

Newsletter 32

July 2007

IBBY at the Bologna Children's Book Fair 24-28 April 2007

The Press Conference

The IBBY Press Conference took place on the opening day of the Book Fair. The accent this year was on the IBBY project programme. President *Patsy Aldana* issued a press release detailing the IBBY projects and the launch of a new programme under the title **IBBY Children in Crisis Fund** that will work towards helping children whose lives have been disrupted by war and other disasters. She called on publishers around the world assembled at the Book Fair to support IBBY's national sections in their work of bringing children to a life long love of reading, to work with them in the stimulation of national publishing programmes and to actively work for the translation of works from all languages into all languages – an activity which is sadly decreasing. A new page on the IBBY website will be devoted to the Fund and will include instructions on how to give donations.

The IBBY campaign that was launched in 2005 – **The Child's Right to Become a Reader** – has been gathering momentum. During 2007, nine IBBY workshops will be running at different times supported by the IBBY-Yamada Fund. The projects are taking place in Cuba, India, Indonesia, Madagascar, Mongolia, Palestine, South Africa, Uganda and Uruguay. Reports of the workshops will be posted on the IBBY website as they are completed.

The long standing Nation Section of Venezuela, **Banco del Libro**, was warmly congratulated on winning the 2007 **Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award** (ALMA). Patsy Aldana went on to praise the ALMA committee for using this prestigious award to promote reading and to support the Banco's pioneering work in Bibliotherapy.

IBBY was pleased to welcome *Frances Plumpton* from New Zealand to Bologna to present the 2007 **International Children's Book Day** message and poster. The materials for ICBF 2007 were sponsored by IBBY New Zealand.

IBBY's journal **Bookbird** was presented by editor *Valerie Coghlan*. A very successful double issue was published for the 2006 IBBY Congress in Macau. The issue dealt with Chinese children's literature and is an important reference document for Chinese studies. It was announced that the usual Andersen issue of *Bookbird* will be published before the 2008 Congress to give all the candidates more exposure. There will be an extra insert published for the congress when the winners are known.

With the help of a visual presentation, *Vagn Plenge* invited all participants to the **31st IBBY Congress** in Copenhagen, Denmark, September 2008. All current information about the Congress can be found on the website www.ibby2008.dk.

IBBY Stand Revamped

The IBBY stand had a complete and successful overhaul for the 2007 Bologna Children's Book Fair. The new look was conceived and executed by *Lorenz Vettiger* of VischerVettiger AG of Basel (www.vischervettiger.ch) and the IBBY Secretariat. The fresh look gave more space and freedom for the public to browse the exhibitions. The **IBBY Honour List 2006** was a highlight: with a record 164 titles! The 2007 selection of **Outstanding Books for Young People With Disabilities** was another popular corner of the stand with 400 catalogues distributed by the end of the fair! The books featured in the IBBY virtual exhibition **Books for Africa**. **Books from Africa** were also on display. (www.ibby.org/africa/exhibition) Bookbird and the 2008 Congress were also a feature of the stand.



IBBY President Patsy Aldana with Frances Plumpton (NZ), Alida Cutts (USBBY) and Joan Glazer President of Bookbird Inc.

EC in Bologna

Traditionally, the Executive Committee has gathered together and enjoyed an evening of good food during the Bologna Book Fair. This was one small way of thanking them for their commitment to IBBY during their time in office. This year we extended the invitation to former EC members as a way of keeping the ties between us alive and well. So often, former members of the Executive Committee who have given so much of themselves to IBBY are excluded for many reasons, including the usual time and place constraints that we are all subject to. As the annual children's book fair Bologna is a meeting place for IBBY friends from all over the world, we were very pleased that many former EC members could join us for an evening of good company combined with plenty of wonderful Italian antipasti! We hope that this evening will become a regular event in the Bologna calendar.



From left to right:
Elda Nogueira (EC 2004-08), Xosé Antonio Neira Cruz (EC 2000-04), Nathalie Beau (EC 2000-04), Vagn Plenge (EC 2002-06), Elizabeth Serra (EC 2000-04)

