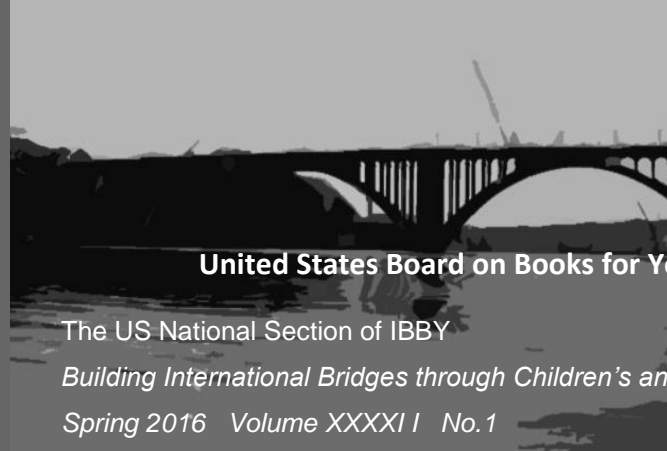


# bridges

A PUBLICATION  
OF USBBY



United States Board on Books for Young People

The US National Section of IBBY

*Building International Bridges through Children's and Young Adult Literature*

*Spring 2016 Volume XXXXI No.1*

**The 11<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference in October 2015, USBBY's first in New York City, was a tremendous success.**

**There were 273 registered for the conference; one of the largest number of attendees in the history of USBBY.**

**Thanks to Conference Chair, Doris Gebel, and the many willing USBBY New York members for all their efforts.**

**Continue reading for more details and photos!**



USBBY gives thankful acknowledgement to author and illustrator Chris Raschka for our unique USBBY logo.

## WHAT IS USBBY?

The United States Board on Books for Young People is the United States Section of the International Board on Books for Young People and is a place for those interested in national and international activities related to children's literature. USBBY publishes a semi-annual newsletter for its members, maintains an active website, sponsors regional conferences which feature speakers of international interest, and co-sponsors sessions held at conferences of the American Library Association, the International Literacy Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English. The USBBY provides a discounted rate to members for subscriptions to *Bookbird*, a quarterly international journal on literature for children. It encourages the provision of high quality literature for young people throughout the world, and it cooperates with organizations which have similar objectives.

## USBBY Board of Directors

Therese Bigelow, President (through 2017)  
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Jim Stiles, Treasurer (through 2017)  
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V. Ellis Vance, Executive Director

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#### (Center for Teaching through Children's Books)

Junko Yokota, CTCB Director

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Björn Sundmark, Editor, *Bookbird*  
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Glenna Sloan, *Bookbird* Correspondent  
V. Ellis Vance, Liaison to IBBY Executive Committee

## TO JOIN

To join USBBY and to receive your copy of *Bridges*, please send a check for \$50.00 or more, depending on the membership option you select, to USBBY Membership, c/o: Ellis Vance, 5503 N. El Adobe Dr., Fresno, CA 93711-2363. Annual dues for the various options are listed with the membership form on the back cover of this publication. You may also join online at [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org).

## SUBMITTING ARTICLES AND NEWS TO BRIDGES

The editor considers email announcements, manuscripts, and press releases related to national and international children's literature. Please double-space and incorporate references into text. Submit electronically using Microsoft Word format if possible. Supply complete titles of books with bibliographic references. Include author's name, address, and affiliation on the first page of the manuscript. Deadlines for submissions are July 15 and January 15. Editor contact information: Dr. Nancy L. Hadaway, Email: [hadaway@uta.edu](mailto:hadaway@uta.edu)

## From the USBBY President Therese Bigelow

### Spring 2016

Hi All,

I am honored, thrilled and nervous about starting my first year as USBBY President. Kathy East and Janelle Mathis are hard acts to follow.

The year kicked off at ALA midwinter with the introduction of the 2016 Outstanding International Booklist. The committee headed by Terry Hong did a wonderful job of highlighting their favorite books on the list. Patricia Aldana and Oralia Cortes updated the audience on The Children on the Border Project. Contact Patricia or Oralia for more information on how you can help. Author Ruta Sepetys closed out the evening introducing us to her newest novel *Salt to the Sea* based on the sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff as World War II is ending. Thanks to Board Member Wendy Stephens for arranging this and to Penguin for sponsoring Ruta.

USBBY will be sponsoring programs at ALA in June, ILA in July and NCTE in November. Be sure to spread the word.

Check the IBBY website for more information about the upcoming IBBY Congress in Auckland New Zealand in late August. Congress attendance is an unusual opportunity to meet with others who care about children and books and to see the legacy of Jella Lepman up close.

And finally planning has begun for the IBBY Regional Conference set for October 2017 in Seattle on the campus of the University of Washington. Ed Sullivan is heading up the planning committee and welcomes your ideas. Cecilia McGowan is handling the local arrangement

One final reminder to all, please let me know if you are interested in a committee assignment. The form is available online or you can email me at [tbigelow1@me.com](mailto:tbigelow1@me.com).

**Therese Bigelow, USBBY President, 2016-2017**

### Gift Cards Available for Donations to USBBY's Special Projects

For special occasions, speaker's gifts, or other times when you wish to honor someone, consider a donation to one of USBBY's projects such as the Children in Crisis Fund. Special cards have been created to send to recipients acknowledging your gift in their honor. For further information or to make a donation, please contact Ellis Vance at [Executive.Director@usbby.org](mailto:Executive.Director@usbby.org).

## Executive Director Update

Submitted by V. Ellis Vance, USBBY Executive Director

2015 was a very good year for USBBY and moving into 2016 looks as promising.

**USBBY continues to work to retain its loyal members by providing exciting activities and opportunities, while striving to add new members each year.** Ninety new members joined USBBY in 2015 and during the first part of 2016; 61 joined as a result of the 2015 IBBY Regional Conference in New York City. Our current membership also includes 17 student members and 26 authors and illustrators.

This is the result of the efforts of our USBBY Board members led last year by President, Janelle Mathis, our State Ambassadors led by Evie Freeman and Kathy Short, and our many college and university professors who promote student membership in their classes.

Of course we continue to appreciate our long time Patron Members, the American Library Association, the Children's Book Council, the International Literacy Association, and the National Council of Teachers of English, who support USBBY in many ways.

**If you are not a current member of USBBY or have let your membership lapse, please consider joining by going to the USBBY website, [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org), Join USBBY.**

**The 11<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference in October 2015, USBBY's first in New York City, turned out to be a tremendous success.** This was due to the magnificent work and untiring efforts of Doris Gebel, a former USBBY president and Conference Chairperson, Janelle Mathis, USBBY President, members of the USBBY Board, the Secretariat (Katie Raby and Junko Yokota), and the many willing USBBY New York members. **273 registered for the conference; one of the largest number of attendees in the history of USBBY.**

With the theme, *Through the Looking Glass: Exploring the Wonderland of International Children's Literature*, we were all treated to a rich array of topics and speakers. Among them were Kate DeCamillo, National Ambassador for Young People's Literature; author and USBBY member Leonard Marcus; a Conversation About Illustration moderated by United States illustrator, Paul Zelinsky, with Lisbeth Zwerger (Austria), Roger Mello (Brazil) and Francois Place (France), IBBY Hans Christian Andersen Award winners and nominees; A Conversation About Translation moderated by Claudia Bedrick with translators Ajia (Chinese), Laura Watkinson (Danish), and Mara Lethem (Spanish and Catalan); and a Conversation About Graphic Novels moderated by U.S. author and illustrator Mark Siegel with graphic novelist author/illustrators Gene Luen Yang, Francois Mouly, Liniers, Na Liu, and Andres Vera Martinez; and a panel of authors and illustrators speaking about Eastern European and Russian Children's Books in the Post-Soviet Era, moderated by Olga Bukhina with presenters Sibylla Shekserdjiska (Bulgaria), Rob Rayevsky (Russian-American), and Dorota Michulka (Poland).

The 2015 Dorothy Briley speaker was U.S. acclaimed author and Newberry Award Winner, Susan Cooper and the final General Session was highlighted by author and 2010 Hans Christian

Andersen Award Winner, David Almond (UK). We were also thrilled to hear very moving talks presented by USBBY's nominees for the 2016 Hans Christian Andersen Awards, author Lois Lowry and illustrator Chris Raschka. Along with 24 Breakout Sessions, 21 Poster Sessions, 9 Book Discussion Groups, and 6 Exhibitions of international children's books, authors, and illustrators, it was a very rich and exciting conference indeed!

USBBY was also honored to have as our guests, IBBY President Wally de Doncker (Belgium), IBBY Hans Christian Andersen Jury President Patricia Aldana (Canada), IBBY Executive Director Liz Page (Switzerland), IBBY Bookbird Journal Editor Bjorn Sundmark, International Youth Library Director Christiane Raabe, Nami International Illustrators Concours Director Fred Minn (South Korea), and REFORMA Past President and Children in Crisis on the Border Project Director Oralía Garza de Cortes (U.S.). **It was truly an international conference of magnificent proportions and one of the most outstanding regional conferences in history! General Session programs were videotaped and are available on the USBBY website.**

**If you attended or didn't attend the 11<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference, you won't want to miss the 12<sup>th</sup> IBBY Regional Conference to be held in Seattle, Washington, October 20-22, 2017.** Under the leadership of current USBBY President, Therese Bigelow, and her local team, plans are moving forward for another outstanding conference to be held at the University of Washington. The Briley Dinner and Lecture will take place at the water view Mountaineers Club and the headquarters hotel will be the Hotel Deca offering very reasonable lodging rates. The Conference Program Committee is chaired by USBBY Board Member Ed Sullivan who, with his team, will put together another tremendous conference program. So start saving your money and join us in Seattle in 2017! You won't want to miss another great regional conference!

**USBBY is seeking a partnership with SCBWI (Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators) on projects of mutual benefit and interest.** This is especially important in providing more opportunities for an even better collaboration between our current membership and children's authors and illustrators. We hope it will also help to facilitate USBBY's greater participation in international children's competitions such as the Bratislava International Biennial Competition and Exhibition (BIB) and the Nami Island International Illustrators Concours in Korea.

**The IBBY Hans Christian Andersen Awards Jury met in Switzerland in January and the short list of nominees has been announced with the winning author and illustrator to be announced at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in April.** Congratulations to 2016 U.S. nominees **Lois Lowry (author) and Chris Raschka (illustrator).** **Lowry has been selected by the Jury for the short list of author nominees.** Many thanks to the U.S. nominating committee headed by Angelica Carpenter and Carolyn Angus for selecting such worthy and outstanding nominees and preparing the dossiers to represent the U.S. The complete list of nominees is posted on the USBBY website, [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org).

**Plans are progressing toward a very successful IBBY World Congress in Auckland, New Zealand, August 18-21, 2016.** The theme is *Literature in a Multi-Literate World*. For more up to

date information about the program, registration, and hotel accommodations, go to the Congress website, [www.ibbycongress2016.org](http://www.ibbycongress2016.org). You won't want to miss the opportunity to attend this outstanding congress and to visit the beautiful country of New Zealand!

**Evie Freeman, former USBBY Board Secretary and former IBBY Bookbird Journal Editor, has been nominated by the USBBY to serve a second term on the IBBY Executive Committee from 2016-2018.** National Sections will elect the new IBBY EC at the IBBY World Congress General Assembly in Auckland in August.

**USBBY is continuing to work with IBBY, IBBY Mexico, and REFORMA, the Latino Librarians branch of ALA on the plight of Children in Crisis on the U.S. Border.** Oralia Garza de Cortes, former President of REFORMA and USBBY long-time member and Patsy Aldana, President of the IBBY Foundation have "called for the library and broader community to recognize the rights of the thousands of Central American refugees, over 50,000 of whom have arrived in the United States seeking refugee status in the past year and a half."

"In August 2015 a delegation from IBBY and REFORMA went to the Rio Grande Valley to try to understand what was happening with these children. Following meetings with Catholic Charities, the Border Patrol, and Southwest Key, a not for profit that houses these children and places them with families in the U.S., the conclusion was reached that the best way for the community to support these children was to connect them to the public library system. Refugee children and those whose societies are destroyed by conflict and post conflict situations have almost no chance to thrive and grow. This is unacceptable! We are calling for everyone in the library and book community to join us to give these children who are suffering the chance they deserve to live good, positive lives."

"We are calling on

1. Libraries to support these children by providing them a library card, supporting them in getting access to information as to legal, social and community services, and devising programs of bibliotherapy to assist these highly traumatized children to deal with their experiences. REFORMA is creating a TOOLKIT that will help libraries respond adequately to these children in their community. **[see the document that follows]**
2. Publishers to donate books in Spanish or bilingual Spanish/English books for these children.
3. Everyone to advocate and support these children who are refugees from some of the world's most dangerous countries to integrate into this new country where they have come seeking refuge.
4. To make a financial donation please visit the REFORMA or USBBY website. [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org)." *From a news release by Oralia Garza de Cortes, 01/08/2016.*

Donations solicited on the USBBY website can be paid directly to REFORMA or to USBBY designated for the Children in Crisis on the U.S. Border. **To date, \$2,520 has been received from USBBY donors for this Refugee Children in Crisis Project. Please continue to donate. The need is very great and gratefully received!**

**REFORMA's**  
**CHILDREN IN CRISIS IMMIGRATION TOOLKIT FOR LIBRARIES**

With the large number of immigrants arriving into the United States from Central American and other regions libraries will be called on to offer more diverse services. It's critical that libraries present a welcoming environment where these new arrivals will feel a sense of belonging. Many of these refugees have fled dangerous situations and many have no concept of what services a library can provide. It is incumbent on library staff at all levels to rethink how we offer services and to be flexible in how they address the needs of users who are sometimes still living in social service shelters as they attempt to be reunified with family members here in the U.S.

REFORMA has been working with the Children in Crisis project since the Summer 2014 and we have discovered a number of "tips" that we think might help in serving the refugee community and in particular the Children in Crisis who have arrived as unaccompanied minors. Please review the "tips" below and should you encounter a refugee child in your library, please attempt to help them learn about the positive impact libraries can have on their lives at so many levels. If you have questions about how to better serve these communities or how to get more involved, please contact the Reforma Co-Chairs of the Children in Crisis project at: <http://refugeechildren.wix.com/refugee-children#!contact-us/c1z0xz>

**SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES:**

- Create and maintain a list of pro bono lawyers and/or legal services and local support groups for the refugee community.
- Provide library tours in their languages for refugees/immigrants or the administrators of the shelters that house them.
- Make contact with detention centers, group homes and refugee shelters for asylum seekers. Work with staff at these facilities to determine their needs.
- Work with local religious and legal defense organizations that interact with the immigrant community to better identify opportunities to serve refugees and to support these organizations in their work.
- Offer tours for refugee/immigrant community members who may not have been in a library before, acquainting them with all the services offered at your library and offering them library cards. **[see the flyer/poster that follows advertising library cards]**
- Provide citizenship classes in multiple languages.
- Create and support portable libraries within the refugee and immigration centers so that the children have increased access to books where they are being housed.

