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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 2012 Volume XXXVIII No.1



9th IBBY Regional Conference Peace the World Together with Children's Books --

A Great Success!

Beverly Naidoo from the UK, Ellis Vance from the US, and Jehan Helou from Palestine reflect the international focus of this memorable conference as they participate in the opening festivities with a choral reading from the *Peace Story Collection*.



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 Web site, sponsors regional conferences which feature speakers of international interest, and co-sponsors sessions held at conferences of the American Library Association, the International Reading 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

Officers

President, Doris Gebel, Kathy East, President-elect Barbara Lehman, Past President Joan I. Glazer, Treasurer Evie Freeman, Recording Secretary V. Ellis Vance, Executive Director

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Mitali Perkins (through 2013)
Beverly Hock (through 2012)
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(Center for Teaching through Children's Books)
Junko Yokota, CTCB Director

Other Appointments

Nancy L. Hadaway, *Bridges* Editor Roxanne Harde, Editor, *Bookbird* Lydia Kokkola, Editor, *Bookbird* Valerie Coughlin, *Bookbird*, Inc. Board President 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 \$40.00 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.

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. Deadline for submissions are July 15 and January 15. Editor contact information: Dr. Nancy L. Hadaway, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education & Health Professions, Box 19777, 502 Yates St., Arlington, TX 76019-0777. Email: hadaway@uta.edu.

From the USBBY President

Dear USBBY Members and friends,

It is an honor and a privilege to serve this organization as president and I hope that you will join me in spreading the word about IBBY and USBBY this year. I first learned of IBBY in 1975 when I took a course from Dr. Margaret Porch in Library School and I took it for granted that everyone learned about this inspiring organization. All these years later, I am often amazed at how few of my colleagues in the children's literature world know about USBBY. We sing "it's a small world" and increasingly hear about our shrinking world and global connectivity. USBBY is one way we can make a connection to the values and dreams of others and promote international understanding through literature for children.

I had an opportunity to begin to think more deeply about this topic at our recent co-sponsored session at the ALA Midwinter Meetings. Nick Lake brought this message home in a powerful speech introducing the audience to Steven Pinker's *The Better Angels of Our Nature*. Simply put, it is reading that widens our circles of empathy. In my notes, I wrote "when someone else's thoughts are in your head, you are observing the world from that person's vantage point." No wonder that those of us who intuitively understand this are so passionate about promoting international books. We know that it is one way to see beyond the limits of our self, our family, our neighborhood and try to understand what it feels like in someone else's place.

As so often happens at a conference, I seemed to hear the theme of Mr. Lake's talk all throughout the weekend ending with Guadalupe Garcia McCall's acceptance speech for her book *Under the Mesquite* at the YALSA Morris and Nonfiction Award Reception. She said: "In Spanish, ALA means wing...in essence that is what YALSA does, bestow wings upon books so that they might fly as far and wide as they need to fly in order to reach the most important destination of all, the young reader's mind. By honoring our books today, YALSA has made more than our dreams come true, they have allowed our words to take flight, to soar, to glide and reach young people wherever they may be in life."

This is in fact, one important aspect of the work of USBBY. By bringing attention to books that honor and respect cultures other than our own, we help our children widen their circles of empathy. I encourage you to spread the word about these books by sharing the Outstanding International Books List, the *Bridges to Understanding* annotated bibliographies, and Jella Lepman's Autobiography. Plan an International Children's Book Day celebration for children in your community. Spread the word about the Bridge to Understanding Award. Take advantage of every opportunity to be an Ambassador for USBBY.

As you know, the mission of USBBY goes beyond sharing books in our own backyard. We work 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; to stimulate research and scholarly works in the field of children's literature, all to the ultimate goal of bringing children and books together. To this end, I hope that you will find Barbara Lehman's column "Global Partnerships" and the new page on the website with information about the way USBBY is supporting IBBY National Sections through Twinning initiatives helpful. Another way you can support these efforts is by contributing Special Projects and the Children in Crisis Fund. I encourage you to become informed about these works and to share this information with your colleagues.

Most importantly, I ask you to join me in spreading the word about USBBY. Set a goal of encouraging one colleague to join USBBY, become a State Ambassador, put an Outstanding International Book in the hand of a child, plan an International Children's Book Day Celebration, before you receive your next newsletter.

Sincerely yours,

Doris Gebel



Planning Ahead-Upcoming IBBY Congresses

2012: Imperial College, London, United Kingdom is the site for the 33rd IBBY Congress to be hosted by IBBY UK, August 23-26. The theme will be *Translations and Migrations: Moving Forward with Children's Books*.

Detailed information with a welcome by UK Children's Laureate, Anthony Browne can be found at http://www.ibbycongress2012.org/.

2014: Mexico City, Mexico is the venue for the 34th IBBY Congress.

Provisional dates are September 15-21 and the theme is *Reading as a Social Inclusion Tool: In the Classroom, the Library, and Other Social Spaces*.

2016: Auckland, New Zealand will host the 35th IBBY Congress, August 30-September 3, 2016.

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

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.

Bridges to Understanding: Envisioning the World Through Children's Books Linda Pavonetti

As "baby-boomers," many of us shared the same childhood. World War II ended, soldiers returned to their homes, married and started a family. They moved to the suburbs—a modern trend that mushroomed as transportation improved—and isolated their children from the world they had seen as combatants. The baby-boomers learned history and geography in school, but few children had the opportunity to visit other lands or meet those who lived there.

As adults, many have carried that isolationist upbringing into present day. Those who live in major urban centers may have extended their global understanding but unfortunately, in many locations, "The Ugly American" (Lederer & Burdick, 1958) still exists. This series of books, published by Scarecrow Press in conjunction with The United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY), is a tool that librarians and teachers can use to combat the resurgence in American isolation.