Astrid Lindgren Anniversary

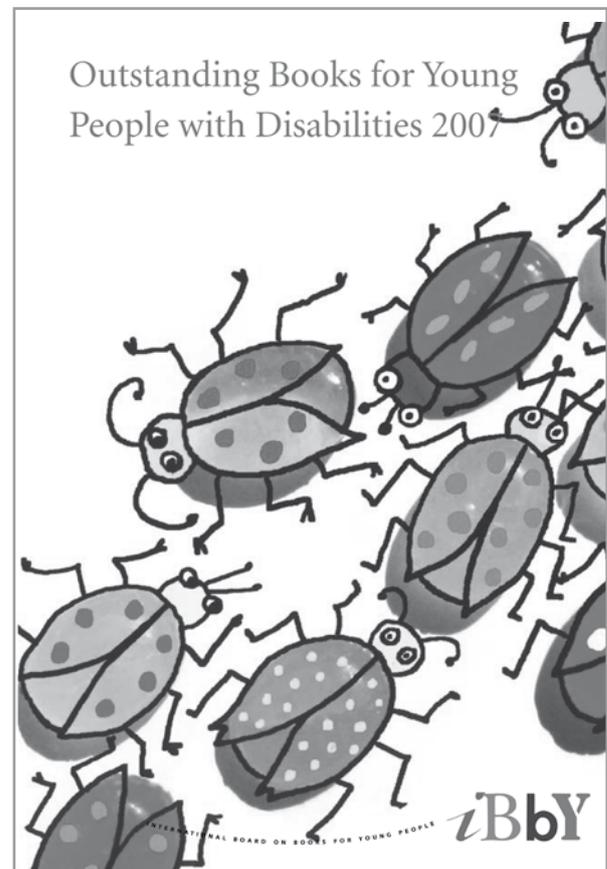
To celebrate the 100th anniversary of *Astrid Lindgren*, the Swedish Ambassador to Italy *Anders Brunner*, hosted an evening of music in the Palazzo Isolani. A buffet dinner was served in the magnificent frescoed rooms of the 15th

century palazzo with invited guests from the world of children's literature. The programme included speeches by the Director General of the Swedish Arts council, Publishing Director of Rabén & Sjögren, the Ambassador and Astrid Lindgren's daughter. Extracts from the new ballet *Pippi Longstocking* by Swedish choreographer *Pår Isberg* were shown by video during the evening

The social evening was only a part of the celebrations surrounding the anniversary celebrations on Bologna. An exhibition devoted to Astrid Lindgren was held at the book fair.

Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities 2007

The 2007 selection was launched at the book fair. *Heidi Boiesen*, Director of the IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Young People with Disabilities, launched the exhibition at the press conference. Catalogues are available from the IBBY Secretariat. The selection is also available for exhibitions: please contact the Secretariat for details.



Hans Christian Andersen Jury 2008 Selected

One of the highlights of the Press Conference was the announcement of the **Hans Christian Andersen Award Jury 2008**. The IBBY Executive Committee elected the international Jury for the 2008 Awards at its meeting in Bologna, 22 – 23 April 2007.

The ten members of the Hans Christian Andersen Award Jury 2008 are as follows:

Alicia Salvi, professor of language and literature and an expert on children's literature at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Annemie Leysen, lecturer, reviewer, critic and publicist from Heverlee, Belgium.

Francine Sarrasin, art historian from Quebec, Canada.

Nadia El Kholly, assistant professor for children's literature at the Faculty of Arts at the University of Cairo, Egypt.

Isabelle Nières Chevrel, emeritus professor in general and comparative literature at the University of Rennes, France.

Bill Nagelkerke, director of children's and young adult services at Christchurch City Library, New Zealand.

Nataliya Avgustinovich, art critic and director of Agentstvo (art agency) at the International Confederation of Artist's Union, Moscow, Russia.

María Jesús Gil, publisher from Madrid, Spain.

Helene Schär, editor of Baobab Books Basel, Switzerland.

Junko Yokota, professor and director, Centre for Teaching through Children's Books, National-Louis University, Chicago IL, USA

The members of the jury were selected from nominations made by the IBBY National Sections. We wish to sincerely thank all the sections and their candidates for their willingness to take up the challenge of serving as a Hans Christian Andersen Award Juror. The candidates for the 2008 awards have been announced and the Jury can begin!

The Jury is scheduled to meet in Basel, Switzerland in March 2008. The elected Jury President **Zohreh Ghaeni** (Tehran, Iran) will guide the process and preside at the jury meeting. IBBY Vice President **Elda Nogueira** (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) and IBBY Director of Members, Policy and Project Development **Liz Page** are *ex officio* members of the Jury. The results will be announced at the Bologna Children's Book Fair at the IBBY press conference on **31 March 2008**. The Awards will be presented to the winners at the 31st IBBY Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, **7 September 2008**.

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Visit the special IBBY Denmark Congress website for all the latest news: www.ibby2008.dk

Endangered Literacy in Mexico

Mexico's activities in reading promotion, specifically the programmes carried out by the *Subsecretaría de Educación Básica* of the SEP in the area of *Materiales Educativos* under the direction of *Elisa Bonilla Rius* as *Libros del Rincón/Libros de Aula*, are recognised around the world as the best example of how a national reading strategy can ensure that every child, irrespective of socio-economic status or ethnicity, has the opportunity to become a lifelong reader.