- Offer English language courses and/or English conversational classes (often led by volunteers).
- Display “Welcome” signs, library activities and other information throughout the library in the languages spoken by the immigrant communities.
- Hire bilingual, bicultural library staff. Recruit bilingual volunteers. Make a telephone list of library staff members who speak other languages.
- Smile, sincerely. You will be speaking the universal language of kindness.
- Assume no prior knowledge of libraries or lending policies.
- Provide library card application forms and orientation materials in the refugees’ native languages.
- Learn how to retrieve foreign language materials and resources at your library – what search terms to use in your library’s catalog, i.e., SUBJECT: Spanish Language Materials.
- Know the holidays and festivals celebrated in the immigrant communities. Create displays to acknowledge and commemorate these.
- Contact your state, local, municipal and social service agencies; ask for information materials printed in other languages for public distribution. Locate online resources offering other language information, such as the Internal Revenue Service, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, etc.
- Get to know the community newspaper editor or reporters of other language weeklies: They can provide free newspapers and translate and publish your program calendar in the paper’s community calendar.
- Provide links and information about other community organizations and resources that can help refugees on their journey.
- When working on library events like summer reading programs, remember that some of these children may be moving on before the program ends. Consider conducting an Offsite Summer Reading Program where you provide the prizes to the shelter and shelter staff monitors the program and award prizes to youth.
- If you are working with children in a temporary shelter situation attempt to help them locate the public library that will be local to them when they are reunified with their family here in the U.S.
- Work with the educators at the shelters to get an idea of what genres of books are being requested and what the reading levels are for the children in their facility. Find out what their



curriculum needs are and how you can best assist them to maintain a flexible curriculum for youth coming and going from the shelter.

- Hold book donation drives for refugees in your community in their native languages. In particular request bilingual publications that will allow them to enjoy their native tongue at the same time that they are learning English.
- Highlight opportunities for your community members to donate money, books or time to help welcome refugees to your community. Seek grant opportunities available that can assist with funding for purchasing books that refugee youth can take with them or can be part of an “honor system” collection.
- Make community space available for refugee children to interact with local youth to discuss their different experiences.
- Create guides to social and government services that refugees will find useful in your community.
- Open local dialogs with community and government agencies providing services to the refugee community so that we can provide more visibility for their services and so that those agencies become more aware of the role that libraries can play in orienting refugees to our community.
- Create opportunities for refugees to talk about and present their homelands to local users.
- Connect refugees with mentors in the community who can assist them.
- Create “programs in a box” in multiple languages that can be implemented during visits from or to refugee/immigrant youth shelters.
- If a camera and printer is available, take pictures of youth visiting the library and print them out for them to take a copy of their picture with them. Oftentimes refugee/immigrant youth housed in shelters don’t have many personal belongings and having a photo of themselves or with their peers is a memory they can take with them. **Please be aware of privacy and security issues and ask permission of refugee/immigrant youth and shelter leaders prior to taking any pictures.**

**SOURCES:**

Denver Library – Services to New Immigrants  
<https://www.denverlibrary.org/services-immigrants>

How to Serve the World at Your Library – ALA Publication

<http://www.ala.org/offices/olos/toolkits/servetheworld/servetheworldhome>

Library Services for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

<https://www.goethe.de/en/kul/bib/20622325.html>

Omaha Public Library reaching out to new immigrants and refugees

[http://www.omaha.com/news/goodnews/omaha-public-library-reaching-out-to-new-immigrants-and-refugees/article\\_f43ae9cb-2e24-5dd7-931e-092519f4faa3.html](http://www.omaha.com/news/goodnews/omaha-public-library-reaching-out-to-new-immigrants-and-refugees/article_f43ae9cb-2e24-5dd7-931e-092519f4faa3.html)

Public Libraries in Europe Welcome Refugees

<http://www.eblida.org/special-event.html>

Welcoming Refugees to the UK (and to Libraries)

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/blog/welcoming-refugees-uk-libraries>

#### **USBBY Membership Levels**

There are several levels of membership in USBBY. Consider upgrading to a higher level in order to help with the many important USBBY initiatives.

<b>Basic</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
<b>Sustaining</b>	<b>\$ 75</b>
<b>Donor</b>	<b>\$ 150</b>
<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>

**Al niño viajero  
A la niña viajera  
Al padre viajero o la madre viajera**

La Biblioteca Pública es un lugar donde tú puedes encontrar muchas cosas que te serán muy útiles y agradables en tu nueva vida. ¡Y es gratis!

- Libros
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- Clubes de lectura
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- Bibliotecarias y bibliotecarios que te puedan ayudar a ubicarte.

Lleva este documento a la biblioteca más cercana y pídeles que te den una tarjeta bibliotecaria que te permitirá acceder a todas estas riquezas. Esta tarjeta se llama **LIBRARY CARD** en inglés. Y es gratis.

Por favor, puedo obtener una Tarjeta Bibliotecaria? He venidos a los Estados Unidos para pedir refugio.

Please may I have a Library Card? I have come to the United States to seek asylum.



**To the travelling child  
To the travelling parent**

The Public Library is a place where you can find many things that will be very useful and fun in your new life. And it is free!

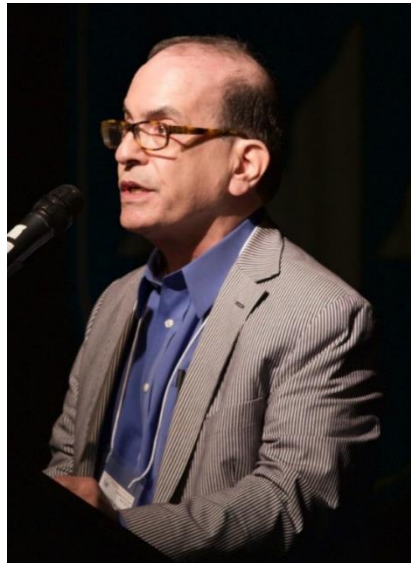
- Books
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- Help with homework
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Take this document to the nearest public library and ask them to give you a **LIBRARY CARD** that will let you have access to all these riches. This card is called **LIBRARY CARD** in English. And it is free.

**Scenes from the 11<sup>th</sup> IBBY Regional Conference,  
New York, October 2015**



**President Janelle Mathis welcomes everyone**



**Second General Session,  
Alice, Milo and the Freedom to be a Child presented by Leonard Marcus**



**Third General Session**

**A Conversation about Illustration, moderated by Paul O. Zelinsky with illustrators Roger Mello (Brazil), François Place (France), and Lisbeth Zwerger (Austria)**



**Fourth General Session**

**A Conversation about Translation, moderated by Claudia Bedrick with translators Aja (Chinese), Laura Watkinson (Danish), and Mara Lethem (Spanish and Catalan)**



**Fifth General Session**

**A Conversation about Graphic Novels, moderated by Mark Siegel, author, illustrator, and editorial director of First Second Books (Macmillan) with Gene Luen Yang, author-illustrator of *American Born Chinese*; Françoise Mouly, publisher and editorial director of TOON Books with Liniers author of *Big Wet Balloon* and Na Liu and Andrés Vera Martínez author-illustrators of *Little White Duck***



**Dorothy Briley Lecture**

**Susan Cooper, "Beyond the Walls of the World"**





**Alida Cutts Lifetime Membership Award awarded to John Mason and presented by Alida Cutts, former USBBY Executive Secretary**



**IBBY/REFORMA Children in Crisis on the Border Project, presented by Patsy Aldana, IBBY Foundation President and Oralía Garza de Cortés, REFORMA, Past President**



**Sixth General Session**  
**Introducing the 2016 US Nominees for**  
**the Hans Christian Andersen Award Chris Raschka and Lois Lowry**



**Seventh General Session**  
**Eastern European and Russian Children's Books in the Post -Soviet Era, moderated by Olga**  
**Bukhina with presenters Sibylla Shekerdjiska (Bulgaria); Rob Rayevsky (Russian-American**  
**artist); Dorota Michułka, University of Wrocław (Poland)**





**Final Session**  
**David Almond, winner of the 2010 Hans Christian Andersen Award**



**Dr. Christiane Raabe, Director, International Youth Library  
and IBBY Bookbird Journal Editor Bjorn Sundmark**



**Breakout Session Presenter, Marc Aronson**



**Author Margarita Engle autographing books**

**USBBY REGIONAL CONFERENCE (16-18 October 2015)**  
**LÉMAN MANHATTAN PREPARATORY SCHOOL, NEW YORK CITY**  
**SPEECH IBBY PRESIDENT WALLY DE DONCKER**

Dear friends

It is an honour to address you here today. In 1919, my grandfather and some of his brothers migrated to East-Moline in Illinois to start working in the factories of John Deere. He told me a lot of stories about it. Two years later, he returned to Belgium to persuade the love of his life, my grandmother, to move to America. However, my grandmother refused to move and so my grandfather didn't return to East-Moline. In hindsight, he made the right choice. They loved each other to bits.

During my childhood, Flanders was inundated by American culture. TV-shows such as *The Flintstones*, *Dennis the Menace*, *Donald Duck*, Walt Disney productions and even *Comedy Capers* were aired daily. I devoured books during my childhood and read dozens of American novels that were translated into Dutch: novels based on TV-shows such as *Zorro*, but also *The Hardy Boys*, *Buffalo Bill* and countless comic books. Too many to sum up... Most European children looked up to the acclaimed Americans who had freed Europe from two terrible World Wars – Belgium was the battlefield – and who had been able to land on the moon. Not just children revered the Americans, adults also indulged in the U.S. frenzy. We installed American kitchens and my mother wore, like many other Belgian women, a golden necklace with the image of President Kennedy. He was considered somewhat of a saint back then.

But the belief in American culture began to fade when we were able to follow the daily war reports from Vietnam. Slowly, it became clear that the applauded President Kennedy also had a darker side.

You might be wondering what this personal introduction has to do with IBBY! Well, much more than you might expect.

The years in which IBBY was founded are very much related to America and it was Jella Lepman who played a big role in this relationship.

Just before World War II IBBY's founder Jella Lepman had seen the books of Erich Kästner and others thrown onto bonfires – books and reading were dangerous.

Lepman, born in 1891 as the daughter of a Jewish clothing manufacturer in Stuttgart, fled to Great Britain in 1935. When she returned to her native land in

1945, she did so in the uniform of the U.S. Army Advisor for Women's and Youth Affairs.

She was a woman of astute political views who aggressively sought out scarce material resources to realize her vision of an International Children's Book Exhibition. She was determined that these books should serve both as a model for possible future publication in Germany, and as a sobering reminder of how much Germany had isolated itself under Hitler. The success of this endeavour encouraged her to turn the temporary traveling exhibition into a permanent library. For this, however, she needed financial support.

Lepman's resolute personality intersected with the nascent political and philanthropic post-war agenda of the Rockefeller Foundation. In 1947, the New York-based foundation announced its ambitious *Program for European Recovery* to assist the reconstruction of West European universities and research institutions devastated by the war.

Lepman successfully tapped into the Foundation's resources and received a travel grant to go to the United States to raise money and materials for her project to establish an international library.

The International Youth Library was established in 1949 and was admired by Germans and Americans alike, from author Erich Kastner and the German Federal President Theodor Heuss to Eleanor Roosevelt, and was praised by its patrons at the Rockefeller Foundation as one of their most significant contributions to West German reorientation and world peace. The Rockefeller Foundation's support of the International Youth Library represented a unique moment in its own history when it extended its mandate beyond the patronage of pure scholarly and scientific research. For her part, Jella Lepman never allowed the Foundation to dictate her actions. Instead, she adapted and rejected, reshaped and manipulated her patron's attempts to influence her cause.

After the founding of the IYL, IBBY soon followed and since its creation in 1953 IBBY has steadily grown. As you all know, it has not always been easy to find funding. Still, the initiatives kept on coming and IBBY evolved into what it is today – 77 national sections all over the world. It represents countries with well-developed book publishing and literacy programmes, and other countries with only a few dedicated professionals who are doing pioneer work in children's book publishing and promotion.

IBBY has accomplished a lot over the years. But we still have to work very hard, because I am rather worried about what the future may bring.



One of our objectives is battling illiteracy. IBBY takes this battle further than most other NGO's who are concerned with the promotion of learning to read. IBBY wants to promote a reading culture and give every child the opportunity to become a life-long reader and this is only possible if the child enjoys reading.

As a world organization, we have to keep arguing that reading is a basic right for everyone. To be able to read, good materials, such as poetry books, novels, picture books, have to be available to all children. Recently, a librarian told me that we are creating a new elite, by which he meant that children who enjoy reading could do so because their parents have the means to buy books. IBBY must continue to advocate for all children to have the right to great literature; this includes children from underprivileged families, immigrant children, refugees, disabled children and sick children. Those who cannot (or may not) read are excluded. As the cornerstone of development, literacy unlocks human potential. It leads to better health, better employment opportunities and safer and more stable societies. In short, literacy matters – to children, adults and nations.

To Jella Lepman, the most important mission of IBBY was the promotion of mutual understanding between nations through good literature for children. In a globalized world, this should be self-evident. There are a few signs that tell us that we are succeeding in this mission as nations start to work together on economic, environmental, emigrational and cultural levels. However, there are also many countries torn apart by conflict.

I would like to thank the people of USBBY for their extraordinary efforts within IBBY. Fellow speakers always advise against calling out names, because you are sure to forget someone. However, this time I would like to put Ellis Vance in the spotlight. Ellis has served on the IBBY Executive Committee since 2006 and was appointed treasurer of IBBY International in 2008 and I would like to thank him for his motivated and heart-warming dedication to IBBY.

Twinning is a concept promoted by IBBY that signifies a special mutually beneficial relationship between two national sections. Currently, USBBY has such twinning partnerships with the national sections of Haiti, Lebanon, Palestine, South Africa, and Zambia.

During the 2012 IBBY General Assembly in London, the IBBY members approved the introduction of a formal commitment to the principles of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child as ratified by the United Nations in 1990 to the current IBBY Statutes. Because of that action it is our responsibility to uphold these rights.