In accord with USBBY's parent organization, the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), and with USBBY's own mission statement, the philosophy of these four books is to facilitate "the international exchange of information about books and reading" (USBBY Mission, www.usbby.org).

When Carl M. Tomlinson edited the first book in this series, *Children's Books from Other Countries* (1998), there had been no such resources published in at least 20 years. His annotated bibliography contains books from more than 29 countries printed between 1950 and 1996. Susan Stan expanded the series with *The World Through Children's Books* (2001). She included international books published between 1996 and 2000 as well as American books that are set in foreign locales or "written by newcomers to America, whose memories of their homelands have shaped their work" (p. ix). Both of these volumes included excellent essays on international literature for children and ideas for sharing these books with children. In 2006, Scarecrow and USBBY co-published *Crossing Boundaries with Children's Books* by Doris J. Gebel. This edition extended the coverage of the series through 2005, where the current book begins. Gebel included essays from experts in international children's books and numerous resources for finding these books.

The current volume—*Bridges to Understanding: Envisioning the World Through Children's Books*—continues the series and includes upwards of 700 books from more than 70 nations published through 2010. Although most of the book's content is organized similar to the previous volumes, there are several recognizable contrasts. One is the front matter.

Both of the essays that introduce the 4th edition come directly from an IBBY or USBBY speech. Andrea Cheng was the guest speaker at a USBBY co-sponsored IRA session in 2009. Her apologia for writing about China and Hungry addressed a long-standing debate within the field of children's literature. Cheng was raised in a household where she spoke Hungarian and English—without embarrassment. She learned to speak Chinese to communicate better with her husband's family. Cheng's essay bridges cultures and encourages readers to appreciate the variety often found in their neighborhoods.

Barbara Lehman's essay was presented at the IBBY World Congress in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Although more practical in that it compares themes found in South African children's books with similar themes in American books, Lehman sounds a note that resonates with Cheng's. "Teachers and librarians who are committed to the ideals of IBBY will want to provide young readers with the kind of wide reading material that encircles the globe" (Lehman, 2011, p. 13).

Another notable change is a catalog of all the USBBY Outstanding International Books List books from 2006, when the award was established, through 2010. The information begins on page 426 and each annual OIB list includes country of origin, bibliographic information, and appropriate grade level. Reviews of these books are listed alphabetically with each pertinent country.

The fourfold IBBY mission, to promote international understanding through children's books, to give all children access to quality books, to encourage the publication and distribution of quality children's books, especially in developing countries, and to support and train people involved with children, children's

literature, and research in the field of children's literature ("About IBBY," www.ibby.org), is at the heart of each of the four volumes of USBBY's *Bridges to Understanding* series. If you are not familiar with these four books, I urge you to order one—or all of them—from your local bookseller. If you have these books in your library or classroom, tell a friend. The only way we can encourage publishers to import books from underrepresented countries is to request more translated or co-published books and share our interest in international children's' books with our community at large.

We all look forward to the next edition, which will be edited by Annette Goldsmith and may include reviews written by you.

Resources

Gebel, D. (Ed.). (2006). Crossing boundaries with children's books. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.

Lederer, W. J., & Burdick, E. (1958). The ugly American. New York: Norton.

Pavonetti, L. M. (Ed.). (2011). Bridges to understanding: Envisioning the world through children's books.

Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.

Stan, S. (Ed.). (2002). The world through children's books. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.

Tomlinson, C. M. (Ed.). (1998). Children's books from other countries. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.

USBBY Mission. http://www.usbby.org/usbby.html

What is IBBY? http://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=266

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/

Bookbird:

Call for Papers: Children's Literature from the Commonwealth of Nations

The new editors of *Bookbird* invite submissions for a Special Issue of the journal in conjunction with the Commonwealth Education Trust (CET). The CET has promoted education, literacy and literature throughout the member states of the Commonwealth of Nations for 125 years. Their work has much in common with IBBY. Papers are invited on the literatures of Commonwealth countries, as well as on literacy education, the development of the imagination and critical thinking through reading, and other practical uses of literature. Papers of 4000 words are invited on, but not limited to, the following topics:

- National identity in literature for children and teens
- Literacy programmes which incorporate children's literature
- Thematic developments in national literatures
- Indigenous and diasporic literatures for children
- Multilingual children's literature
- The impact of colonization and/or Empire on national literatures for children
- The oral tradition and/or literary retellings
- Trends in illustration techniques
- Prizes for children's literature
- Non-fiction publishing for children and teens

Titles and abstracts of 250 words should be sent to both editors by **15**th **May 2012**. Roxanne Harde rharde@augustana.ca and Lydia Kokkola lydia.kokkola@utu.fi. The full papers will be expected by **30**th **June 2012**. Please see *Bookbird*'s website at www.ibby.org/bookbird for full submission details.

9th IBBY Regional Conference in Review

Keynote Speakers on Saturday and Sunday Shared Their Creative Process

Pam Munoz Ryan was one of several outstanding keynote speakers during the 9th IBBY Regional conference. She shared that her award winning book, *The Dreamer*, grew out of an invitation by the Ministry of Education to visit Chile. To prepare for writing the book, Ryan read biographies about Neruda, visited his homes in Chile, read his memoir and poetry as well as archived articles about him. She immersed herself in his life and his words. In terms of format, *The Dreamer* was a departure for Ryan. Using Neruda's *Book of Questions* as her inspiration, she decided to write *The Dreamer* in poetic format.