Elisa Bonilla Rius was a plenary speaker at the 2006 IBBY Congress in Macau. Her talk on the work of the SEP was acclaimed as outstanding and the programme was lauded as a model for every country. (See www.ibby.org for her presentation: *Mirrors and Windows: The value of Books, Reading and Writing in Educating for Citizenship.*)

The programme had an outstanding commitment to quality and its administration was a model of transparency, clarity, accountability and probity. Not surprisingly, the results were extraordinary.

Therefore, it was with great dismay that IBBY and the international community learned that *Elisa Bonilla* and her colleagues had left the SEP and that the budget for purchases under the programme was cut, resulting in a serious danger that classroom and school libraries would close. In an attempt to halt this drastic action by the Mexican Government, IBBY President *Patsy Aldana* wrote to the Mexican President *Felipe Calderón* asking him to continue to devote training, money and books so that children in Mexican schools will be able to continue to gain a full and rich education as they did been doing under the previous government. She asked him how his government could ensure the transparency and high level of probity and commitment to quality that made this programme so outstanding.

We are pleased to announce that the programme *Libros del Rincón/Libros de Aula* has been reinstated, although on a smaller scale, due to the outcry about its cancellation.

Jo Tenfjord

We were saddened to receive the news that *Jo Tenfjord* died on 12 June at the age of 88 in her native Norway. She was one of the founders of IBBY and was elected as one of the members of the first Executive Committee in 1951.

Where, together with *Jella Lepman*, *Erich Kaestner*, *Richard Bamberger*, *Hans Sauerländer*, *Fritz Brunner*, *Heinrich Lades*, *Hans Raben*, *J.W. Van der Stigchel* and *Lisa Tetzner*, the foundation of the organization that we know as the International Board on Books for Young People – IBBY – was proposed.

A year later *Jo* was a signatory on the inaugural protocol. She stayed as a member of the EC until 1968, serving as Vice President from 1964 to 1966. She was also one of the founders of IBBY Norway in 1956.

Her contribution to IBBY– worldwide and in Norway – has been great and we are forever in her debt: *Jo* will be deeply missed.

A longer article about the work of *Jo Tenfjord* will appear in issue 4/2007 of *Bookbird*.

IBBY Website

Short descriptions of the nine IBBY projects that were selected from the applications made to the IBBY-Yamada Fund can be found on the IBBY website: www.ibby.org. As the projects are realized we shall be posting reports and more information. The website is continually kept up-to-date with news of members, changes in contacts names and addresses, activities in the field of children's literature within IBBY and by others. If you have news of activities or have information to share, please inform the IBBY Secretariat: liz.page@ibby.org.

Did you know that the IBBY archives can easily be accessed through the website? There is a treasure trove of information to be found in our archives!

Membership News

IBBY Guatemala

At its recent meeting in Bologna, the IBBY Executive Committee accepted an application to establish an IBBY section in Guatemala. The section is based at the *Casa del Libro* in Lomas de San Jacinto.

The contact details are:

IBBY Guatemala
Casa del Libro
3a. Ave. 3-69 Zona 10
Mixco
Lomas de San Jacinto
Tel [int. +502] 24 35 07 24
Fax [int. +502] 23 66 59 57
E-mail: ibbyguate@gmail.com

Liaison Officers

Karen Wirtz and Irene Piedrasanta

IBBY Haiti

The Executive Committee also accepted an application to establish a section in Haiti.

Based in Port-au-Prince the new section can be contacted at:

IBBY Haiti
Editions CUC
Universite Caraïbe
Delmas 29#7
Port au Prince – Haiti
Tel [int. +509] 249 6941
Tel [int. +509] 249 6945
E-mail: editions@universitecaraibe.com

Liaison Officers

Jocelyne Trouillot and Frantzou Calixte

Former *Bookbird* editor, *Barbara Lehman* paid a visit to the group earlier this year and sent this report.

I met *Jocelyne Trouillot-Lévy*, the Rectrice at Université Caraïbe, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on Friday, 9 March, 2007. Jocelyne Trouillot-Lévy is not only the initiator of IBBY Haiti, but is also a prominent author (under her Creole name of Joslin Twouyo) for *Éditions Université Caraïbe*, a publisher of children's books, instructional materials, and other books in Creole, French, English, and Spanish. Her titles include the *Gougou* and *Jennjan* series and biographies of important Haitian historical figures.