USBBY is an advocate of children's rights despite the fact that the USA is the only country in the world that has not yet ratified the International Convention on the Rights of the Child (Somalia and Sudan ratified the convention this year). USBBY has started a petition to push through the ratification. However, this proves to be very difficult.

Eleanor Roosevelt has a very strong connection to Jella Lepman. Eleanor Roosevelt was the chairman of the Human Rights Committee of the United Nations, the driving force behind the creation of the Charter of Liberties of 1948, which will forever be her legacy, this became *The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Right up to the end of her life, she pleaded for the acceptance and implementation of the rights as described in the Universal Declaration. The legacy of her words and work is traceable in the constitutions of countless countries and in the ever-evolving international law that today protects the rights of men and women all over the world.

The International Convention on the Rights of the Child is based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

IBBY protects the rights of the child when needed. When these rights are being violated, we will always choose to protect the child. Political agendas do not impress us when it comes to the rights of children. IBBY Italy gave us an exquisite example when they chose to help the flood of child refugees arriving on the small island of Lampedusa in the Mediterranean. The political leaders of Europe had not moved an inch by the time the international community of IBBY rallied around this project.

More recently USBBY, IBBY Mexico, IBBY International, the American Library Association, the Texas Library Association and REFORMA have called on the US Government to care for the thousands of unaccompanied refugee children and families after they cross the Mexican/USA border on their incredible journeys from their war-torn and violent homelands in search of a place to live and grow. Upon their release from the detainment facilities we ask the Government to allow them access to appropriate books, to have contact with Spanish-speaking librarians who are trained in bibliotherapy, and to ensure that their well being is monitored as they are processed through the system. Books and reading save lives and give traumatised children a chance to become whole, contributing citizens as they grow up.

But it does not stop here. IBBY takes it up a notch. It is unacceptable that there are countries in this day and age in which girls are banned from reading or even learning to read. It is unacceptable that some countries destroy children's libraries with impunity. It is also unacceptable that many children are unable to read at an adequate level after finishing primary school. It remains

unacceptable that children's libraries are being closed because of financial cutbacks, thus rendering books inaccessible to children from underprivileged families. Every child has the right to read.

Amanda Craig wrote in the British newspaper, *The Independent* on 23 June 2015, that we are now living in a Golden Age of children's literature. The First Golden Age started in the 1850s thanks to the increasing status of children. The Second Golden Age, which fed the imagination of the baby boomers, ran roughly from the 1950s to the 1970s, and is quite different in that it reverberated with a new moral consciousness. This Third Golden Age is ripe with an extraordinary amount of talent. It is an enormous field, and is publishing vastly more books of all kinds. What might once have been called comics are now graphic novels and are treated seriously. iPads have enabled books to become animated, with sound, music, special pop-up features that young children especially love to explore. The creative potential of books in a visual sense is growing all the time. We have never had so much access to so much information, and we have never had so many ways of enjoying it through story. Really, this is an astounding time in which to be a reader!

We must present a front against the increasing commercialization of children's and youth literature. We must refuse to consider young readers as commercial products. We want to cherish them by giving them quality literature and illustrations.

"One of the fascinating things about children's literature is that it's a barometer of the times. You can use it to take the cultural temperature. I can't understand why no-one's been interested in this before!" wrote Rosemary Goring her column in the Scottish newspaper *The Herald Scotland*.

Just like Rosemary Goring, I cannot understand the lack of interest in children's literature. I am often staggered by the fact that some of the leading people in the literary community know so little about children's and youth literature. In my opinion, children's books are the best ambassadors of a country and culture.

A recent UN report states that 775 million people – the population of the whole of Europe – are functionally illiterate. In other words, they lack the basic reading and writing skills to manage daily living and employment tasks. The number of out-of-school children and adolescents is on the rise, standing at 124 million worldwide – while some 250 million children of primary school age are failing to master basic literacy skills even while attending school. These figures really are cause for concern.

The World Literacy Foundation (WLF) has warned that illiteracy is “a worldwide crisis” that will cost the global economy 1.2 trillion dollars this year – 1.2 trillion dollars!

The same Foundation has put forward that a global body should be created to manage resources for international literacy initiatives.

Children’s reading skills must be improved at an early age to combat illiteracy.

Well, IBBY has been working on this for more than sixty years. The UN report and the findings of the WLF show that the importance of IBBY will grow in the future.

Thank you for your attention!

Wally De Doncker, 11 September 2015

**ANNOUNCING**  
**YALSA’s 2016 Young Adult Services Symposium**

YALSA’s 2016 YA Services Symposium will be held Nov. 4 – 6 in Pittsburgh, PA. It will gather together school and public library staff, educators, researchers, young adult authors and other teen advocates to discuss the role of libraries in empowering teens within the library and beyond. The event will pursue answers to such questions as: How can libraries leverage teen talent and expertise within the library and out in the community? What are best practices in designing youth participation opportunities for and with teens, including teens that are not regular library users? How can libraries best connect with community agencies to provide youth-driven services and programs that meet teen needs and solve community problems? In what ways can empowering teens through libraries address such issues as equity and inclusion? What knowledge and skills do library staff need in order to actively engage teens of all backgrounds in youth-driven services and programs? What existing resources can libraries leverage in order to engage and empower teens of all backgrounds? For more information, go to <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/yasymposium>



**CELEBRATING  
USBBY Members  
with 25 continuous years or more of membership**

**Members since 1985 (30 years):**

Junko Yokota

**Members since 1987 (28 years):**

Deborah Pope

Dorothy Solomon

Ann Beneduce

Margaret Jensen

Katherine Paterson

Carl Tomlinson

**Members since 1988 (27 years):**

Betsy Hearne

Amy Kellman

Barbara Maxwell

Susan Stan

Barbara Barstow

Roslyn Beitler

Rebecca Burgess

Grace Ruth

Barbara Lehman

M. Jerry Weiss

Anne Pellowski

Alida Cutts

**Members since 1989 (26 years):**

Susan Patron

Maureen White

Holly Willett

Laura Robb

## IN MEMORIAM



**Eliza Dresang** (from <http://eliza.ischool.uw.edu/>) On 4/21/2014, USBBY and the children's literature community lost a friend and colleague, Eliza Dresang, Eliza held the endowed Beverly Cleary Professorship in Children and Youth Services at the University of Washington iSchool. Her research, teaching, and service focused on the information behavior and resources of digital youth. She earned her Ph.D. in Library and Information Studies from University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1981, and her Masters in Library Science from University of California, Los Angeles. She came to the iSchool in 2008 from Florida State University.

She was widely known for her 1999 book, *Radical Change: Books for Youth in a Digital Age*, which helped countless librarians and teachers better understand and evaluate literature created for computer-savvy children. Her most current research, Project VIEWS2, funded through the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and in partnership with the Washington state public libraries and schools, focused on measuring early literacy outcomes for children from birth to entering kindergarten.

Dr. Dresang chaired the Newbery Award, Pura Belpré Award, Batchelder Award, and the Notable Children's Books committees, and served on the Jane Addams Children's Book Award, Caldecott Award, Great Websites for Children, and Notable Audiobooks committees.



**Andrea Cheng** died December 26th, 2015. She was a devoted supporter of USBBY, teacher, author, and friend of many. She is survived by her mother Mary Kartal, husband Jim Cheng, children Nicholas, Jane, and Ann, brother Andrew, sister Annette, and family and friends. In the past she had both presented and attended IBBY regional meetings as well as speaking at co-sponsored events. We will certainly miss her presence and her writing. Her obituary can be read

at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/cincinnati/obituary.aspx?n=andrea-cheng&pid=177053136>

**Spotlight on Longtime USBBY Member  
My Memories of USBBY  
by Alida Cutts**



I grew up in Germany and in school my favorite subjects were always foreign languages. After I got the equivalent of a B.A. there, I went to the University of Colorado and got my Masters. In 1964 I spent a year in New York City, as part of a two person writing team for a new German textbook series using the then new audio lingual method. In 1969 my family moved to Delaware, and in 1978 I started working at the International Reading Association. I was hired in part because of my knowledge of Spanish, as IRA was just starting a reading journal in Buenos Aires, *Lectura y Vida*, edited by Maria Elena Rodriguez, who became a lifelong friend.

At that time, John Donovan, director of the Children's Book Council in New York City, was in charge of Friends of IBBY, as USBBY was then called. He asked my boss, Ralph Staiger, if IRA would be willing to take over this function, as CBC had very limited staff. We did, and I agreed to serve in this function as well.

I loved Friends of IBBY/USBY from the beginning. The Board members are very dedicated. We all share a love of children's books from all countries! I took notes at the Board meetings, until an official secretary was appointed as part of the Board. Meetings were held at CBC, and at the conventions of ALA, IRA, and NCTE. At these conventions, and at the Bologna Book Fair, I met many international members from various IBBY sections throughout the world. Some became lifelong friends, such as Liz Page from the IBBY Secretariat in Basel, Switzerland, Gaby Vallejo of Bolivia to name just a few.

When IBBY approved the 1990 IBBY Congress for Williamsburg, VA, Ralph Staiger and I agreed we should attend the 1988 congress in Tokyo, in preparation for 1990. This was a unique experience; we met with the organizers repeatedly and they shared their experiences generously. This certainly helped to make the US congress a success and we were pleased to share the profit with IBBY. Again I enjoyed meeting many new USBBY members as well as many from other sections who were able to participate.

Since then I attended the IBBY congresses in Colombia, Switzerland, Spain, and Denmark. Again the highlights at all were meeting IBBY members from around the world, including many authors and illustrators.

My assistant, Barbara Miriello, was a tremendous help with the Secretariat throughout the years. This function was later moved to Junko Yokota's office.

A wonderful surprise for me was when the Board established the Alida Cutts USBBY Lifetime Membership Award, of which I was the first recipient. And when it was time for me to retire, I was presented with a wonderful, whimsical drawing of my name, by the same illustrator who designed the USBBY design, Chris Raschka. The framed colorful picture hangs in my family room, and whenever I look at it, I remember the many friends I have in IBBY and USBBY. These are wonderful memories!



**Alida with a few of her USBBY friends at the IBBY Regional in New York**

## ***Bookbird: A Journal of International Children's Literature***

**Bookbird** is open to any topic in the field of international children's literature. The editor will also include themed issues and will post calls for manuscripts on the IBBY website.

Manuscript format: Word for Windows as an email attachment; Manuscript length: Up to 4000 words Editorial contact information: Please send a copy of your manuscript to the editor, Björn Sundmark ([bjorn.sundmark@mah.se](mailto:bjorn.sundmark@mah.se))

### **CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS from the Editors of *The Dragon Lode***

Email manuscripts to: The Dragon Lode  
[thedragonlode@gmail.com](mailto:thedragonlode@gmail.com)

#### **Fall 2016**

##### **The Future of Reading for Pleasure**

What has happened to children's reading for pleasure in the age of the Common Core, high stakes testing, leveling and racing to the top? Statistics reveal some improvement in elementary reading test scores, but at what price? In a work daringly entitled *Readicide*, Kelly Gallagher explored the many ways in which we smother children's love of reading for pleasure in our well-meaning but often misguided attempts to improve test scores. Since the publication of Gallagher's book in 2009, the ELA Common Core State Standards have become the foundation of literacy instruction in the majority of the country.

Teaching complex texts, close reading, using more informational texts and test-taking activities have become the *raison d'être* for teaching reading in grades K-6. Do we destroy children's natural love of reading nonfiction by overemphasizing informational texts solely to meet grade level percentages prescribed by the Common Core? Has being overly concerned with test scores made us forget that good books are for reading and not doing "things" with them such as teaching synonyms, author's purpose or main idea? How can we ensure that our students will neither be illiterate or aliterate? We invite manuscripts that address the issues of overanalyzing children's books and the challenges of creating life-long readers in a test-driven world.

**Submission deadline: May 1, 2016.**

#### **Spring 2017**

##### **Open Theme**

We invite manuscripts that explore contemporary issues and questions, genre study, literary theory, and research related to children's literature and reading.

### **The 35<sup>th</sup> IBBY International Congress Literature in a Multi-Literate World Auckland, New Zealand**

<http://www.ibbycongress2016.org/>

The Congress celebrates the multiplicity of language, literacy and literature in the world today. Throughout the world, literacy and literature are in many languages and many scripts, yet expression of ideas, imagination and emotion captured in very different contexts can be expressed universally.

Nearly two decades into the 21st century it is time to reflect on and to redefine what it means to be literate and what young people's literature might 'look like' in a future where story is conveyed, not only through written and oral modes but also, increasingly, through visual, gestural, spatial and digital modes.

This Congress offers a forum for delegates from throughout the world to discuss the challenges and offer solutions.

The Congress has three sub-themes.

1. Global, local and indigenous literature
2. Diverse literary forms and formats
3. Engaging readers

## How to apply for the Bridge to Understanding Award

Applications and criteria for the 2016 Bridge to Understanding Award are available at [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org) or from the USBBY Secretariat at [Secretariat@usbby.org](mailto:Secretariat@usbby.org). Phone: (224) 233-2030. To be considered the program must occur during the year 2016.

**Deadline for submissions is January 31, 2017.**

USBY, the United States National Section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), is dedicated to promoting high quality literature for young people throughout the world.

### The 4th Contest of an Illustration of Bee Organized by Yamada Bee Farm, The Asahi Gakusei Shimbun Company

Thanks to our generous and long-time sponsor, the Yamada Bee Farm, IBBY has been able to support many projects and workshops around the world. We would like to support one of their new projects.

In 2013 the Yamada Bee Farm launched a competition that invites participants to illustrate around the subject of *bees*. The 2016 competition is the fourth contest in the series and is open to everyone. We would like you to encourage your children to take part. The competition guidelines and entry form are attached.

The works should be unpublished and are non-returnable. Illustrations should reach Yamada Bee Farm in Okayama by 30 June 2016.

If you have any questions please contact JBBY or Ms. Chie Hayase at Yamada [ch0517@yamada-bee.com](mailto:ch0517@yamada-bee.com)

Previous winners can be seen at: [http://beekeeper.3838.com/activity/ichimaie/con\\_03/result.html](http://beekeeper.3838.com/activity/ichimaie/con_03/result.html)

Enjoy the competition!

### What is the Bridge to Understanding Award?

This prestigious award was established in memory of Arlene Pillar, an educator who served USBBY as newsletter editor from 1984 until 1990.

The award recognizes a program that promotes reading as a way to expand understanding of one or more cultures or countries outside of the United States. Preference is given to programs that focus on contemporary life and culture.