Luncheon speakers, **Roger Mello** and **David Diaz**, offered an opportunity for conference participants to learn more about the visual aspects of storytelling. Mello, the first Brazilian illustrator to be named a finalist for the Hans Christian Anderson Award, stated that he does not make a hard distinction between image and text. He feels that the design of his books is a narrative element. Caldecott winner, David Diaz, noted that he particularly enjoys illustrating poetry and songs because the sparse text allows more room for creativity. He continued by sharing the symbolism behind each of the major designs in his book, *Let There Be Peace*.

The **Friday evening reception**offered a chance to interact with a variety of authors.





Margarita Engle's interest in Cuba is personal; it's a family connection. While Margarita lived in Los Angeles as a youngster, she spent summers in Cuba visiting her mother's family. These trips sparked her love of nature and botany and her mother's birthplace. During one of her childhood visits to Cuba, diplomatic relations broke down between the US and Cuba and as a result, Cuba became more inaccessible. That experience helps Margarita to empathize with adolescents and to write for them as she feels young people often feel isolated.

Author, **Grace Lin**, and editor, **Alvina Ling**, met when they were only ten years old after Alvina's family moved to New Hartford, NY. The pair quickly became friends. Although Alvina's family moved to California three years later, the two stayed in touch because of their shared love of reading and writing. Grace shared that part of the inspiration for her Newbery Honor book, *When the Mountain Meets the Moon*, was a result of the Chinese folktales her mother had encouraged her to read as a young person. Later when Grace traveled to Asia, she remembered these tales, and they formed a rough foundation for the novel.



Learning Through Breakout Sessions & Post Conference Tours





Don't Miss This Event! April 30, 2012

IRA-USBBY Co-Sponsored Session in Chicago

Celebrating Teaching: Influencing the Literacies of Children and Youth

Date/Time: Monday, April 30, 2012, 3:00-4:00 pm **Location:** Hyatt Regency McCormick Place, CC10A

Author/Illustrator: Eric Velasquez

For more information about this talented author/illustrator, check out his

website at http://www.ericvelasquez.com/

January 20, 2012 ALA-USBBY Co-Sponsored Session, Dallas

The January ALA-USBBY session featured Nick Lake, author of *In Darkness*, set in Haiti in two eras: the present and the 1790s. *In Darkness* was published by Bloomsbury. In addition to the author presentation, the 2012 Outstanding International Book list was announced.



Upcoming 2012 ALA Co-Sponsored Session, Anaheim, California

The United States Board on Books for Young People (USBBY) and the Association of Library Services to Children (ALSC) are pleased to present a panel of three outstanding authors whose books are set during three different wars-World War I, World War II, and the war in Afghanistan. The panel members will relate the "stories behind the stories" of their books along with difficulties encountered in writing about this topic for young people.

Session Title: Writing about War for Young People: Three Writers, Three Wars. **Tentative Date/Time:** Saturday, June 23, 2012 from 4:00-5:30.

Presenters: Monika Schroeder, author of *My Brother's Shadow* (FSG, 2011); Ruta Sepetys, author of *Between Shades of Gray* (Philomel, 2011); and Trent Reedy, author of *Words into Dust* (Arthur Levine/Scholastic, 2011)

Coming November 2012

2012 National Council of Teachers of English Las Vegas, Nevada Focus: Outstanding International Books
for Children and Young Adults
Date/Time: TBA
Featuring an author from the 2012
Outstanding International Book list
and a brief presentation of this year's list.

NCTE-USBBY Co-Sponsored Session in Chicago, Sunday, November 20, 2011 Outstanding Books For and About Young People with Disabilities

USBBY has as one of its objectives to promote books that depict disabled people with an emphasis on similarities rather than differences in order to give all readers the possibility of understanding. In keeping with this focus, the NCTE-USBBY co-sponsored session featured Sharon Draper. To begin her presentation, she challenged the audience with the question: Suppose you could not communicate, but you loved words. How frustrating would that be? To demonstrate further, she had volunteers come to the front to participate in a question/answer session. First, they could respond verbally; next they could not. Then, she asked the audience how they might feel toward someone in the last situation. Would we feel sorry or believe that such a person was not very smart? Her demonstration set the stage for her discussion of Melody, the character in *Out of My Mind*. In addition to Sharon Draper's presentation, the IBBY Outstanding Books for and about Young People with Disabilities were displayed, and Ms. Draper was presented a certificate acknowledging the selection of her book to this international book list.



Global Partnerships

Barbara Lehman

USBBY is privileged to have twinning partnerships with other IBBY national sections, which are one of the important means of internationalizing USBBY. Twinning can take many forms, but in keeping with USBBY's mission, the intent is to promote international understanding of peace and goodwill between and among countries through books for children and young adults, by

- Exploring and promoting materials of literary merit for young people;
- Cooperating with IBBY and other organizations with similar goals as USBBY;
- Facilitating the exchange of information about books of international interest for children/young people;
 and
- Promoting reading of such books by children and young people in the United States.

Currently, USBBY has such partnerships with the national sections of **Haiti, Lebanon, Palestine, South Africa, and Zambia**.

Twinning is meant to mutually benefit both countries. It is a prime means to know and work more closely with specific countries. To facilitate these partnerships, one or more USBBY Board members volunteer as liaisons with each twinning partner.

The following are USBBY Board initiatives currently underway.