As we sat in Trouillot-Lévy's office, she provided us with background about Haitian children's literature. She told us that the field is very recent – no more than twenty years old.

At first most children's books were published in French and only more recently in Creole, although most are still written in French and some are translated into Creole. Most books published for children are instructional materials, with Creole juvenile literature being very new. She estimated that perhaps 350-400 titles by Haitian authors are available in Haiti today, with about 10% now appearing in Creole.

This situation results from the status of the French and Creole languages, with French traditionally being the language of literacy and education.

About six years ago, the first children's book fair was held in Haiti, and *Éditions Université Caraïbe* was the only publisher that had books in Creole the first year. However, the number of such books has grown and spread to about thirty titles today. The day before our visit, the IBBY Haiti group, known as the *Li pou plezi* (Creole for 'Read for Pleasure') programme, sponsored a forum for university students, teachers, and parents on 'Girls and Women in Haitian Juvenile Literature' to celebrate International Women's Day. This group is comprised of several authors,

illustrators, university professors, and a commercial book publisher – about ten persons altogether.

They have secured the support of the Minister of Education, *Gabriel Bienaime*, and hope to attract more members in every province.

The group is discussing the possibility of organizing a book caravan to visit schools around the country in response to a central concern: the lack of children's books, particularly in Creole, is compounded by the difficulty of making such books accessible to children who need them. There are libraries in Port-au-Prince and a few in other major cities, but bookshops are mainly office supply stores with few books. What books are available to buy are second-hand titles sold on the streets, mostly from Canada.

Although Trouillot-Lévy views Haiti's challenges as a lack of books, the language barrier, and the use of outdated teaching methods in schools, she also believes that the situation is shifting. State exams have established the legitimacy of Creole much more firmly, with its spelling having been standardized since 1982. Also, there are far more children going to school now; thus there is greater need for Creole children's books. She hopes that such books will change the way too many children leave school without reading mastery by creating a love for and pleasure in reading. *Li pou plezi!*

Barbara Lehman, April 2007

IBBY Albania

Shpresa Vreto, President of IBBY Albania has been awarded the first SEEC (the South-East European Centre of Literature and Media for Children and Young People) prize for librarianship. The jury wrote: With the founding of the *Hermann Gmeiner* Home of Books for Children and Young People, *Shpresa Vreto* has realized her lifelong dream: to establish a modern and well-designed free-access library for children. Soon after its inauguration in 2000, this institution grew into more than a library – it also assumed the function of an educational and cultural centre, not only a

home for books but also a home for the children visiting it in their free time.

We warmly congratulate *Shpresa* on her achievement.



Education and Culture

The SEEC project is supported by the *Culture 2000* Programme of the European Union.

Indian Storytelling Conference

IBBY India / the *Association of Writers and Illustrators for Children (AWIC)*, is organizing its biennial three-day international conference that will showcase the art of storytelling and explore its role in promoting peace, cultural integration and the reading habit in children. The conference also aims to highlight the diverse traditions and cultural manifestations of storytelling. Each day the morning session will focus on the theoretical aspects of storytelling through paper and audio-visual presentations. Eminent personalities from all over the world will share their thoughts, ideas and experiences on the dissemination of stories through the ages.



When: 17 – 19 September 2007

Venue: India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

For more information visit the AWIC website www.awic.in or contact Ms *Shail Tiwari* (Convener) at awicbooks@yahoo.com / info@awic.in.

Hans Christian Andersen Award Candidates 2008

The Hans Christian Andersen Awards are presented every two years by IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) to an author and an illustrator whose complete works have made an important and lasting contribution to children's literature. IBBY National Sections from 35 countries have made their selections, submitting the following 30 authors and 30 illustrators as candidates for the 2008 Hans Christian Andersen Awards:

	<u>Author</u>	<u>Illustrator</u>
Argentina	Beatriz María Ana Ferro	Isol
Australia	Jackie French	Shaun Tan
Austria	Lene Mayer-Skumanz	Linda Wolfsgruber
Belgium	Anne Provoost	Kitty Crowther
Brazil	Bartolomeu Campos de Queirós	Rui de Oliveira
Canada	Brian Doyle	Pierre Pratt
China	Qin Wenjun	
Croatia	-	Svjetlan Junakóvic
Cyprus	Kika Pulcheriou	-
Czech Republic	Iva Procházková	Adolf Born
Denmark	Bjarne Reuter	Lilian Brøgger
Egypt	Fatima El Maadoul	-
Finland	Irmelin Sandman Lilius	Virpi Talvitie
France	Marie Desplechin	Claude Ponti
Germany	Peter Härtling	Jutta Bauer
Greece	Voula Mastori	Vassilis Papatsarouchas
Iceland	Gudrun Helgadóttir	-
Ireland	Kate Thompson	Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick
Italy	Mino Milani	Roberto Innocenti
Japan	Shuntaro Tanikawa	Akiko Hayashi
Lithuania	-	Kestutis Kasparavicius
Mexico	-	Mauricio Gómez Morín
Netherlands	Guus Kuijer	The Tjong-Khing
Romania	Iuliu Ratiu	Stan Done
Russia	-	Nickolay Popov
Serbia	Dragana Litricin-Dunic	-
Slovak Republic	Ján Navrátil	Olga Bajusová
Slovenia	-	Lila Prap
South Africa	Beverley Naidoo	Piet Grobler
Spain	María Asun Landa	Ulises Wensell
Sweden	Barbro Lindgren	Eva Eriksson
Switzerland	Jürg Schubiger	Hannes Binder
Turkey	Ayla Çınaroglu	Nazan Erkmen
United Kingdom	David Almond	Jan Pienkowski
USA	Lloyd Alexander	David Wiesner

IBBY Congress 2008

Paper Call for Seminar Sessions

The 31st IBBY World Congress
Copenhagen, Denmark, 7 – 10 September 2008

Congress Theme: Stories in History – History in Stories

The Congress Committee invites those interested in making a contribution to the Congress to apply for participation in a seminar session.

- These sessions will be in English only.
- Guaranteed speaking time: 12 minutes.

The purpose of the sessions is to provide an opportunity for the presentation of academic papers as well as non-academic reports, mainly in relation to the main theme of the congress, such as providing cases-in-point or presenting particular aspects.

Examples in random order:

- How does the cultural and ethnic heritage appear in children's books?
- Living in times of hardship: under war, suppression, deprivation, in exile, etc.
- Integration and socio-cultural conflicts
- Freedom of speech in children's books
- Religion and morality in children's books
- The relevance of myths and legends in contemporary society, e.g. the great Indian and other epics
- Children's reading in times of crisis
- Personal stories and biographies for children
- How has children's literature in different countries reflected the actual history of the country – and how has the historical experiences from various periods influenced stories for children?
- What happens to children's books if the official history of a country is rewritten; what happens in them?
- Prehistoric times and the time of myths and legends
- How does the oral storytelling influence the written?
- Relationships between the political reality and the culture(s) of a country, its contemporary stories and myths
- Holocaust and the aftermath
- Apartheid and reconciliation
- The slave trade and Africans in the Diaspora
- Other topics related to the main theme are welcome.

Besides seminars that deal with the congress themes, we invite presentations within the following topics:

- Children's stories and multimedia
- Literary awards
- Promotion of children's literature and reading
- Hans Christian Andersen

Storytelling

As it has become a tradition, we invite storytellers – not to talk about telling stories, but to tell stories – in particular legends, myths and other stories inspired by or related to history.

Requirements for presentations at the seminar sessions

Please email the following information to our programme subcommittee:

1. Topic – by way of a headline
2. Abstract – max. 200 words in English
3. Basic relevant biographical data
4. Contact details, including mailing address

All proposals received before 1 October 2007, will be answered by New Year at the latest.

Send by electronic mail to: Bent Rasmussen: bent.ras@stofanet.dk

It is understood that all seminar speakers pay the Congress registration fee.

IBBY Agenda July to October 2007

This is a brief overview of forthcoming important events

For more information and news of further events visit the IBBY website

www.ibby.org > IBBY Worldwide

July	Publication: Bookbird issue 3/2007
August	
19-23	IFLA Conference: Durban, South Africa: www.ifla.org
30	Deadline for participation in the Cuban IBBY biennial <i>Congreso Lectura 2007: Para Leer el XXI</i> : www.congresolectura2007.com
September	
4-16	7 th International Literature Festival Berlin: www.literaturfestival.com
17-19	International Conference on Storytelling: New Delhi: www.awic.in
27	2008 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award Jury meeting, Moscow.
28-30	IBBY Executive Committee meeting, Moscow.
October	
1	Deadline for seminar proposals for the 2008 IBBY Congress.
10-14	Frankfurt Book Fair. IBBY participation at the stand of the German IBBY Section: <i>Arbeitskreis für Jugendliteratur</i> www.buchmesse.de
12	Announcement of the winners of the German Youth Literature Award at the Frankfurt Book Fair: www.jugendliteratur.org

Visit the special IBBY Denmark website for all the latest Congress news: www.ibby2008.dk