Organizations eligible for this award include schools, libraries, scout troops, clubs and bookstores. The program may be a one-time event or an ongoing series that serves children ranging in age from kindergarten through tenth grade.

This award carries a monetary prize of \$1,000 and a certificate.



## USBBY State Ambassadors

Submitted by Evie Freeman and Kathy Short

The purpose of the USBBY State Ambassadors program is to promote the use of literature to build international understanding and to spread the word about USBBY as a professional organization. We hope to involve more of our current members in activities related to our mission within their states as well as gain new members. These activities might include distributing information on state listservs, creating displays or presenting sessions at local conferences, organizing book discussion groups, or promoting International Children's Book Day. If you would like to learn more about becoming a state ambassador, contact Evie Freeman ([freeman.5@osu.edu](mailto:freeman.5@osu.edu)) or Kathy Short ([shortk@u.arizona.edu](mailto:shortk@u.arizona.edu)).

As of February, 2016, 29 states have ambassadors.

- Alabama: Jamie Naidoo ([jcnaidoo@slis.ua.edu](mailto:jcnaidoo@slis.ua.edu)) and Wendy Steadman Stephens ([wendysteadmanstephens@gmail.com](mailto:wendysteadmanstephens@gmail.com));
- Arizona: Karen Kabrich ([k@azkab.com](mailto:k@azkab.com));
- California: Joan Schoettler ([j-schoettler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j-schoettler@sbcglobal.net)) and Dawn Menge ([queenvernitavisitors@yahoo.com](mailto:queenvernitavisitors@yahoo.com));
- Colorado: Johanna Ulloa Giron ([julloagiron2@gmail.com](mailto:julloagiron2@gmail.com));
- Connecticut: Cathy Kurkjian ([kurkjian@ccsu.edu](mailto:kurkjian@ccsu.edu));
- Florida: Nancy Ryan ([nancy.ryan@saintleo.edu](mailto:nancy.ryan@saintleo.edu)); Christiana Succar ([chsuccar@yahoo.com](mailto:chsuccar@yahoo.com)); Mary Ellen Oslick ([moslick@stetson.edu](mailto:moslick@stetson.edu)) and Kim Higdon ([kimberly.higdon@saintleo.edu](mailto:kimberly.higdon@saintleo.edu));
- Georgia: Danilo Baylen ([dbaylen@westga.edu](mailto:dbaylen@westga.edu));
- Idaho: Petros Panaou ([petrospanaou@boisestate.edu](mailto:petrospanaou@boisestate.edu));
- Illinois: Margaret Pyterek ([Peterborough48@gmail.com](mailto:Peterborough48@gmail.com)) and Susan Corapi ([scorapi@email.arizona.edu](mailto:scorapi@email.arizona.edu));
- Indiana: Edi Campbell ([edith.campbell@indstate.edu](mailto:edith.campbell@indstate.edu));
- Kentucky: Diana Porter ([Diana.Porter@eku.edu](mailto:Diana.Porter@eku.edu));
- Maryland: Ernie Bond ([elbond@salisbury.edu](mailto:elbond@salisbury.edu)) and Shanetia Clark ([spclark@gmail.com](mailto:spclark@gmail.com));
- Massachusetts: Bindy Fleischman ([bindyf@gmail.com](mailto:bindyf@gmail.com));
- Michigan: Betsy Susan Morgan ([bmorgan@glenoaks.edu](mailto:bmorgan@glenoaks.edu));
- Minnesota: Renae Ekstrand ([ekstrand@augsborg.edu](mailto:ekstrand@augsborg.edu));
- Mississippi: Ellen Ruffin ([ellen.ruffin@usm.edu](mailto:ellen.ruffin@usm.edu));
- Missouri: Victoria Jones ([victoriajones@claytonschools.net](mailto:victoriajones@claytonschools.net));
- New Jersey: Teresa St. Angelo ([tst.angelo@mersnj.us](mailto:tst.angelo@mersnj.us));
- New Mexico: Yoo Kyung Sung ([yookyung@unm.edu](mailto:yookyung@unm.edu));
- New York: Alison Francis ([afrancis@laglib.org](mailto:afrancis@laglib.org)) and Constance Vidor ([cvidor@gmail.com](mailto:cvidor@gmail.com));
- North Carolina: Elizabeth Shuping ([eshuping@excite.com](mailto:eshuping@excite.com));
- Ohio: Holly Johnson ([holly.johnson@uc.com](mailto:holly.johnson@uc.com)); Debby Gold ([dgold@cuyahogalibrary.org](mailto:dgold@cuyahogalibrary.org)), and Robin Gibson ([rgibson@westervillelibrary.org](mailto:rgibson@westervillelibrary.org));
- Oregon: Maureen Milton ([Milton.maureen@gmail.com](mailto:Milton.maureen@gmail.com));
- Tennessee: Deb Wooten ([dwooten1@utk.edu](mailto:dwooten1@utk.edu)) and Ed Sullivan ([sully@sully-writer.com](mailto:sully@sully-writer.com));
- Texas: Ragina Shearer ([ragina.s@gmail.com](mailto:ragina.s@gmail.com)), and Marion Rocco ([marion.rocco@magellanschool.org](mailto:marion.rocco@magellanschool.org));
- Utah: Lauren Liang ([Lauren.Liang@utah.edu](mailto:Lauren.Liang@utah.edu));
- Washington: Margaret Chang ([Margaret.chang@williams.edu](mailto:Margaret.chang@williams.edu)), and Laurel Heger ([laurelheber@yahoo.com](mailto:laurelheber@yahoo.com));
- West Virginia: Isaac Willis Larison ([larison@marshall.edu](mailto:larison@marshall.edu));
- Wisconsin: Marilyn Ward ([mward@carthage.edu](mailto:mward@carthage.edu)).

## STATE AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT by Robin Gibson, Ohio

As a state ambassador for Ohio, I share USSBY news within the library community in Central Ohio. I use any means I can to spread the word—both virtually (listservs, social media, and the internet) and in person; when attending meetings or just one-on-one, with fellow librarians, teachers, and friends. At an Ohio Library Council Chapter Conference I presented “Bringing the World to Your Library: International Books in Everyday Practice.” I maintain a website, “Global Reading (<http://globalreading.weebly.com/>)” with ideas for using international books in storytimes and other programming. Chances are, if you meet me sometime, I’ll bring up the subject of USSBY and international books!

At the Westerville Public Library, I often create book displays to promote international books. The month of April, which begins with International Children’s Book Day (April 2) and ends with El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) provides a great opportunity for such a display. Topics have featured Sweden and our sister library, the USSBY Outstanding International Books, translated books, and books that explore other countries and cultures. One year I placed a globe nearby and a map with post-its for children to add “where in the world” they were reading. Additionally, each year I tag the Outstanding International Books in the library catalog to making finding and accessing these books easier.



My interest in USSBY and international books led me to initiate a Sister Library program, through IFLA’s Libraries for Children and Young Adults project on Sister Libraries (<http://www.ifla.org/node/1746/>). The Westerville Public Library has partnered with the Gislaved Bibliotek in Sweden since 2011. We exchange ideas about librarianship in general and have shared youth programming ideas. I’ve used their craft ideas for displays. One year children decorated bare branches to make them bloom with feathers and Swedish birds (pattern provided by our sister library). This is a spring tradition in many Scandinavian countries – bringing in flowering branches to make them bloom early. I first saw the branches decorated with brightly colored feathers when I lived in Gothenberg Sweden for six months in 2003. After enduring a Scandinavian winter, such a display makes so much sense—it brightens spirits and attitudes with a spring preview.





Additionally, I've attended and presented at two IBBY regional conferences in St. Louis in 2013 and New York City in 2015 that reenergized my commitment to USBBY and sharing international books in my community. I've always loved to travel and been interested in learning more about the world, majoring in International Studies in college. When traveling, I seek out libraries whenever possible. Last summer my family returned to Sweden for vacation and I took the opportunity to travel to Gislaved for a day. I received a warm welcome from our sister library and was able to visit the main library and two branches. We began with the small branch in Hestra where I arrived via train from Gothenburg.



(arriving in Hestra, Sweden – I'm second from the left)

After lunch, my most frequent contact, Elisabeth, showed me the newly renovated branch in Anderstorp where she works.

We ended by visiting the main library in Gislaved. It features beautiful wooden floors, lots of light, and a teen area that connects the library with the adjacent school. Do some of the titles pictured below look familiar?



The children's area offers pretend play items, open bin shelving, a maker room for artistic and other messy programs, and even a frying pan reading area! Gislaved is a small town with manufacturing roots where homes often included shops in the back. One of products they were known for historically was frying pans. Don't you want to climb in and read for a bit?





While our communities are quite different, there are also many issues we share: welcoming new immigrants and responding to increasing diversity, involving teens after school, reinvigorating summer reading, developing maker programs and continually innovating, questioning, and improving library services.

Our most recent parallel collaboration was a Pippi Longstocking celebration. The iconic character celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2015. When I visited Sweden, I heard of the Gislaved library's plans for a Pippi celebration and was inspired to do a similar program here. We offered some of the same book related activities (the Don't Step on the Floor Game, pictured below, and Being a Thing-Finder activity). And our sister library sent us Pippi bookmarks and 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary wooden yo-yo's to share with the kids.

I value USBBY's vision of bringing peace through books—a mission that seems more relevant than ever in today's rapidly changing world—and so I'm honored to share it, serving as a State Ambassador for USBBY.



## Planning Ahead

### Upcoming IBBY Congresses

**2016: Auckland, New Zealand** will host the 35<sup>th</sup> IBBY Congress, August 18-21, 2016. The theme of the 35<sup>th</sup> IBBY Congress is *Literature in a Multi-Literate World*.

**2018: Istanbul, Turkey** will host the 36<sup>th</sup> IBBY Congress with the theme "East Meets West with Children's Books and Tales."

**2020: Moscow, Russia** will host the 37<sup>th</sup> Congress with the theme: The Great Big World through Children's Books: National and Foreign."

## WHAT IS IBBY?

The International Board on Books for Young People was begun in 1953. IBBY's mission is to promote international understanding through children's books; to give children everywhere the opportunity to have access to books with high literary and artistic standards; to encourage the publication and distribution of quality children's books, especially in developing countries; to provide support and training for those involved with children and children's literature; and to stimulate research and scholarly works in the field of children's literature.

The organization is composed of 61 National Sections operating on both national and international levels. IBBY's policies and programs are determined by its Executive Committee—ten people from different countries and a President elected by the National Sections during the biennial General Assembly held at each IBBY Congress.

IBBY's activities include:

- The Hans Christian Andersen Awards
- The IBBY Honour List, a biennial selection of outstanding, recently published books honoring writers, illustrators, and translators
- IBBY Congresses
- IBBY workshops and seminars for developing countries
- The IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award
- The IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Disabled Children and Young People
- Publication of *Bookbird*, IBBY's quarterly journal
- The annual celebration of International Children's Book Day on April 2

## USBBY Student Members: Recent News

USBBY hosted their first formal meeting for student members at the 2015 IBBY Regional Conference this past October. During a lunch gathering, student members and new USBBY members learned about the history of USBBY and IBBY and talked with each other about research and teaching interests related to international children's literature. Emails and contact information were exchanged, and lively conversations ensued. As lunch was finished, members learned about more ways they can actively participate in USBBY. All received a hardback copy of IBBY Founder Jella Lepman's autobiography, *A Bridge to Children's Books*.

Several student members also helped as volunteers throughout the conference, hosting local authors and illustrators on Friday evening, helping to direct attendees to sessions, and serving at the registration table.

Student members should continue to watch their emails for future gatherings at the upcoming ALA, ILA, and NCTE 2016 conferences and other opportunities to volunteer and participate in USBBY events and initiatives. We also strongly encourage student members to reach out to their State Ambassadors to take part in activities and projects within their state.

*Are you a recent graduate or a university professor who would like to be included in Student Group information? Please contact Lauren Liang at [lauren.liang@utah.edu](mailto:lauren.liang@utah.edu), Wendy Stephens at [wendysteadmanstephens@gmail.com](mailto:wendysteadmanstephens@gmail.com), or Marion Rocco at [marion.rocco@maqellanschool.org](mailto:marion.rocco@maqellanschool.org).*

## Don't miss USBBY Co-Sponsored Sessions throughout the Year

### American Library Association (ALA) Annual Co-Sponsored Session

USBBY holds a co-sponsored session at the Annual Convention of the American Library Association (ALA) featuring an international author or other expert in the field of literature for children and young adults.

### International Literacy Association (ILA) Annual Co-Sponsored Session

USBBY holds a co-sponsored session at the Annual Convention of the International Literacy Association, held in the summer, featuring an international author or other expert in the field of literature for children and young adults.

### National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Annual Co-Sponsored Session

USBBY holds a co-sponsored session at the Annual Convention of the National Council of Teachers of English, held in November, featuring an international author or other expert in the field of literature for children and young adults.

## USBBY Bibliography to Be Released Soon

by Annette Y. Goldsmith

Co-editors Theo Heras, Susan Corapi and Annette Goldsmith have submitted the manuscript for Volume 5 in the USBBY international youth literature bibliography series, *Bridges to Understanding*. The current working title is *Reading the World's Stories: An Annotated Bibliography of International Youth Literature*. As reported in the fall newsletter, there are roughly 600 entries covering imprints from 2010-2014.

The storytelling theme is clear throughout. There are two chapters that explore the power of storytelling in different ways: Anne Pellowski's important discussion of a storytelling study with schoolchildren; and a version of the riveting Dorothy Briley lecture that Beverley Naidoo gave at the Fresno conference. Klaas Verplancke donated the artwork for the book's cover, and Marianne Martens contributed a chapter on international children's literature and subversive cultural exchange; these, too, demonstrate the importance of storytelling within and across cultures.

The manuscript was submitted in early December 2015 and the co-editors are hopeful that there will be a June 2016 launch at the American Library Association annual conference in Orlando. Conference-goers at USBBY in New York in October were able to get a sneak preview of the book's content in a breakout session the editors offered, called "The Art and Craft of a USBBY Bibliography." We all eagerly anticipate this new volume which will be such a valuable resource!

## HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED IN USBBY

Now is a good time to make known your interest in becoming actively involved in the work of USBBY. USBBY committee members accomplish their tasks through meetings held during ALA, IRA, and NCTE conventions, as well as via email, fax, and "snail mail."