- Include news about twinning partners in a regular "Global Partnerships" column in Bridges.
- Feature speakers, books, and topics related to twinning partners whenever feasible at USBBY cosponsored sessions for IRA, NCTE, and ALA, in addition to the biennial IBBY Regional Conference.
- Pay IBBY dues for under-funded national sections.
- Encourage twinning with children's libraries.
- Provide funding to purchase books or other needed resources for classrooms and libraries.
- Support cultural exchange and visits between members of USBBY and twinning national sections.
- Provide or fund training for writers, illustrators, editors, librarians, and publishers.
- Develop reciprocal website postings of newsletters, information about projects, lists of children's books published in each country, and relevant websites.
- Facilitate fellowships for writers, illustrators, editors, librarians, and publishers, or persons who want to study children's literature and its use with children.

USBBY invites all its members to contribute to our twinning initiatives with these national sections. If you have current connections with any of them, specific ideas of ways to collaborate with any of these sections, or wish to be involved with any of them, you may contact Barbara Lehman (Lehman.1@osu.edu) to indicate your interest and ideas. We look forward to hearing from you!

<u>Twinning partner board liaisons</u> (Coordinated by Barbara Lehman, 2012)

Haiti: Barbara Lehman, Evie Freeman, Cathy Kurkjian

Lebanon: Doris Gebel, Beth Eller, Mitali Perkins Palestine: Bev Hock, Nancy Hadaway, Kathy East

South Africa: Barbara Lehman, Doris Walker-Dalhouse, Jim Stiles

Zambia: Ellis Vance, Janelle Mathis

The PoetryTagTime Project: Poems for the 21st Century by Janet Wong and Sylvia Vardell

One year ago we founded the *PoetryTagTime* project, taking poetry into the digital realm with the first-ever e-book anthologies of original poetry for children and teens: *PoetryTagTime*, *P*TAG* (for teens), and *Gift Tag* (holiday poems). We embarked on this project in order to put "21st century poetry" into the hands of young readers all over the world.

What is "21st Century Poetry"?

21st century poetry addresses contemporary topics. "World Wide Wag" by April Halprin Wayland, a poem in *PoetryTaqTime*, is a perfect example (excerpted below):

World Wide Wag

by April Halprin Wayland

If you were a dog if you were asleep

if your tail made a sweep of the floor like a broom

if your big goofy paws were seen racing on air

. . .

if I put you on YouTube would you be embarrassed

if puppies with laptops could see you in Paris?

copyright ©2011 by April Halprin Wayland

Poems for the 21st Century urge us to think about our global neighbors, such as Naomi Shihab Nye's poem "Blue Bucket," written for P*TAG (excerpted below):

Blue Bucket

by Naomi Shihab Nye

What if, instead of war, we shared our buckets of wind and worry?
Said, tell me the story
You carry there

. . .

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even if we don't speak the same language, I'll sip your dream, and then, and then, say .... you hold my bucket a while, see what the handle feels like, and I hold yours, or maybe ... we trade them forever ...
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copyright ©2011 by Naomi Shihab Nye

But while fresh topics and global perspectives characterize the poetry of the 21st century, what makes these poems most different from poems of the past has less to do with literature and more to do with economics and timing: they are affordable and instantly available.

Any librarian who receives shipments of international books knows that a book's retail price is only part of its cost. A print book's real costs include not only physical facilities needed for shelving, but shipping charges and often-exorbitant customs duties. The transportation cost of an international book is the biggest impediment to developing a global community of readers. Without these costs, international publishers who produce e-books will flourish and be able to reach new audiences all over the world. And in places where traditional libraries are difficult to establish and maintain, e-books can make a huge impact. Worldreader.org has distributed thousands of free downloads of *PoetryTagTime* and Janet's *Once Upon A Tiger* to children in Ghana and Kenya.

Imagine that a librarian in New York reads about a new e-book published in Singapore or Spain during lunch. Because of the instant delivery of an e-book, she can buy it on impulse (for half the price of her lunch) and project it onto a screen for her story time that same afternoon. In our view, that is the most exciting possibility of 21st century literature—delivering the world, in thirty seconds or less.

About the authors:

Sylvia Vardell is Professor, School of Library and Information Studies at Texas Woman's University. Her current work focuses on poetry for young people, including her regular blog, PoetryforChildren.

Janet Wong obtained her law degree from Yale, but decided to write for young people instead; she is the author of two dozen books, including the e-books *Once Upon A Tiger* and *Declaration of Interdependence: Poems for an Election Year.*

Play along with the poets at our blogs:

http://teenpoetrytagtime.blogspot.com http://poetrygifttag.blogspot.com

Find classroom ideas for sharing poetry:

http://poetrytagtime.blogspot.com

Read more about our project:

www.PoetryTagTime.com

ANNOUNCING THE 2012 OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL BOOKS

Beginning in 2006 USBBY has selected an honor list of international books for young people. The USBBY Outstanding International Books List is published each year in the February issue of *School Library Journal* and as a bookmark. Here is the 2012 list. For more information, go to www.usbby.org

GRADES K-2

Devernay, Laëtitia. **The Conductor.** Chronicle. (France)

Gormley, Greg. Dog in Boots. Illus. by Roberta Angaramo. Holiday House. (UK)

Könnecke, Ole. Anton Can Do Magic. Tr. by Catherine Chidgey. Gecko. (Germany)

Padmanabhan, Manjula. I Am Different! Can You Find Me? Charlesbridge. (India)

Schubert, Ingrid and Dieter. **The Umbrella.** Lemniscaat. (Netherlands)

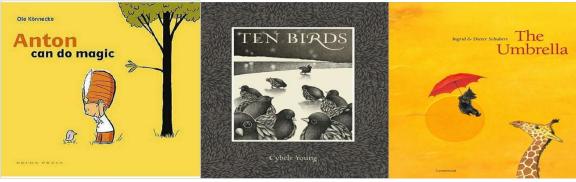
Trottier, Maxine. Migrant. Illus. by Isabelle Arsenault. Groundwood. (Canada)

