, Vienna and Zurich).

The Prize of 5000 euro is awarded to the novel receiving most votes out of the five finalists selected by the Scientific Committee for each competition category (6-10 and 11-15 year olds). The books have to be published in Italian, also as translations, between 1 July of the previous year and 30 June of the current year.

If the work receiving the most votes is an Italian translation from another language, the **translator will also receive a prize for the same amount offered by BolognaFiere**. In addition, since 2017, BPER Banca awards a plaque and money prize of 1000 and 500 Euros respectively, to one of the schools making up the +6 jury for the way reading of the selected books was encouraged, and to the pupil in the +11 category for the best book review. The review will be read out during the prize giving ceremony.

### **THE CARLA POESIO PRIZE**

Committed since the outset to supporting innovation and publishing excellence, BCBF has also involved the world of university research with its **Carla Poesio Prize**. Started in 2019 in memory of a much-loved children's literature scholar who gave her vital support to the Bologna book fair from its earliest days, and managed in partnership with Bologna University's Children's Literature Research Centre (CRLI), the prize acknowledges the **most innovative and original final dissertation in an Italian masters or equivalent children's literature degree course** for its contribution to the investigation of **significant topics** such as the artistic, educational and cross-media aspects of literature for young readers. BolognaFiere undertakes to ensure publication by a specialist publisher of the thesis selected. The first edition of the Prize revealed an extensive investigative field. Topics range from in-depth analysis of the literature, illustrations and artistic content through to linguistics, philology, history of education but also the marketing aspects of children's books. The winner of the 2019 edition was Ilaria Martino (Genoa University) with her dissertation *Il romanzo distopico alla Scuola Primaria: utopia o realtà?*. The paper has been published by Edizioni ETS with the support of BolognaFiere in time for the book fair.

### **THE INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR ILLUSTRATION - BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR - FUNDACIÓN SM**

**The International Award for Illustrations – Bologna Children's Book Fair – Fundación SM**, an institution committed to education and book promotion, celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Developed to encourage and support new talents in illustration, the \$15,000 award - addressed to artists under 35 selected for the Illustrators Exhibition - gives the winner the independence to be able to work for a year on a picturebook to be published and marketed worldwide by the Spanish SM publishing house. The original illustrations for the book are then exhibited in a personal show at the next edition of Bologna Children's Book Fair. Many of the winners over the years have gone on to successful illustration careers. They include **Philippe Giordano**, the first award winner, today a highly regarded illustrator. Likewise, **Catarina Sobral** and **Manuel Marsol** went on to international careers after winning the award.

### **ARS IN FABULA – GRANT AWARD**

Since 2012, the School of Illustration **Ars in Fabula**, an advanced training institute committed to promoting children's books, has worked in partnership with Bologna Children's Book Fair to offer a scholarship place to an illustrator under 30 chosen for the Illustrators Exhibition. The aim: **to train and support new illustration talent**, answering the demand by promising young illustrators for further training and meeting the industry's requirement to explore new expressive avenues. Chosen by a jury made up of the Master course faculty who meet Bologna at the fair, the winner is offered a free place on the *ARS IN FABULA – Master in Illustrazione per l'Editoria* course to work on a book project assigned by one of the publisher partners of the Master course.

### **IN OTHER WORDS**

The book translation competition sponsored by **Bologna Children's Book Fair's Translation Centre** was developed to provide talented translators with publishing opportunities. To mark the presence of Sharjah as this year's Guest Country of Honour, the language selected for this year's prize is **Arabic**. As well as acknowledging personal excellence, the prize also seeks to encourage broader interest in the vehicle language chosen.

### **SILENT BOOK CONTEST – GIANNI DE CONNO AWARD**



Started in 2014, and since 2019 named in memory of one of its prime promoters, Gianni De Conno, the **Silent Book Contest** is an international competition for wordless books – stories in images that know no boundaries of language, age or gender. The Award is promoted by the town of Mulazzo, the Montereleggio Paese dei Librai Association, member of the International Organization of Book Towns Italia (I.O.B.), with the contribution of Carthusia Edizioni, in partnership with Bologna Children's Book Fair and under the aegis of IBBY Italia and the Book and Reading Centre of Italy's Ministry of Cultural Affairs. The finalists, chosen by an international jury, will be on show in the book fair's Mall, and the winners will be announced in May during the Turin Salone del Libro.

#### **BOLOGNA LICENSING AWARD**

The fourth edition of the **Bologna Licensing Award** – reserved for trade-show exhibitors – acknowledges the best licensing programme and product development during 2019.

#### **HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD**

The **Hans Christian Andersen** awards are the most important international prizes conferred on authors and illustrators of children's books. Assigned every two years by **IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People)**, they acknowledge the career and achievements of an author and an illustrator whose work has made a major and lasting contribution to children's literature. The 2020 Jury, selected from among the national representatives on the IBBY Executive Committee, comprises ten well-known personages from around the world and is chaired by Junko Yokota (USA). **The winners will be announced at the Bologna Children's Book Fair on 30 March at 2.30 p.m. at the Illustrators Café.**

#### **ALMA - ASTRID LINDGREN MEMORIAL AWARD**

Bologna Children's Book Fair is also the international stage for this award, to be announced at the **Illustrators Café on Tuesday, 31 March at 1 p.m. in a live broadcast from Sweden. The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA)** is a major international acknowledgement in the world of children's literature worth five million Swedish crowns (approx. 550.000 Euros). Writers, illustrators, or individuals and organizations actively promoting reading may be entered. The 2020 edition will be chosen from 240 candidates from 67 countries.

#### **ETISALAT AWARD**

This year Bologna Children's Book Fair will complete the spectrum of awards giving ample space to the prestigious **Etisalat Award**, the prize for Arab children's literature founded in 2009 by the Arab Children's Book Publishers Forum. The work of the winners will be displayed in a special centrally located showcase.



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