Committee service opportunities include:

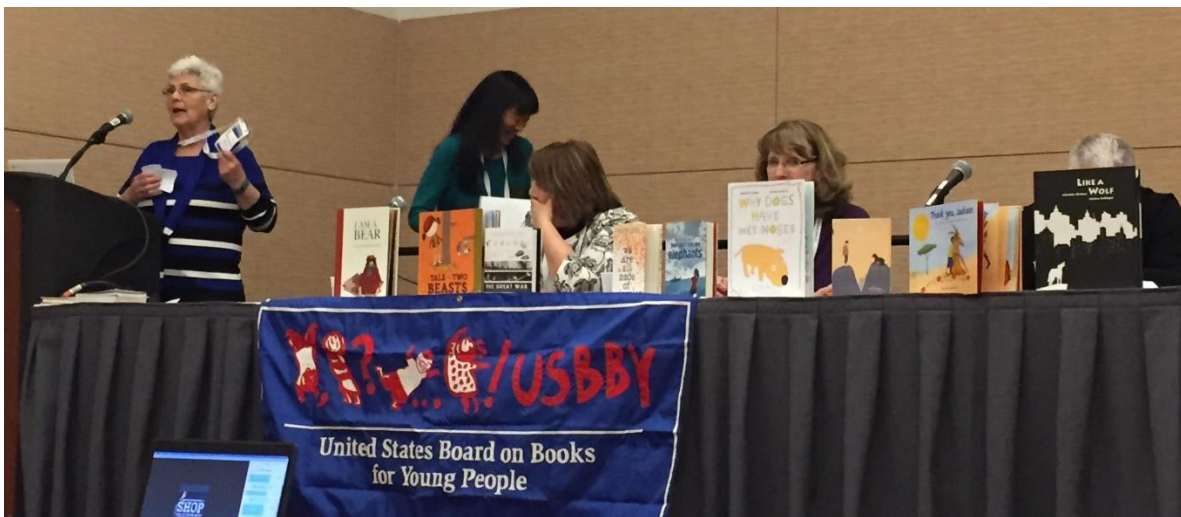
- Bridge to Understanding Award
- Hans Christian Andersen Award
- Membership
- Nominating Committee
- Organization and Bylaws
- Outstanding Books for Children with Disabilities
- Publicity and Promotion

Please communicate your interests to Secretariat, Center for Teaching through Children's Books, National Louis University, 5202 Old Orchard Road, Suite 300, Skokie, IL 60077, USA.

**USBBY/ALA Midwinter Meeting  
January 2016, Boston, Massachusetts  
by Wendy Stephens, ALA/AASL Liaison to the USBBY Board of Directors**

**Ruta Sepetys Discusses *Salt to the Sea***

More than seventy attendees of the American Library Association's Midwinter Meeting assembled in Boston on January 8. The conference program included this year's Outstanding International Books presentation, an update about the IBBY project to support central American child refugees at the U.S. border, and author Ruta Sepetys' eloquent talk about refugees from an earlier era.



To open the evening, President Therese Bigelow invited IBBY Past President Patsy Aldana and REFORMA Past President Oralia Garza de Cortes to present their experiences at the border in the Rio Grande Valley, where they were part of an IBBY delegation meeting with aide workers serving undocumented refugee children. They shared images of the conditions in which the children travel and wait asylum, discussed the importance of experienced legal assistance to the asylum-seeking process, and presented some of the faith-based charities who have established services for these unaccompanied young people. Part of the IBBY project includes information about services available at public libraries and provision of materials they hope will serve to alert libraries in communities where refugees are being received.





Outstanding International Books (OIB) chair Terry Hong and her committee shared their 42 title list of the best 2015 books for young people published or distributed in the United States, books that originated or were first published in a country other than the U.S. This year's range of titles represented the eleventh OIB list produced by USBBY.

Ruta Sepetys opened her portion of the evening by discussing cultural disconnects around the central meaning of her first two novels, *Between Shades of Gray* and *Out of the Easy*, noting that each country's readership tends to find themes that are particularly resonant in their national literature. After sharing tidbits about her international critical reception, Sepetys showed images of her research process informing *Salt to the Sea*, her February 2016 release from Penguin's Philomel imprint. Her third historical novel for young adults, *Salt to the Sea* centers on the sinking of the *Wilhelm Gustloff*, the largest shipwreck in history, lost off the coast of Prussia in 1945 as World War II is drawing to a close. Sepetys's inquiry into the wreck involved interviews with survivors and those who narrowly escaped passage on the overcrowded ship as well as a growing collection of memorabilia, including "letters in a bottle" penned by the ship's ill-fated passengers. Sepetys chose to explore the disaster through the lens of four young people, all desperate to escape by the only route available, the sea.



American Library Association Annual Conference attendees will have the opportunity for further discussion of refugee issues. Author Terry Farish, whose picture books and young adult novels often deal with young people transitioning from war-torn countries to new homes while negotiating other cultures, will be speaking there this June.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**USBBY Co-Sponsored Session at International Literacy Association Annual Convention**

Sunday, July 10, 4:00-5:00 PM

Room 103 John B. Hyne Veterans' Memorial Convention Center

**Shelving Mental Illness: Exploring and Experiencing Mental Health in Young Adult Fiction**



**TERESA TOTEN**  
**RANDOM HOUSE KIDS**

Photo Credit Matthew Wiley

Most teens read not only to be entertained and to escape, but in varying degrees of desperation, to find themselves on the page. This session will examine the considerable power of YA fiction that dives into mental health issues and the novel's power to validate, elucidate and entertain young adults whose identities are ever changing on fast shifting sand.

Teresa Toten and her books have been honored with many awards. Most recently her book, *The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B*, received the Schneider Family Teen Book Award in the US, and the prestigious Governor General Award in Canada.

**Stay Tuned for More Information!**  
**USBBY Co-Sponsored Session at NCTE**

**Theme:** "*Advocating Global Authenticity: Creativity and Representation in Children's Literature*"

**Author/Illustrators:** **Il Sung Na**, sponsored by Random House and **Torben Kuhlmann**, sponsored by North South

In this co-sponsored session, international author and illustrator **Il Sung Na**, will reflect on his passion for writing and illustrating books for young children. Born in Seoul, South Korea, Il Sung Na developed this love for children's books when he moved to London to pursue a BFA in Illustration and Animation at Kingston University. He determined that the ability to be creative has always been with him from a young age. Na has been the recipient of various book awards including, The Boston Globe's Best Children's Books for 2014, Kirkus Best Children's Books for 2011 and 2012, and Amazon's Best Books of 2015.

International author and illustrator, **Torben Kuhlmann**, will share his enthusiasm for painting and drawing. Kuhlmann was born, and lives, in Germany. His artistic abilities were realized as early as kindergarten and his work is quickly gaining recognition across children's book arenas. His book, *Lindbergh, The Tale of a Flying Mouse* was a 2014 INDIEFAB Book of the Year award winner and his illustrations were featured at the 2013 Bologna Children's Book Exhibition.



USBBY-NCTE Co-Sponsored Session

November 2015

Crafting Cultural Realities: The Artistry and Accountability of Writing Literature for Youth

Submitted by Jennifer Graff, USBBY-NCTE Liaison



**Meg Medina, Jennifer Graff, and Ruth Lowery at the onset of the NCTE-USBBY session, sponsored by Candlewick Press (photo credit Sue Connolly)**

The significantly cold weather in Minneapolis, Minnesota on Sunday, November 20, 2015, was no match for the warm, enthusiastic, and enlightening discussion of the artistry and accountability of writing children's and young adult literature with award-winning author, Meg Medina. Author of the award-winning picturebooks *Tia Isa Wants a Car* (2011) and *Mango, Abuela and Me/Mango, Abuela y Yo* (2015), as well as the young adult novel, *Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass* (2013), Meg captivated a full house of teachers, teacher educators, parents, scholars, and students with conversations that focused on linguistic and cultural translations in children's and young adult literature and the inextricable connections between life and literature.

This year's session began as an informal conversation between Meg and Jennifer Graff and Ruth Lowery, the 2015-17 NCTE liaisons. A slideshow of Meg's family photos, photos of youths' responses to her writing, as well as her workshops with students, was a visual companion to the conversation. The conversation then extended to the audience where personal stories were exchanged among captive audience members. For just over an hour, Meg shared the relationship between her personal life experiences and her storylines, the critical need for and benefits from the We Need Diverse Books campaign, and she shared the ways in which writing stories can help combat prejudice and oppression in their myriad forms. Her stories, heart-wrenching and jovial, emphasized familial and community connections and celebrated oral and written narratives in one's home languages. They also serve as counter-narratives to prevailing prejudices regarding females, biliteracy, Latinos, and immigrants' experiences. Her latest picturebook, *Mango, Abuela, and Me and Mango, Abuela y Yo* is a literary testimony to such new narratives. It is also indicative of the need for books to be simultaneously published in multiple languages.



**Meg Medina and Jennifer Graff  
with Meg's latest picturebook  
(photo credit Sue Connolly)**

Clearly, Meg's voice and her characters' voices resonated with us during this session and beyond. We were honored to be with an artist whose capabilities and convictions as a storyteller and activist are most certainly contributing to the evolution of literary and social landscapes in contemporary society. We extend many thanks to Meg and to Candlewick Press for sponsoring Meg's participation in this session.



**Ruth Lowery facilitates the  
group Q&A session with Meg  
Medina (photo credit Sue  
Connolly)**

**Press Release:**

***IBBY Announces the Shortlist for the 2016 Hans Christian Andersen Awards***

IBBY, the International Board on Books for Young People is proud to announce the shortlist for the 2016 Hans Christian Andersen Award – the world’s most prestigious children’s book award:

Authors: **Cao Wenxuan** from China, **Louis Jensen** from Denmark, **Mirjam Pressler** from Germany, **Ted van Lieshout** from the Netherlands and **Lois Lowry** from the USA.

Illustrators: **Rotraut Susanne Berner** from Germany, **Pejman Rahimizadeh** from Iran, **Alessandro Sanna** from Italy, **Suzy Lee** from the Republic of Korea and **Marit Törnqvist** from the Netherlands.

The jury for this award is comprised of ten members from around the world:

Patricia Aldana from Canada/Guatemala is the 2016 jury president. She led the jury comprising the following: Lola Rubio (Argentina), Dolores Prades (Brazil), Wu Qing (China), Kirsten Bystrup (Denmark), Yasmine Motawy (Egypt), Shohreh Yousefi (Iran), Andrej Ilc (Slovenia), Reina Duarte (Spain), Susan Stan (USA) and María Beatriz Medina (Venezuela). Elda Nogueira (Brazil) represented the IBBY President and Liz Page acted as Jury Secretary.

The criteria used to assess the nominations included the aesthetic and literary quality as well as the freshness and innovation of the body of work; the ability to see the child’s point of view and to stretch their curiosity; and the continuing relevance of the works to children and young people. The Award is based on the entire body of work.

After the meeting Aldana said, “It was remarkable to work with such an accomplished jury. Despite coming from so many different cultures and backgrounds there was a surprising degree of consensus. And it was a highly enjoyable process for us all.”

The two winners will be announced at the IBBY Press Conference on [4 April 2016](#) at the Bologna International Children’s Book Fair. The medals and diplomas will be presented to the winners during the 35<sup>th</sup> IBBY Congress in Auckland, New Zealand on [Saturday, 20 August 2016](#).

**The five authors and five illustrators on the shortlist were drawn from the following list of nominees.**

**About the Award**

2016 is the 60th Anniversary of the Hans Christian Andersen Awards. Previous winners include: authors Erich Kästner (Germany), Astrid Lindgren (Sweden), Katherine Paterson (USA), Lygia Bojunga (Brazil) and Margaret Mahy (New Zealand). Illustrators include Peter Sís (Czech Republic), Maurice Sendak (USA), Mitsumasa Anno (Japan), Wolf Erlbruch (Germany) and Robert Ingpen (Australia).

The IBBY members elect the Jury President during the biennial world congress and the Executive Committee elects the international jury of experts from nominations submitted by the IBBY National Sections.

The members of the Jury assess the complete body of the work in all cases. All the candidates nominated for the Award have made outstanding contributions to children’s literature in their countries and are selected by the IBBY National Sections; a complete list of the 2016 candidates follows.

IBBY is very proud to share a brief film produced by Nami Island Inc. to highlight and celebrate the 2016 Hans Christian Andersen Award Shortlisted candidates. <https://youtu.be/d2L6mrEc6eM>

### 2016 Hans Christian Andersen Award Nominees

Country	Author	Illustrator
Argentina	María Laura Devetach	Bianki / Diego Ariel Bianchi
Australia	Ursula Dubosarsky	Bronwyn Bancroft
Austria	Renate Welsh	Linda Wolfsgruber
Belgium	Bart Moeyaert	Rascal
Brazil	Marina Colasanti	Çiça Fittipaldi
Canada	Kenneth Oppel	Pierre Pratt
China	Cao Wenxuan	Zhu Chengliang
Colombia	--	Claudia Rueda
Croatia	Miro Gavran	--
Denmark	Louis Jensen	Lilian Brøgger
Estonia	Piret Raud	--
Egypt	Affaf Tobbala	--
France	Timothée de Fombelle	François Place
Germany	Mirjam Pressler	Rotraut Susanne Berner
Greece	Eleni Dikaiou	Lida Varvarousi
Iran	--	Pejman Rahimizadeh
Italy	Chiara Carminati	Alessandro Sanna
Japan	Eiko Kadono	Ken Katayama
Republic of Korea	--	Suzy Lee
Latvia	--	Anita Paegle
Mexico	--	Gabriel Pacheco
Netherlands	Ted van Lieshout	Marit Törnqvist
New Zealand	Joy Cowley	--
Norway	Toråge Bringsværd	Lisa Aisato
Palestine	Sonia Nimr	--
Russia	Andrey Usachev	Mikhail Fedorov
Slovakia	Daniel Hevier	Peter Uchnár
Slovenia	Svetlana Makarovič	Marjan Manček
Spain	Agustín Fernández Paz	Miguel Anxo Prado Plana
Sweden	--	Eva Lindström
Switzerland	Franz Hohler	Etienne Delessert



Image and information from <http://www.ibby.org>

### IBBY CHILDREN IN CRISIS PROJECT

IBBY regularly seeks donations for projects under its **Children in Crisis Fund** to provide support for children whose lives have been disrupted by war, civil disorder or natural disaster. IBBY believes that children who are suffering from natural disaster, displacement, war and its aftermath, desperately need books and stories as well as food, shelter, clothing and medicines. These are all necessities and are not mutually exclusive

Projects have been supported in the wake of natural disasters in Indonesia (2005 to 2009, tsunami), Peru (earthquake, 2007), China (2008, earthquake) Haiti (2009, hurricane and 2010, earthquake), Pakistan (2010, floods) and Japan (2011, earthquake).