Tullet, Hervé. Press Here. Tr. by Christopher Franceschelli. Chronicle. (France)

Van Mol, Sine. Meena. Illus. by Carianne Wijffels. Eerdmans. (Belgium)

Vande Griek, Susan. Loon. Illus. by Karen Reczuch. Groundwood. (Canada)

Young, Cybèle. Ten Birds. Kids Can. (Canada)



GRADES 3-5

Abela, Deborah. Ghosts of Gribblesea Pier. Farrar Straus Giroux. (Australia)

Andrews, Jan. When Apples Grew Noses and White Horses Flew: Tales of Ti-Jean. Illus. by Dušan Petričić. Groundwood. (Canada)

Arrigan, Mary. The Rabbit Girl. Frances Lincoln. (UK)

Ibbotson, Eva. The Ogre of Oglefort. Illus. by Lisa K. Weber. Dutton. (UK)

Jordan-Fenton, Christy & Margaret Pokiak-Fenton. **A Stranger at Home: A True Story.** Illus. by Liz Amini-Holmes. Annick. (Canada)

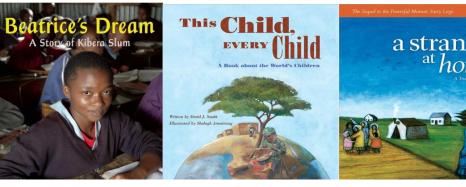
Kojo, KP. **The Parade: A Stampede of Stories About Ananse, the Trickster Spider.** Illus. by Karen Lilje. Frances Lincoln. (UK/set in Ghana)

Naidoo, Beverley. Aesop's Fables. Illus. by Piet Grobler. Frances Lincoln. (UK/set in southern Africa)

Smith, David. **This Child, Every Child: A Book about the World's Children.** Illustrated by Shelagh Armstrong. Kids Can. (Canada)

Wang, Gabrielle. The Garden of Empress Cassia. Illus. by author. Kane Miller. (Australia)

Williams, Karen Lynn. **Beatrice's Dream: A Story of Kibera Slum.** Illus. by Wendy Stone. Frances Lincoln. (UK/set in Kenya)



GRADES 6-8

Ashley, Bernard. Aftershock. Frances Lincoln. (UK)

Brooks, Martha. Queen of Hearts. Farrar Straus Giroux. (Canada)

Dumon Tak, Bibi. **Soldier Bear.** Illus. by Philip Hopman. Tr. by Laura Watkinson. Eerdmans. (Netherlands/set in Iran & Italy)

Gerszak, Rafal & Dawn Hunter. Beyond Bullets: A Photo Journal of Afghanistan. Annick. (Canada)

Hartnett, Sonya. The Midnight Zoo. Illus. by Andrea Offermann. Candlewick. (Australia/set in eastern Europe)

Lewis, Gill. Wild Wings. Illus. by Yuta Onoda. Atheneum. (UK)

Morpurgo, Michael. An Elephant in the Garden. Feiwel & Friends. (UK/set in Germany)

Nicholls, Sally. Season of Secrets. Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic. (UK)

Reeve, Philip. A Web of Air. Scholastic. (UK)

Tan, Shaun. Lost & Found. Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic. (Australia)



GRADES 9-12

Arni, Samhita. Sita's Ramayana. Illus. by Moyna Chitrakar. Groundwood. (Canada/set in India)

Brooks, Kevin. iBoy. Chicken House/Scholastic. (UK)

Christopher, Lucy. Flyaway. Chicken House/Scholastic. (UK)

Herrera, Nicholas. **High Riders, Saints and Death Cars: A Life Saved by Art.** Illus. by John T. Denne. Tr. by Elisa Amato. Groundwood. (Canada/set in New Mexico)

Wallace, Jason. Out of Shadows. Holiday House. (UK/set in Zimbabwe)

Zafón, Carlos Ruiz. The Midnight Palace. Tr. by Lucia Graves. Little, Brown. (Spain/set in India)



How Does that Translate

by Peg Ciszek

And now for the Awards....

The Mildred L. Batchelder Medal is awarded annually to a U.S. Publisher for a distinguished translated children's book. The book must have been originally published in another country and translated into English from another language. The 2012 winner announced at ALA Midwinter Conference in January is Eerdmans Books for Young Readers Soldier Bear by Bibi Dumon Tak, translated from the Dutch by Laura Watkinson and reviewed in the Fall USBBY Newsletter. Based on true events, a bear cub is adopted into an army unit by Polish soldiers during WWII. The bear is officially registered as a soldier and travels with the army for five years. An honor award went to Delacorte Press for The Lily Pond by Annika Thor, translated from the Swedish by Linda Schenck. Lily Pond is annotated below with additional titles that were translated during 2011.

Books for Young Children



Bansch, Helga. **Odd Bird Out**. Translated from the German by Monika Smith. Gecko Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-877467-08-0. (Ages 4-7)

Ravens always dress in black, that is until Robert is hatched. Robert loves to dress in bright colors; he cracks jokes and sings. The other ravens feel that his songs are out of tune and his jokes are juvenile. On concert night, when Robert shows up dressed as a peacock singing a peacock song, the ravens have had enough. Robert is banished. He joins a flock of colorful birds and is soon a hit with his singing. When the ravens become bored by their own routine color and behavior, they enjoy the singing of a flashy newcomer, Bobby Raver. His admiring raven fan base dress in wild colors never realizing the performer is one of their own - Robert.

Beskow, Elsa. **Princess Sylvie**. Translated from the Swedish *Sessalätts äventyr*. Floris Books, 2011. ISBN 978-086315-813-1. (Ages 3-6)

First published in Swedish in 1934, this story has the feel of a tale told long ago. Princess Sylvie convinces her father the King to unlock the gate that limits their walks to the castle grounds. While they explore the large wooded area outside the castle gate, Sylvie becomes separated from her father. Sylvie meets a talking bear and at his request she climbs on his back and they travel through the woods. She is eventually reunited with her father but bear invites her to visit again. Sylvie and her father return to the castle just in time for tea.

Boyer, Cécile. **Woof Meow Tweet-Tweet**. Translated from the French *Ouaf Miaou Cui-Cui*. Seven Footer Kids, 2011. ISBN 978-1-934734-60-5. (Ages 5-8)

The three characters in this story, dog, cat, and bird are illustrated as text. Dog is the word "woof," cat is "meow," and bird is "tweet-tweet." The word "woof" plays outdoors, does tricks, chases a ball, and sometimes fights with cat (or the word "meow"). The life of a dog is creatively illustrated displaying the word woof in a doghouse, in a vertical column when doing tricks or jumbled up with the word "meow" when dog and cat get in a fight. An unconventional look at the lives of three different animals.

Coudray, Philippe. **Benjamin Bear in Fuzzy Thinking.** Translated from the French by Leigh Stein. TOON Books/Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN 978-1-935179-12-2. (Ages 5-8)

In clever, imaginative stories told in one page cartoon panels, Bear and his friends ingeniously solve problems, enjoy outings, and deal with inclement weather. In one of the tales, Bear chats with the Moon who has stopped by for a visit on a warm day. They picnic and Bear offers food to the Moon who is in crescent phase. As the Moon continues to eat and eat, it eventually changes to a "full" moon. A mixture of wit, humor, and fun can be found in this early reader in graphic novel format.

Haas, Rick de. **Peter and the Winter Sleepers**. Translated from the Dutch *Elmo en de winterslapers*. NorthSouth, 2011. ISBN 978-0-7358-4033-1. (Ages 4-7)

A huge snowfall forces Grandma to bring the chicken and goat inside the lighthouse where she lives with her grandson Peter and his pet dog. The snowfall continues to build until it eventually covers the door. Soon wild animals are begging to come in - birds, mice, rabbits. When a fox arrives, Grandma is not sure it is a good idea to allow him in the house with animals that are usually his dinner. When gull goes missing, Peter assumes the fox has eaten her and he chases fox outside. When Peter discovers that gull was always safe, he runs out into the snow to rescue fox. As an apology for the misunderstanding, Peter offers fox a choice of beds in the lighthouse.

Hole, Stian. **Garmann's Secret.** Translated from Norwegian *Garmanns hemmelight* by Don Bartlett. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN 978-0-8028-5400-1. (Age 7-10)

Garmann returns in his third book, this time trying to deal with secrets. One day Johanna (one of the twins introduced in earlier books) invites Garmann into the woods to show him her secret. She has discovered what she believes or pretends to believe is a crashed spacecraft. Garmann and Johanna return often to the spacecraft in the woods to pretend, to chat, and to swim in the nearby river. When Johanna's twin sister threatens to reveal Johanna's secret meetings with Garmann, Johanna retaliates with the revelation that she knows who broke great-grandma's glass vase. Johanna's sister's silence is guaranteed. At the end of the book, Johanna gives Garmann another secret to keep when she gives him a kiss.

Mol, Sine van. **Meena**. Translated from the Dutch *Mina Lieverd*. Illustrated by Carianne Wijffel. Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN 978-0-8028-5394-3. (Ages 4-7)

The children of Fly Street believe that Meena is a witch. They taunt her and then run away. One day they see a young girl in Meena's house. They fear for the worst. When they try to warn the girl that Meena is a witch, she explains that Meena is her grandmother. The children believe that the girl must be under a spell. One of the children, a boy, tosses a threatening letter into Meena's yard. Meena's sudden appearance frightens him. When the granddaughter offers the boy a piece of cherry pie that Meena has baked, he can't resist. Soon all the children are regularly visiting the woman they previously feared.

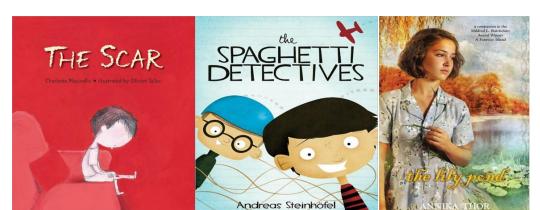
Muggenthaler, Eva. **Fish on a Walk**. Translated from the German *Als die Fische spazieren gingen...*Enchanted Lion Books, 2011. ISBN 978-1-59270-116-2. (Ages 4-7)

In densely illustrated pages, the animal kingdom has been turned upside down. Each double page spread contains illustrations of animals with only two words on the bottom of each page. One illustration has warthogs carrying their luggage on a train, a bird reading a magazine in a garbage can and a hamster with a baby carriage saying farewell to friend. The two words on the bottom of the page are "same-different." Young readers looking at the illustrations will have to determine how those words relate to what is going on in the pictures. There is much to see in each illustration so when the reader believes that they have found the obvious, there is always something in hiding to be found on a subsequent reading. Green glasses appear in each illustration. Can you find them? Why are they there? In the forward, the author encourages readers to create their own stories for each illustration. There are stories inside stories in this book and it screams creative writing class.