War and conflict has given rise to projects in Afghanistan (2009), Colombia (2008 to 2010), and Lebanon (2007) and in Gaza, Palestine (2008) as well as the current appeals for funding for the reconstruction of libraries in Gaza and for programmes for Syrian children in Lebanon, described below.

Whatever the cause for children in crisis, the two main activities that are supported by the Fund are the therapeutic use of books and storytelling in the form of bibliotherapy, and the creation or replacement of collections of selected, appropriate books.

In addition, IBBY operates a **Solidarity Fund** to help IBBY Sections experiencing financial difficulties in less-developed or economically depressed countries.





## Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Día!

April 30, 2016, marks 20 years of the celebration of Día (Diversity in Action). In 1996, the author and poet, Pat Mora learned about the holiday Children's Day that was celebrated in Mexico and other Latin American countries. Realizing that the United States had nothing similar, Pat proposed linking Children's Day, the celebration of childhood and children, with literacy and bilingualism, creating a new holiday: El día de los niños/El día de los libros. This new holiday has grown to be an everyday celebration emphasizing the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds that culminates yearly on April 30. Libraries and

communities across the United States make Día a daily commitment to linking children and their families to diverse books, languages and cultures. The common goals of all Día programming are to:

- Celebrate children and connect them to the world of learning through books, stories and libraries.
- Nurture cognitive and literacy development in ways that honor and embrace a child's home language and culture.
- Introduce families to community resources that provide opportunities for learning through multiple literacies.
- Recognize and respect culture, heritage and language as powerful tools for strengthening families and communities.

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA), encourages, supports, and assists libraries and community organizations with their Día celebrations with a wealth of resources on the official Día website <http://dia.ala.org/>. With the support of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, ALSC offers:

- Downloadable free toolkits, booklists, resource guides, and worksheets including the [Building STEAM with Día Toolkit \(PDF\)](#), which provides a research-based overview of the importance of intentionally planning for the inclusion of diverse content and community partners in STEAM programming.
- Book Club resources
- The Día Program Registry; a national database that showcases all types and sizes of Día programming. Participants are invited to share information about public programs being held by libraries or community organizations throughout the year to celebrate Día. This information is language and location searchable on the national Día map and displayed on the website. Program coordinators will also receive a personalized webpage to help promote their Día events.

- Access to twenty grants of \$2,000 each to ALSC members in public libraries within 20 miles of a Dollar General retail or corporate location to host Día celebrations.
- ALSC has already awarded ten libraries with the Building STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) with Día mini-grants to help these libraries implement a Building STEAM with Día program in their community.

Libraries and community organizations are not the only ones excited about the upcoming Día celebrations. The folks on Capitol Hill are gearing up to participate in Día by reading with children in mid-April, and having a personal visit from Pat Mora. Check out the ALA's Everyday Advocacy web page for links to [What's Up in Washington](#) in the weeks before Día to see how you can contact your legislators and ask them for their support of the Día Turns 20 Celebration.

Don't miss out on any of the upcoming and exciting events leading to this Día Turns 20 Celebration by checking out the Día Facebook and Pinterest pages.



[<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Official-El-día-de-los-niñosEl-día-de-los-libros-Childrens-DayBook/194406259>]



[<https://www.pinterest.com/alsclibraries/>]

**Submitted by Debbie Bond, a member of the Public Awareness Committee  
of the Association for Library Service to Children**

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Children's Librarian, Norwood Branch Library  
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**We HAVE Diverse Books!**  
**Presenting the 2016 USBBY Outstanding International Books List**  
By Terry Hong, **OIB Chair**



If we let just the numbers do the talking, you'll hear volumes – literally. Over 450 books were eventually amassed by the dedicated, tenacious members of the 2016 Outstanding International Books committee this year, from which we had the audacious challenge of choosing the best of the best.

This year saw more than double the submissions from just three years ago, up 130+ titles from 2014, and 70-plus more books in 2015; we also received titles from publishers who had either not known of OIB or submitted to OIB before (or both). [And wow, did we all give our delivery people quite the workout all year long!] With such increased quantity, quality – thankfully! – went up exponentially, as well.

When we all got together for a long weekend in early December 2015, our obvious love of reading (and reading and reading) meant we quickly fell into easy conversations. Half of us were probably strangers before meeting for the first time, but that didn't seem to matter when such an amazing task was put to us to complete *together*. And thus, the deliberations began at the Butler Children's Literature Center at Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois.

Warmly welcomed by Assistant Dean Diane Foote who was appointed Butler Center's new curator earlier this year – she even picked up and shuttled us back to the hotel herself in the Dominican van! – we commenced with thought-provoking, mind-stretching discussions. Of course, we had some heartbreak as well – occasionally, our favorites just didn't align. But eventually, the 2016 OIB came into being with 42 extraordinary titles that we hope will challenge, subvert, broaden perspectives in unanticipated new ways.

This year's newbies – Olga Bukhina, Debra Gold, Petros Panaou, and Carol Sibley – will return next year as seasoned alumni, to be led by Holly Johnson who will be the 2017 OIB committee chair. Four eager new members will join their literary fold, replacing the slots vacated by Mona Kerby, Ed Sullivan, Barbara Ward,

and me. After the stupendous reading adventures we've shared this year, hopefully we'll each get the opportunity to give the old eyeballs some rest!

As the domestic publishing industry continues to respond to the resounding battle cry of 'We Need Diverse Books,' OIB committees (11 and counting) have worked assiduously for over a decade to promote international titles among librarians, educators, parents, and readers. Again, this year's OIB moves far beyond our United States borders – geographically, culturally, ethnically – with books from around the globe, with stories from or set in India, Italy, Korea, Laos, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Turkey, and more.

This year's OIB list is all about *disruption* – in all the best ways. So many of these books refuse to be predictable, disrupting expectations of characters, settings, and narratives. From a boy who teaches his father the power of kindness, to new friends who explore deep below the surface, to war mementos that hold surprising truths, to unfamiliar myths and legends, to walls that reveal almost a millennium of history, the 2016 list is truly outstanding in countless ways. Humor, empathy, creativity, all pave the way towards encouraging readers to search beyond boundaries, become more engaged global citizens, and just enjoy good books.

Explore, experiment, discover, disrupt ... and grow. Outstanding International Books can do all that and more.

For further information, including all previous OIB lists, *School Library Journal* articles with book annotations, interactive maps of book locations and selections, please visit [http://www.usbby.org/list\\_oibl.html](http://www.usbby.org/list_oibl.html).

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**The 2016 USBBY Outstanding International Books Committee:** Terry Hong (Chair), Park City, UT; Olga Bukhina, New York, NY; Debra Gold, Beechwood, OH; Holly Johnson, Cincinnati, OH; Mona Kerby, Westminster, MD; Petros Panaou, Boise, ID; Carol Sibley, Dilworth, MN; Ed Sullivan, Oak Ridge, TN; Barbara Ward, Pullman, WA.

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**From left to right:**

Diane Foote (Assistant Dean and Curator, Butler Children's Literature Center Dominican GSLIS), committee members Olga Bukhina, Barbara Ward, Mona Kerby, Petros Panaou, Terry Hong, Holly Johnson, Ed Sullivan, Debra Gold, Carol Sibley





**2016 USBBY**  
**Outstanding International Books**

**GRADES PreK-2**

- Daly, Niki. **Thank You, Jackson: How one little boy makes a BIG difference.** Illus. by Jude Daly. Frances Lincoln. (UK/set in Africa)
- De Kinder, Jan. **Red.** Trans. by Laura Watkinson. Eerdmans. (Belgium)
- Deacon, Alexis. **I Am Henry Finch.** Illus. by Viviane Schwartz. Candlewick. (UK)
- Dubuc, Marianne. **The Bus Ride.** Trans. by Yvette Ghione. Kids Can. (Canada)
- Dumont, Jean-François. **I Am a Bear.** Trans. by Leslie Matthews. Eerdmans. (France)
- Elschner, Géraldine. **Like a Wolf.** Illus. by Antoine Guilloppé. minedition. (Hong Kong/orig. Germany)
- Kobald, Irena. **My Two Blankets.** Illus. by Freya Blackwood. HMH. (Australia)
- Lawson, JonArno. **Sidewalk Flowers.** Illus. by Sydney Smith. Greenwood. (Canada)
- Lee, JiHyeon. **Pool.** Chronicle. (Korea)
- Meschenmoser, Sebastian. **Mr. Squirrel and the Moon.** Trans. by David Henry Wilson. NorthSouth. (Germany)
- Oral, Feridun. **The Red Apple.** minedition. (Hong Kong/orig. Turkey)
- Roberson, Fiona. **A Tale of Two Beasts.** Kane Miller. (UK.)
- Steven, Kenneth. **Why Dogs Have Wet Noses.** Illus. by Øyvind Torseter. Enchanted Lion. (Norway)

**GRADES 3-5**

- Amnesty International UK. **Dreams of Freedom: In Words and Pictures.** Illus. by various artists. Frances Lincoln. (UK)
- Barman, Adrienne. **Creaturepedia.** Wide-Eyed. (Switzerland)
- Buitrago, Jairo. **Two White Rabbits.** Trans. by Rafael Yockteng. Illus. by Elisa Amado. Greenwood. (Canada/set in Mexico)
- Chanchani, Vishakha. **The House that Sonabai Built.** Photographs by Stephen P. Huyler. Tulika. (India)
- Foreman, Michael. **The Tortoise and the Soldier: A Story of Courage and Friendship in World War I.** Macmillan/Henry Holt. (UK)
- Isabella, Jude. **The Red Bicycle: The Extraordinary Story of One Ordinary Bicycle.** Illus. by Simone Shin. Kids Can. (Canada/set in Canada and West Africa)
- Niimi, Nankichi. **Gon, the Little Fox.** Trans. by Mariko Shii Gharbi. Illus. by Genjirou Mita. Museyon. (Japan)
- Parr, Maria. **Adventures with Waffles.** Trans. by Guy Puzey. Illus. by Kate Forrester. Candlewick. (Norway)
- Prévot, Franck. **Wangari Maathai: The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees.** Trans. by Dominique Clément. Illus. by Aurélia Fronty. Charlesbridge. (France/set in Kenya)

**GRADES 6-8**

- Agard, John. **Book.** Illus. by Neil Packer. Candlewick. (UK)
- Almond, David, *et. al.* **The Great War: Stories Inspired by Items from the First World War.** Illus. by Jim Kay. Candlewick. (UK)
- Cohen-Janca, Irène. **Mister Doctor: Janusz Korczak & the Orphans of the Warsaw Ghetto.** Trans. by Paula Ayer. Illus. by Maurizio A.C. Quarello. Annick. (Italy/set in Poland)

Crossan, Sarah. **Apple and Rain: A Story to Fix a Broken Heart**. Bloomsbury. (UK)

Kreller, Susan. **You Can't See the Elephants**. Trans. by Elizabeth Gaffney. Penguin/Putnam. (Germany/set in the US)

Lewis, Gill. **Moon Bear**. Illus. by Alessandro Gottardo. Simon & Schuster/Atheneum. (UK/set in Laos)

Mahé, Vincent. **750 Years in Paris**. Nobrow. (UK/set in France)

Morpurgo, Michael. **Half a Man**. Illus. by Gemma O'Callahan. Candlewick. (UK)

Nielsen, Susin. **We Are All Made of Molecules**. Tundra/simultaneous U.S. publication by Wendy Lamb. (Canada)

Powers, J.L. **Amina (Through My Eyes series)**. Allen & Unwin /distributed by IPG. (Australia/set in Somalia)

Smith, Dan. **My Brother's Secret**. Scholastic/Chicken House. (UK/set in Germany)

Thor, Annika. **Deep Sea**. Trans. Swedish by Linda Schenck. Random House/Delacorte. (Sweden)

Tolstikova, Dasha. **A Year without Mom**. Groundwood. (Canada/set in Russia)

### GRADES 9-12

Arnaktauyok, Germaine and Gyu Oh. **My Name is Arnaktauyok: The Life and Art of Germaine Arnaktauyok**. Illus. by Germaine Arnaktauyok. Inhabit. (Canada)

Benwell, Sarah. **The Last Leaves Falling**. Simon & Schuster. (UK/set in Japan)

De Heer, Margreet. **Religion: A Discovery in Comics**. Trans. Margreet de Heer and Dan Schiff. NBM. (Netherlands)

Dragt, Tonke. **The Letter for the King**. Trans. by Laura Watkinson. Scholastic/David Fickling. (Netherlands)

Laboucane-Benson, Patti. **The Outside Circle: A Graphic Novel**. Illus. by Kelly Mellings. House of Anansi. (Canada)

McKay, Sharon. **Prison Boy**. Annick. (Canada)

Skrypuch, Marsha Forchuk. **Dance of the Banished**. Pajama. (Canada/set in Turkey and Canada)

The annual list of USBBY Outstanding International Books is sponsored by the United States Board on Books for Young People. All books on this list were published or released in the United States in 2015 and chosen by a committee of USBBY members. Country names in parentheses indicate where the book was first or simultaneously published. For more information, visit [www.usbby.org](http://www.usbby.org).

## How Does This Translate? Oksana Lushchevska & Jennifer M. Graff

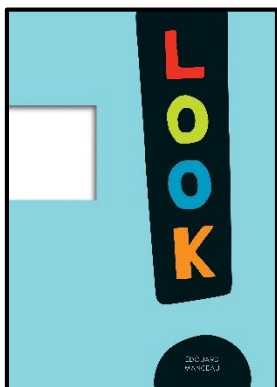
As the winter season draws to a close and the celebrations of the award-winning books from 2015 continue, we embrace spring, a season of renewal and growth in all aspects of life, including children's books! With each passing day, we continue to inquire about how we can diversify our selection of children's books and preserve the tradition of reading as a family affair; reading with and for our kinfolk, near and far.

Families play a significant role in children's all-round development, socialization, and maturation; it is a "vantage point" in children's experiences (Rustin & Rustin, 2001). Thus, when thinking about families—including the families we create through reading—we desire books that help create familial bonds while also reflecting family compositions and circumstances. The stories we highlight below offer such compositions and experiences and provide opportunities for quality shared reading time. We anticipate these exemplary and thought-provoking stories enrich the family experience of reading and bring us closer to one another.

We are thankful for the many publishers who continue to help readers shift and evolve as they read globally in multiple ways. Thank you for your contributions.