Rasmussen, Halfdan. A Little Bitty Man and Other Poems for the Very Young. Translated from the Danish by Marilyn Nelson and Pamela Espeland. Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN 978-0-7636-2379-1. (Ages 3-6) Danish poet Halfdan Rasmussen's poems for young children are translated and illustrated in a delightful package. The poems tell us about little people, children's games, frogs and elves. The poems are complemented by the enchanting and whimsical illustrations of Kevin Hawkes. Short in length, these poems are light-hearted and just plain fun.

Waechter, Philip. **Bravo!** Translated from the German by Sally-Ann Spencer. Illustrated by Moni Port. Gecko Press, 2011. ISBN 978-1-877467-71-4. (Ages 3-6)

Helena's life is perfect except that her father is a shouter. Her mother explains that the father comes from a long line of shouters. Helena, afraid that she may grow up to be loud, leaves her home to live with another family. When Helena gives a trumpet concert and her father attends, his loud shouts of *Bravo* from the back of the hall are most welcome. Observant readers may notice that except for this final shouts in the concert hall, all previous comments by the father were not only loud but of a critical nature.



Books for Older Children

Erlbruch, Wolf. **Duck, Death and the Tulip.** Translated from the German *Ente,Tod und Tulpe*. Gecko Press, 2011. ISBN 978-1-877579-02-8. (Ages 8-up)

Duck notices a skeleton-like person standing behind her. He is Death. Duck is frightened that Death has come for her, but he explains that he has always been around, in case of an accident or serious illness. As the two spend time together, Death, who never seems frightening, tries to answer questions for Duck concerning what happens after one dies. At the end of the summer, duck does die, and Death lovingly places a tulip on her body and lays her body on the water in the river. An interesting, non-threatening book by a master illustrator on a subject rarely found in picture books.

Moundlic, Charlotte. **The Scar.** Translated from the French La Croûte. Illustrated by Olivier Tallec. Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-7636-5341-5. (Ages 8 and up)

"Mom died this morning" is the first line of this very touching story of a young boy who is trying to keep his mother's memory alive. He wants the windows of his house closed to keep in her fragrance even though it is very warm outside. He tries to take care of his grieving Dad and feels that he is failing. Grandma finally tells him that his mother will always be in his heart. Now he likes to run so that he can feel his mom when his heart beats fast. This is one of those special books that you won't need to call on often but may offer some understanding to an adult or older child of what a grieving child is experiencing. Exceptional treatment of a sensitive subject. **Don't miss this one.**

Steinhöfel, Andreas. **The Spaghetti Detectives**. Translated from the German *Rico, Oskar, und die Tieferschatten* by Chantal Wright. Chicken House, 2010. ISBN: 978-0-545-28975-7. (Ages 9-11)

Rico is a young, friendless boy with a disability who tells people that he has a "mind like a sieve." He calls himself a child proddity, "That's a bit like being a child prodigy, but also like the opposite." He needs time to figure things out. At the playground, Rico meets Oscar, a true child prodigy. Oscar is an overly cautious child who always wears a crash helmet, just in case. Rico believes that he has found a friend. When Oscar doesn't return the following day to play, Rico is disappointed until he discovers that Oscar has been captured by Mr. 2000, the serial child kidnapper. Not held back by all the things that will challenge him, Rico sets out to find his friend.

Thor, Annka. **The Lily Pond.** Translated from the Swedish by Linda Schenck. Random House, 2011. ISBN 978-0-385-74039-5. (Ages 10-14)

In the book **A Faraway Island** (the first in this series) a Jewish family living in Nazi-occupied Vienna sends their two daughters to live with a family on a rugged Swedish island. The girls are placed in separate homes. In **The Lily Pond**, Stephanie, the older girl, continues her story as she travels to the mainland to Göteborg to live with a sponsor while she continues her education. Stephanie renews her friendship with the son of her sponsor whom she met when his family vacationed on the island the year before. Stephanie learns to deal with a new school, heart-breaking letters from her parents still in Vienna, and her romantic feelings for her sponsor's son. When Stephanie is falsely accused of cheating in school, she considers forfeiting her chance for an education and returning to her life on the island.

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.

International Children's Book Day

April 2, 2012

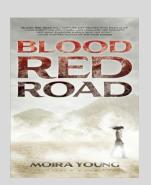
Since 1967, on or around Hans Christian Andersen's birthday, 2 April, International Children's Book Day (ICBD) has been celebrated to inspire a love of reading and to call attention to children's books. Each year a different national section of IBBY has the opportunity to be the international sponsor of ICBD. It decides upon a theme and invites a prominent author from the host country to write a message to the children of the world and a well-known illustrator to design a poster. In 2012 the host country is Mexico, the message was written by Francisco Hinojosa, and the poster was created by Juan Gedovius. In 2013, the host country is the United States and the theme will be "Bookjoy! Around the World." Our distinguished author/illustrator team will be Pat Mora and Ashley Bryan.

We encourage you to celebrate ICBD. To start, check out the many creative ways that others are celebrating this important day and share your own ideas at the USBBY website. This page will be updated throughout the year so that you may continue to find and to add suggestions. Our hope is that this page will become a rich resource of ideas for ways to promote international understanding through children's literature.

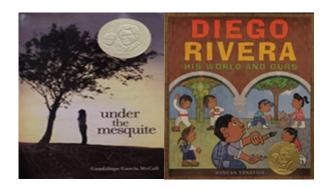
AWARDS AWARDS

2011 COSTA BOOK AWARD (UK, announced January, 2012 in London)

Former opera singer and debut children's writer, Moira Young, was awarded the Costa Children's Book Award for *Blood Red Road*. The book is currently being adapted for film by Scott Free, Ridley Scott's production company.



2012 PURA BELPRE



2012 Author Award Winner

Under the Mesquite, by Guadalupe Garcia McCall, published by Lee and Low Books Inc.