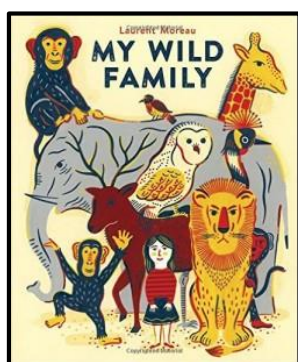
Rustin, M. (2001). *Narratives of Love and Loss: Studies in Modern Children's Fiction*. London: Carnac.

### Translated Books for Younger Children



Manceau, Édouard. **Look!** Translated from French *Le petit curieux* by Karen Li. Owlkids Books, 2015. ISBN 9781771471022. First published in 2014 by Éditions Milan: Toulouse, France. (Ages 4-8).

*Look!* includes surprise and delight. It is an engaging interactive board book, in which each double spread is full of motion and playfulness. While the words raise questions to think over and search for answers, the die-cut pages invite readers to play peekaboo. Some pages offer to lift up images and separate the pages with a sound, others engage readers into learning and revision of figures, sizes, distances, etc. *Look!* inspires seeing the world in a vibrant way and as such is well-suited for infant and toddlers, while also being entertaining for readers of all ages.



Moreau, Laurent. **My Wild Family**. Chronicle Books, 2015. ISBN 9781452144238. First published in 2013 by hélium/Actes Sud: Arles, France. (Ages 4-8).

Generously illustrated, this oversized picturebook proposes both a story about a family and a story for family reading. Each double page spread features imaginative verbal and visual depictions of a family member, such as a mother-giraffe, walking on a crowded sidewalk. While the verbal part is affirmative and narrative, the visual is playful with humorous cues such as a "relaxed" father-lion lying on the beach under the umbrella. The girls' concluding statement, "My family is truly special," invites readers to think and talk about their unique families.



Pacovská, Květa. **The Little Flower King**. Michael Neugebauer Publishing, 2015. ISBN 9789888240982. First published in 2006 by Minedition: Bargteheide, Germany. (Ages 4-8).

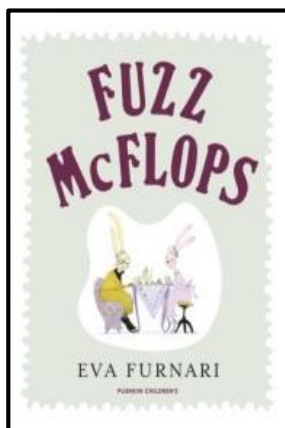
Fresh and delightful like a tulip blossoming in the spring, *The Little Flower King* takes readers into a search for happiness. Referring to Hans Christian Anderson's Thumbelina, Pacovská fascinates us with her unique naïve art style. Her cut outs, wordless double spreads, close ups, and elements of collage create a book as unique as a child's drawing. Also unique is Pacovská's approach to the traditional endings of many Western fairytales; rather than "happily ever after," Little King and Little Queen are "as happy as the day is long." Such a realistic ending might serve as a great impetus for philosophical conversations about life and happiness.

### Translated Books for Older Children



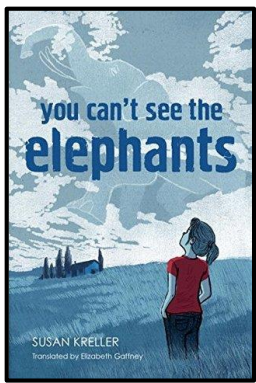
Desjardins, India. **Marguerite's Christmas**. Illustrated by Pascal Blanchet. Translated from the French *La Noël de Marguerite* by Carolyn Grifel. Enchanted Lion Books, 2015. ISBN 9781592701780. First published in 2013 by Les Éditions de la Pastèque: Montreal, Canada. (Ages 6-12).

A 2014 winner of Bologna Ragazzi Award for fiction, this evocative and memorable picturebook presents an unusual glimpse of a Christmas celebration. Marguerite used to enjoy Christmas. She cooked for her big family, decorated the house, and bought presents. However, as Marguerite grew older and her children became independent adults, her zeal for Christmas and all its festivities waned. Her new version of celebrating Christmas consisted of eating her frozen dinner and watching TV. One Christmas day the ringing of her doorbell creates a new and unexpected event. A family, stuck in the snow, needs Marguerite's help. If only it were so simple as to call for assistance! The family's misadventure inspires Marguerite to enjoy Christmas again. Illustrations often evoke a melancholy and reflective mood while also offering some funny and deep psychological twists.



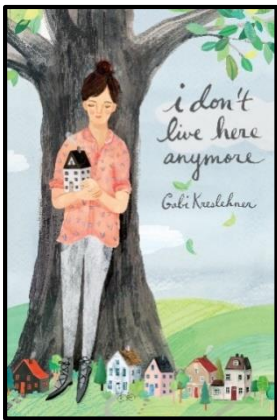
Furnari, Eva. **Fuzz McFlops**. Translated from the Portuguese *Felpe Filva* by Alison Entrekin. Pushkin Children's Books, 2015. ISBN 9781782690757. First published in 2006 by Moderna: São Paulo, Brazil. (Ages 8-12).

Fuzz McFlops is a lone writer who creates sad prose and poetry. Tormented by classroom bullying when he was a child, McFlops lives alone and refuses to open any fan mail. One day, a violet envelope catches his eye and he finally reads the letter from Charlotte, a female reader who has the courage to offer constructive criticism about his poetry. Her candor stimulates Fuzz's anger and an initially volatile correspondence evolves into a loving friendship. This charming story has a special chapter titled *P. S.*, which includes a dialogue between the two rabbits that briefly explain some literature genres and their specificity. The dynamic prose is perfectly engaging for the reader of any age, but it will be especially important for the beginners learning to differentiate genres. The creative mixed-media watercolor illustrations evoke child-like playfulness and tenderness.



Kreller, Susan. **You Can't See the Elephants**. Translated from the German *Elefanten Sieht Man Nicht* by Elizabeth Gaffney. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2015. ISBN 9780399172090. First published in 2012 by Carlsen Verlag GmbH: Hamburg, Germany. (Ages 9-12).

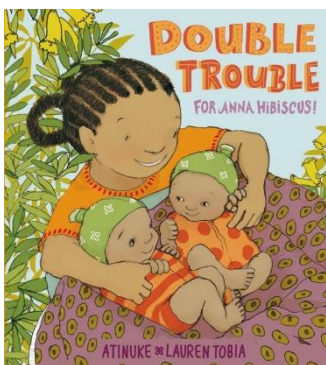
What will you do if you witness violence, especially violence committed by a powerful and beloved citizen of the local community? Will you reveal the truth? Will you stir up a stable life of a small community? Will you sacrifice your comfort and safety? In this profound novel, thirteen-year-old Mascha goes to the small town of Clinton for a summer break. Mascha, initially bored with the quiet life of her grandparents, visits the playground and soon becomes friends with local kids Julia and Max. Suddenly, she notices bruises on Julia and Max's bodies. Furthermore, Mascha witnesses the father's violence towards Max and Julia. Their father is a respectful resident of Clinton. Who will believe Mascha? Despite being afraid, Mascha finds the courage to stand up for her younger friends. This act changes the lives of not only Max and Julia but of the whole community of Clinton. Kreller's psychologically moving novel, written in short and laconic chapters, will touch the deepest emotions of the reader and will invite them to think deeper and broader about the price of truth.



Kreslehner, Gabi. **I Don't Live Here Anymore**. Translated from the German *Charlottes Traum* by Shelley Tanaka. Groundwood Books, 2015. ISBN 9781554988037. First published in 2009 by Beltz & Gelberg: Weinheim, Germany. (Ages 14-16).

Fifteen-year-old Charlotte's life is changing and she is resistant to all of the changes. Her mother and father have divorced and have found new partners and although Charlotte understands that there is no way "back to the suburb in the country, near the Danube, where we were so happy," she still wants her family back the way it was. When Charlotte falls in love with Carlo, an Italian boy, she starts to realize that love is a strange and complicated feeling and she must follow her heart to uncover the right path to follow. Realistic and honest, this Austrian novel will bring believable characters and their realms closer to their U.S. peers and in this way will shed some light on common problems of adolescence.

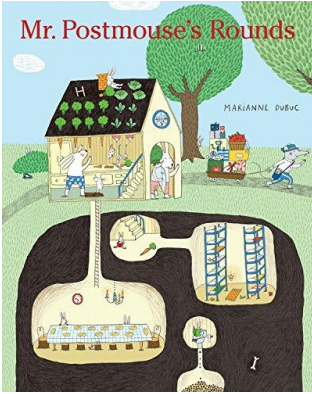
### Global Books for Younger Children



Atinuke. **Double Trouble for Anna Hibiscus**. Illustrated by Lauren Tobia. Kane Miller, 2015. ISBN 9781610673679. First published in 2015 by Walker Books: London, UK. (Ages 4-8).

Curious, energetic, and amazing as ever, Anna Hibiscus needs to adjust to "double-trouble": her two newborn brothers. There is not much to like about them: the boys take all of her parents and relatives' attention. It's simply unfair. When Anna's Papa learns about her feelings of loneliness and jealousy, he shows her how much love they can share together. This helps Anna to find comfort and welcome her new siblings into her heart and life. The colorful and lively scenes of daily life in a modern city provide appealing authenticity to the story of the great Hibiscus family.

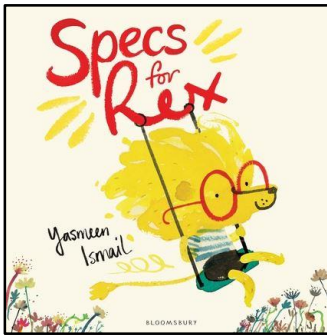




Dubuc, Marianne. **Mr. Postmouse's Rounds**. Translated the French *La Tournée de Facteur Souris* by Yvette Ghione. Kids Can Press, 2015. ISBN 9781771385725. First published in 2015 by Casterman: Paris, France. (Ages 4-8).

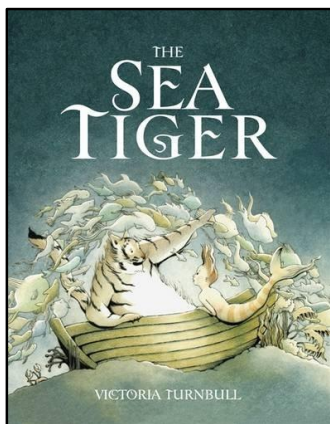
What a long route Mr. Postmouse needs to follow just to get a present to his beloved son! Due to his work as a mail carrier, Mr. Postmouse stops in a number of homes before he is able to deliver the special mail. Dubac's elaborate artwork transmits remarkable and funny elements of the anthropomorphized animals' house routines. Simple text, double-page spreads, and sparkles of humor make this picturebook an interactive visual feast and encourage readers to slow down for captivating detailed illustrations. This is a definite must for both classroom and

home libraries!



Ismail, Yasmeen. **Specs for Rex**. Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2015. ISBN 9781619637122. First published in 2014 by Bloomsbury Publishing Plc: London, UK. (Ages 4-8).

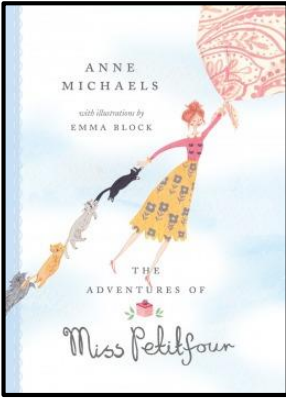
"Rex brushed his hair over his face. At least no one would be able to see his glasses." Does this sound familiar? How easy is it to find a pair of glasses that fits perfectly and looks good? This bright British export presents the comical and endearing episodic adventures of a young lion Rex as he adjusts to his new "specs". His clever antics meant to hide his glasses has the reverse effect, resulting in his finding his teacher's lost whistle and gaining the admiration of his peers. *Specs for Rex* is a wonderful, humorous picturebook that can be a pleasure to read for both children and adults!



Turnbull, Victoria. **The Sea Tiger**. Candlewick Press, 2015. ISBN 9780763679866. First published in 2015 by Templar Books: London, UK. (Ages 4-8).

It is such a fun to get into adventures with a best friend! The Sea Tiger and Oscar are explorers of extraordinary places. Their imagination has no limits. Yet, when it comes to the time to make friends, Oscar is shy. The Sea Tiger is definitely persuasive in helping Oscar to find friends. He even finds another Sea Tiger to show Oscar that friendship might reflect multiplicity of actions. So will Oscar follow him? Will he find a friend? *The Sea Tiger* is a beautifully designed heart-melting story of friendship in which the relationship between the heroes resembles that of a young child and an adult. The illustrations provide dynamic action while also showcasing some sweet-natured silliness.

## Global Books for Older Children



Michaels, Anne. **The Adventures of Miss Petitfour**. Illustrated by Emma Block. Tundra Books, 2015. ISBN 9781770495005. First published in 2015 by Tundra Books: Toronto, Canada. (Ages 8-12).

Miss Petitfour's style of living looks very boring. She takes care for her 16 cats and eats petite cakes. She does not like reading books with adventures, but manages to encounter little adventures every day. Combining some elements of the character of Mary Poppins with some charm from Aladdin, Anne Michaels creates a slow-paced story, which will be an enjoyable read for younger and older feline admirers. A definite advantage of this short novel is the vocabulary. Complex and defined words will serve as an educational tool for both English-speaking and English-learning readers. Talented and witty, Michaels plays with language adding to her style some traditional storytelling techniques. "Incredibly, impossibly, and coincidentally," as Michaels puts it, this story will provide readers with the adventures as wonderful as petit biscuits.

### Books for Additional Reading Pleasure

(Note: country listing indicates the book's country of origin)

- Arsenault, Isabelle. **Alpha**. Candlewick Press, 2015. ISBN 9780763678524. First published in 2014 by Les Éditions de la Pastèque: Montreal, Canada. (Ages 4-8).
- Buitrago, Jairo. **Two White Rabbits**. Illustrated by Rafael Yockteng. Translated from the Spanish by Elisa Amado. Groundwood Books, 2015. ISBN 9781554987412. First published in 2015 by Groundwood Books: Toronto, Canada. (Ages 4-8).
- Di Fiore, Mariangela. **Elephant Man**. Illustrated by Hilde Hodnefjeld. Translated from the Norwegian *Elefantmannen* by Rosie Hedger. Annick Press, 2015. ISBN 9781554517787. First published in 2013 by Cappelen Damm: Oslo, Norway. (Ages 4-8).
- Dragt, Tonke. **The Letter for the King**. Translated from the Dutch *De brief voor de koning* by Laura Watkinson. Scholastic, 2015. ISBN 9780545819787. First published in 1962 by Uitgeverij Leopold: Amsterdam, Netherlands. (Ages 9-12).
- Hussenot, Victor. **The Land of Lines**. Chronicle Books, 2015. ISBN 9781452142821. First published in 2014 by Editions La Joie de lire SA: Geneve, Switzerland. (Ages 4-8).
- Isol. **The Menino**. Translated from the French *El Menino* by Elisa Amado. Groundwood Books, 2015. ISBN 9781554987788. First published in 2015 by Groundwood Books: Toronto, Canada. (Ages 4-8).
- Miyakoshi, Akiko. **The Tea Party in the Woods**. Translated from the Japanese *Mori no oku no ochakai e*. Kids Can Press, 2015. ISBN 9781771381079. First published in 2010 by Kaisei-Sha Publishing: Tokyo, Japan. (Ages 4-8).
- Tallec, Olivier. **Who Done It?** Translated from the French *Quiquoiqui?* Chronicle Books, 2015. ISBN 9781452141985. First published in 2014 by Actes Sud: Paris, France. (Ages 4-8).
- Van De Vendel, Edward. **The Dog that Nino Didn't Have**. Illustrated by Anton Van Hertbruggen. Translated from the Dutch *het Hondje Dat Nino Niet Had* by Laura Watkinson. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2015. ISBN 9780802854513. First published in 2013 by Uitgeverij De Eenhoorn: Wielsbeke, Belgium. (Ages 4-8).

**The 2016 Sydney Taylor Book Awards  
Announced by the Association of Jewish Libraries**



**The Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner for Younger Readers:**

- *Ketzel, the Cat Who Composed* by Lesléa Newman with illustrations by Amy June Bates (Candlewick Press)

**The Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner for Older Readers:**

- *Adam & Thomas* by Aharon Appelfeld, translated by Jeffrey M. Green with illustrations by Philippe Dumas (Seven Stories Press)

**The Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner for Teen Readers:**

- *The Hired Girl* by Laura Amy Schlitz (Candlewick Press)

**Sydney Taylor Honor Books for Younger Readers:**

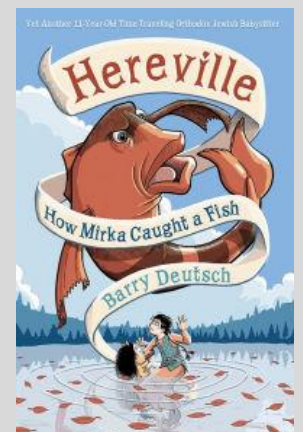
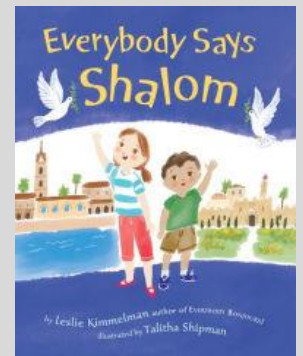
- *Everybody Says Shalom* by Leslie Kimmelman with illustrations by Talitha Shipman (Random House)
- *Shanghai Sukkah* by Heidi Smith Hyde with illustrations by Jing Jing Tsong (Kar-Ben Publishing)

**Sydney Taylor Honor Books for Older Readers:**

- *Hereville: How Mirka Caught a Fish* by Barry Deutsch (Amulet Books)

**Sydney Taylor Honor Books for Teen Readers:**

- *Serendipity's Footsteps* by Suzanne Nelson (Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House)
- *Stones on a Grave* by Kathy Kacer (Orca Book Publishers)

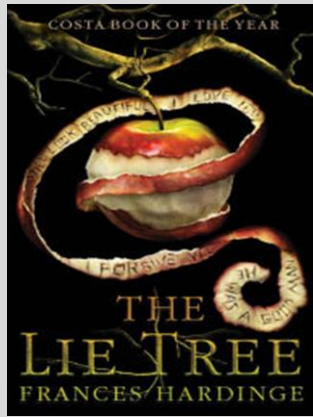




## AWARDS

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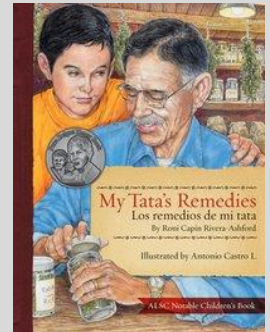
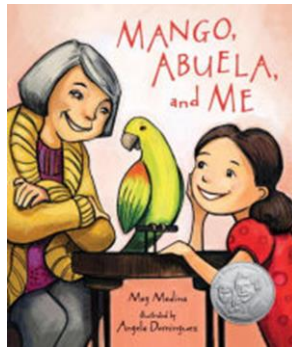
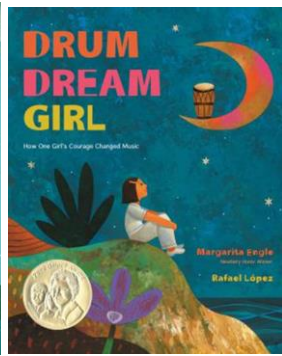
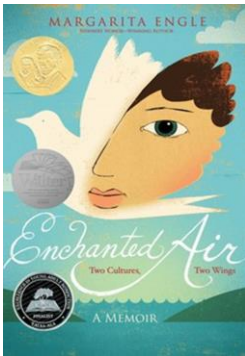


## 2015 COSTA BOOK AWARD

*The Lie Tree* by Frances Hardinge, published by Macmillan Children's Books, won the 2015 Costa children's book award. The other books shortlisted for the award included:

- *Sophie Someone* by Hayley Long (Hot Key Books)
- *An Island of Our Own* by Sally Nicholls (Scholastic)
- *Jessica's Ghost* by Andrew Norriss (David Fickling Books)

## 2016 Pura Belpre



## 2016 Author Award Winner

- *Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir*, written by Margarita Engle and published by Atheneum

## 2016 Illustrator Award Winner

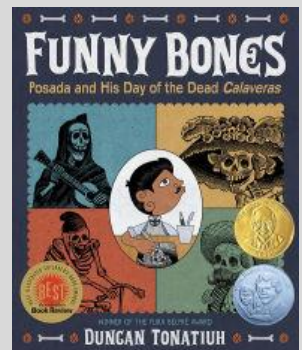
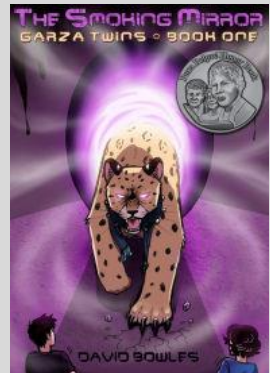
- *Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music*, illustrated by Rafael López and written by Margarita Engle and published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

## 2016 Author Honor Books

- *The Smoking Mirror*, written by David Bowles, published by IFWG Publishing
- *Mango, Abuela, and Me*, written by Meg Medina, illustrated by Angela Dominguez and published by Candlewick

## 2016 Illustrator Honor Books

- *My Tata's Remedies = Los remedios de mi tata*, illustrated by Antonio Castro L. and written by Roni Capin Rivera-Ashford and published by Cinco Puntos Press
- *Mango, Abuela, and Me*, illustrated by Angela Dominguez and written by Meg Medina and published by Candlewick
- *Funny Bones: Posada and His Day of the Dead Calaveras*, illustrated and written by Duncan Tonatiuh and published by Abrams Books



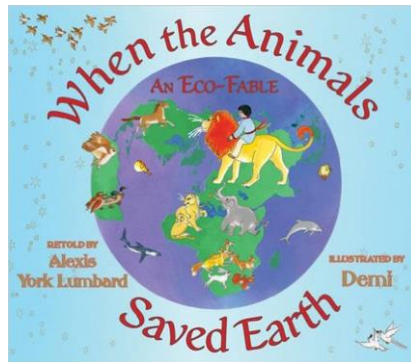
**2016  
Batchelder  
Award**



*The Wonderful Fluffy Little Squishy* published by Enchanted Lion is the 2016 Batchelder Award winner. Originally published in French in 2014 as “Le merveilleux Dodu-Velu-Petit,” the book was written and illustrated by Beatrice Alemagna, translated by Claudia Zoe Bedrick.

**2015 MEOC MIDDLE EAST BOOK AWARDS**

The 2015 Middle East Book Awards recognize quality publications in three categories: Picture Book, Youth Literature, and Youth Nonfiction.



**PICTURE BOOK**

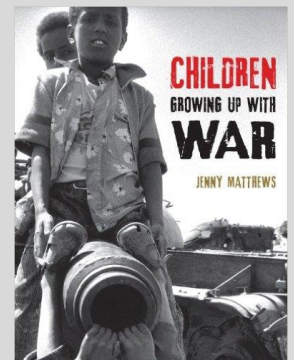
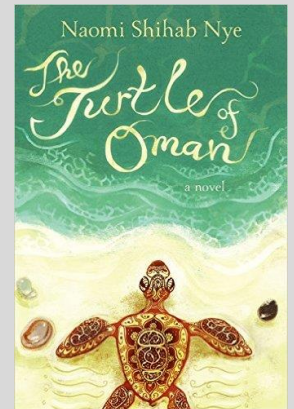
*When the Animals Saved Earth: An Eco-Fable* retold by Alexis York Lumbard, illustrator Demi, Wisdom Tales

**YOUTH LITERATURE**

*The Turtle of Oman* by Naomi Shihab Nye, Greenwillow Books

**YOUTH NON-FICTION**

*Children Growing Up with War* by Jenny Matthews, Candlewick Press





## Call for Manuscripts--*Journal of Children's Literature*

### Open-Themed Issue (Spring 2017) DUE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

In this open-themed issue, we invite researchers and teachers to submit manuscripts on all aspects of children's literature. We accept original theoretical and empirical research papers on children's literature and its use, including practitioner-authored papers for a new, regular classroom-focused feature entitled Teacher's Voices. What should readers of the *Journal of Children's Literature* be thinking about in regard to literature intended for children? What theoretical perspectives are being applied to deepen current understandings about children's literature? What are key concerns about children's literature in and across research, teaching, and publishing at this time? How is children's literature used in your classroom? What issues are you facing? Join us in compiling a collection of articles that will engage those interested in children's literature with considerations at the leading edge of the field. Please send manuscripts and queries for this issue to [jcl@education.illinois.edu](mailto:jcl@education.illinois.edu).

## CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, & WORKSHOPS

The spring and summer offer many opportunities for professional development related to literacy and children's and young adult literature. Here are just a few opportunities.

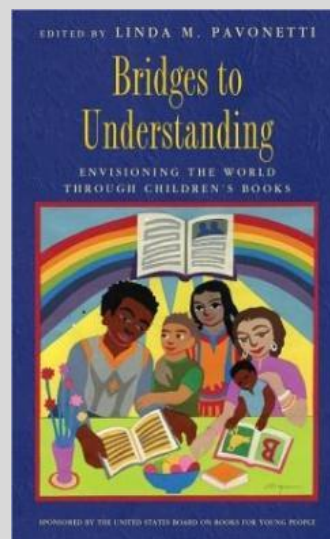
- **Highlights Foundation Workshops**, <http://www.highlightsfoundation.org/upcoming-workshops/>
- **Children's Literature Association (CHLA)**, June 9-11, 2016, Columbus, OH [www.childlitassn.org](http://www.childlitassn.org)
- **American Library Association Annual Conference**, June 23-28, 2016, Orlando, FL <http://2016.alaannual.org/>
- **Australian Association for the Teaching of English and the Australian Literacy Educators' Association Conference**, July 7-10, 2016, Adelaide, <http://www.englishliteracyconference.com.au/>
- **International Reading Association**, July 9-11, 2016, Boston, MA [www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)
- **Egyptian Association for Reading and Literacy Annual Conference**, July 20-21, 2016, Cairo, Egypt, <http://earl-eg.com/>
- **20<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Literacy**, July 3-6, 2017, Madrid, Spain <http://www.asociacionaele.org/lNICIO/20th-European-Conference-of-Literacy/>

Stay connected and  
find out the latest  
news about USBBY



## Available Now

More information about *Bridges to Understanding: Envisioning the World through Children's Eyes*, the fourth volume sponsored by the United States Board on Books for Young People, following *Children's Books from Other Countries* (1998), *The World Through Children's Books* (2002), and *Crossing Boundaries* (2006) is available at the Scarecrow Press website at <http://www.scarecrowpress.com/>



## CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

Every spring and summer there are many opportunities to celebrate literacy and emphasize the importance of reading children's and young adult literature.

**International Children's Book Day**, April 2, 2016, check out the USBBY website at <http://www.usbby.org/icbd.html> for ideas about how you can participate and celebrate this day!

**Día de los niños/Día de los libros**, April 30, 2016

**National Poetry Month**, April is National Poetry Month. Check out the many ideas for celebrating poetry at <http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/41>

**School Library Month**, April, 2016, is the American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) celebration of school librarians and their programs. Information can be found at <http://www.ala.org/aasl/slm>

**National Library Week**, April 10-16, 2016 sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country. Check out <http://www.ala.org/nlw>

**Support Teen Literature Day**, During School Library Month, April 16 offers a special focus on teens and literature. Go to [http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Celebrate Teen Literature Day](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/Celebrate_Teen_Literature_Day) for details.

**Children's Book Week**, May 2-8 2016, is the national celebration of books and reading for young people. The **Children's Choice Book Awards** will be announced at a gala during this week. Details about this week are available at <http://www.bookweekonline.com/about>

See the fall issue of *Bridges* for more upcoming events.

## Reminder:

**El día de los niños/  
El día de los libros**

## Children's Day/Book Day

Join readers of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds on April 30, 2016 for El día de los niños/El día de los libros— a celebration of children, families, and reading. For information and resources to plan your own Día, visit <http://www.patmora.com/dia/>

Share your experiences in celebrating this on-going and growing event!



## Membership Options and Annual Dues

### I. Active Members

(add \$50 for *Bookbird*)

- A. Basic \$ 50
- B. Sustaining \$ 75
- C. Donor \$ 150
- D. Sponsor \$ 500
- E. Patron \$1000
- F. Student \$ 20

*\*3 year maximum with instructor information*

### II. Institutional

- A. Basic \$250
- B. Sponsor \$500 \*\*
- C. Publisher Patron \$1000 \*\*

*\*\* includes an individual subscription to Bookbird and link from USBBY website to the organization's site.*

bridges

## USBBY MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Email address \_\_\_\_\_

[Membership dues, contributions, and gifts are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.] Additional donations to "IBBY Children in Crisis Fund" or "Hands Across the Sea" provide support for needy IBBY sections.

*Please mail this form with your check made payable to USBBY to:  
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CA 93711-2363*