2012 Illustrator Award Winner

Diego Rivera: His World and Ours, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh, published by Abrams Books for Young Readers

2012 Author Honor Books

Hurricane Dancers: The First Caribbean Pirate Shipwreck by Margarita Engle, published by Henry Holt and Company.

Maximilian and the Mystery of the Guardian Angel: A Bilingual Lucha Libre Thriller written by Xavier Garza, published by Cinco Puntos Press.

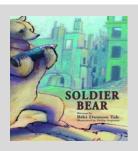
2012 Illustrator Honor Books

The Cazuela that the Farm Maiden Stirred illustrated by Rafael López, written by Samantha R. Vamos, and published by Charlesbridge.

Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match / Marisol McDonald no combina illustrated by Sara Palacios, written by Monica, and published by Children's Book Press, an imprint of Lee and Low Books Inc.



2012 Batchelder Award Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., for *Soldier Bear*, written by Bibi Dumon Tak, illustrated by Philip Hopman, and translated by Laura Watkinson



2011 MEOC MIDDLE EAST BOOK AWARDS (announced December 2011)



PICTURE BOOK

WINNER: Mirror by Jeannie Baker, Candlewick Press, 2010.

HONORABLE MENTION: *The Secret Message* by Mina Javaherbin, illustrated by Bruce Whatley, Disney/Hyperion Books, 2010.

HONORABLE MENTION: *Time to Pray* by Maha Addasi, illustrated by Ned Gannon, Boyds Mills Press, 2010.

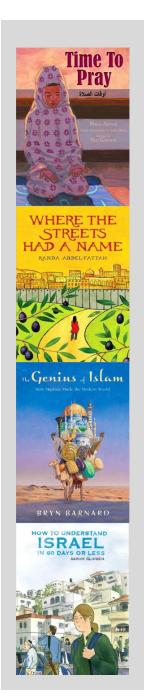
YOUTH LITERATURE

WINNER: *Where the Streets Had a Name* by Randa Abdel-Fattah, Scholastic Press, 2010.

NON-FICTION

WINNER: *The Genius of Islam: How Muslims Made the Modern World* by Bryn Barnard, Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2011.

WINNER: *How to Understand Israel in 60 Days or Less* by Sarah Glidden, Vertigo, 2011.



Call for Manuscripts:

The Journal of Children's Literature, a refereed publication of the Children's Literature Assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English, has a call for manuscripts for the Spring 2013 open themed issue.

Due: September 1, 2012

In this open themed issue, we invite researchers, teachers, and students to submit articles related to all aspects of children's literature. What should readers of The Journal of Children's Literature be thinking about in regard to books intended for youth? What kinds of theoretical perspectives (e.g., critical race theory, feminism, etc.) are being applied within the context of children's literature? What concerns or issues about children's literature do you have? Join us in putting together a collection of articles that will provide those interested in children's literature with much to consider. For more information, go to http://www.childrensliteratureassembly.org/journal.html

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.or g/pages/current/FWsched preview. html

International Reading Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 29-May 2, www.reading.org

16th Nordic Conference, June 13 – 14, Reykyavik, Iceland, http://www.literacyeurope.org/16t h-nordic-reading-conference-13-14-june-2012-in-reykjavik/

Children's Literature Association (CHLA), June 14-16, Simmons College, Boston MA http://www.childlitassn.org/index.p hp?page=calendar&display=253

American Library Association Annual Conference, Anaheim, CA: June 21–26,

http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/upcoming

Eurasia Regional Conference, July 2 – 4, Almaty, Kazakhstan, http://www.reading.kz/

Australian Literacy Educators
Association Conference, July 6 – 9,
Sydney, Australia,
http://www.alea.edu.au/profession

allearning/national-conference

48th UKLA International

Conference, July 6 – 8, Leicester, United Kingdom, http://www.ukla.org/conferences/e vent/the 48th ukla international c onference/

New Zealand Reading Association Conference, September 30 -October 3, Hastings, New Zealand, http://www.nzra.org.nz/1/pages/2nzra Stay connected and find out the lastest news about USBBY







Twinning Partnership Resource

One of the ideas generated by the USBBY Board liaisons with Jehan Helou at the recent IBBY Regional Conference was to publicize books from Palestine on the USBBY website. The first such list from IBBY Palestine is now available and includes children's books written by Palestine writers, children's books translated into Arabic, Palestinianauthored YA books and books translated into Arabic, and Palestinian children's literature resources. All descriptions are written in Arabic and translated into English. Be sure to check out this resource at http://www.usbby.org/res/BookListPalestine.pdf or click About USBBY and then, Partnerships.

CELEBRATIONS & EVENTS

Every spring 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, 2012, check out the
USBBY website at
http://www.usbby.org/icbd.html
for ideas about how you can
participate and celebrate this day!

Dia de los ninos/Dia de los libros, April 30, 2012

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, 2012, 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 8-14, 2012 sponsored by 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, Thursday, April 12 offers a special focus on teens and literature. Go to

http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.p hp/Support Teen Literature Day for details.

Children's Book Week, May 7-13, 2012 is the national celebration of books and reading for young people. The Children's Choice Book Awards will be announced at a gala on May 7, 2012. 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, 2012 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 Dia, 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 \$ 40
 B. Sustaining\$ 75
 C. Donor \$ 150
 D. Sponsor \$ 500
- E. Patron \$1000 F. Student \$ 15
- *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.

USBBY MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Office telephone	
Fax number	
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: USBBY Membership, c/o Ellis Vance, 5503 N. El Adobe Dr., Fresno, CA 93711-2363

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