



INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

IBBY
AUSTRALIA

Newsletter 49 May 2021

IBBY

The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) is a non-profit organization which represents an international network of people committed to bringing books and children together.

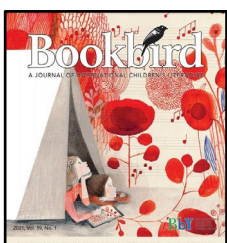
IBBY Australia

Here is our updated website including great new graphics and a [join here](#) page. It is time for renewing your membership. We would appreciate your continued support.

Original Bob Graham artwork:

[See news](#) on this wonderful opportunity to purchase this original artwork.

Bookbird IBBY's international journal- [article.](#)



President's Letter

Dear IBBY Australia Members and Supporters,

The IBBY Silent Books Collection 2019 exhibition recently in Australia is a powerful symbol of the need for communication throughout the world, despite the barriers we sometimes allow to come between us. Gabrielle Wang and Maxine Beneba Clarke, our ICBD 2021 speakers, reminded us for the need for more cultural diversity in children's literature which is very much the theme in many of the excellent articles referenced in [this link](#) at *The Conversation*.

For, clearly throughout the world, concerns are being expressed about the lack of diversity in what is published and the related lack of diversity amongst those who make publishing decisions. As a result, many initiatives are emerging. Late last year I was program manager for the APA's online seminar *Editing the Work of Writers of First Nations and People of Colour: A REP Initiative*, attended by 170 Australian publishing professionals, including many involved in children's publishing. Recently, the UK Book Trust has released a 'Free anthology of black authors to be given to all primary schools in England' [BBC News January 2021](#). And [We Need Diverse Books](#)™ (WNDB), an organisation founded in Pennsylvania in 2014, also promotes this issue.

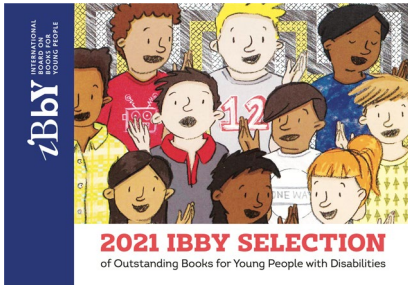
Writing in translation is another aspect of this concern. In late 2020, the international Laureates released [a joint message](#) coordinated by the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation's program manager, in which Áine Ní Ghlinn, the Irish Laureate (Laureate na nÓg), celebrated writing in Irish or Gaelic: 'I believe that every child should have access to reading in his or her own language' *Read Around the World*.

It behoves us all to examine our personal and library shelves to assess how much diversity of experience is reflected there. Children deserve to see themselves reflected in the books they read, and it is up to the members of the children's literature community to ensure that that happens.

Yours sincerely,

Robyn Sheahan-Bright

IBBY's Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities



IBBY Australia has had two books accepted for this wonderful 2021 international list. The [catalogue](#) contains books from 24 countries in various formats in 17 languages.

Congratulations

[The ALA Andrew Carnegie Medal](#) 2021 for nonfiction was awarded to Rebecca Giggs for *Fathoms: The World in the Whale* (Simon & Schuster).



IBBY Canada

From Sea to Sea to Sea: Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books

This is a digital catalogue of 100 picture books by First Nations, Métis and Inuit authors and illustrators. The catalogue is available for download [here](#).

- includes 100 recommended picture books by Indigenous authors, many illustrated by Indigenous artists, published in Canada over the last 25 years and currently in print
- reflects the diverse cultures, perspectives and experiences of Inuit, Métis and 29 First Nations
- gives attention to picture books that promote Indigenous languages, with 15 different languages/dialects represented
- features books for children of every age, ranging from board books to picture books for older readers

The hope is that literacy lovers will use and share this list widely.

Canadian Indigenous picture books using the hashtags

#ReadIndigenous and #IndigiPictureBooks, and tagging [@IBBYCanada!](#)



Bookbird:

A Journal of International Children's Literature

Bookbird: A Journal of International Children's Literature is refereed and published quarterly by IBBY. 'Celebrating Vibrant and Diverse Work Around Global Children's Literature' is the headline of its recent editorial, and that sums up *Bookbird's* role. For over 60 years, from its origins as a fledgling newsletter to the respected journal it is today, it has served a worldwide community. It includes discussions about current trends and developments in children's literature, and information about literacy development projects in many regions, and news of activities in national sections.

As Australian *Bookbird* Correspondent, I have the pleasant duty to enthuse, and encourage you to subscribe, either as an individual or for your library; and if you are an academic, to direct students to download the excellent articles through Project Muse (and help *Bookbird's* income). My other duty is to encourage short contributions in the following three areas: Children and their Books, where teachers, librarians, publishers, authors and parents working with children and their literature tell of their experiences; Interviews with authors, illustrators, or translators; and Postcards and Letters, brief reviews of both primary and secondary sources.

Bookbird also publishes themed issues for which the editor will post calls for manuscripts on the [IBBY website](#). Australians have contributed over many years to *Bookbird*, so let's continue to have our voices heard in this lively and respected journal.

Dr Robin Morrow

Australian *Bookbird* Correspondent, Past president of IBBY Australia

2021 CILIP Shortlists

The shortlists have been announced for the [Carnegie Medal and the Kate Greenaway Medal](#).

One Child, One Book Can Change the World

The Cyprus Red Cross Society joined forces with IBBY Cyprus to give every child the opportunity to have a book of his or her own. The books, written in Greek, Arab, French, English and Russian were wrapped as gifts and sent to children from 320 families, on April 2, 2021, celebrating the International Children's Book Day.

Books for Lebanon

After the terrible explosions in the port of Beirut on August 4, 2020, IBBY Cyprus in collaboration with the three Trade Unions of Education in Cyprus and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, took the initiative of collecting books for children to be sent to Lebanon. In collaboration with all Public and Private Schools in Cyprus they managed to collect children's books in English, French and Arabic. Each book was in a gift box with a note from the sender, so that it was a personal gift with respect for the recipient.

Source: IBBY Europe Newsletter 22/04/21

Cover from the Croatian Collection



See article >

Croatian Centre for Children's Books

The Croatian Centre for Children's Books (Croatian section of IBBY) is in the Department for Children and Youth of the City Library of [Zagreb City Libraries](#). The included materials, the Special Collection of Children's Books, can be used exclusively in the library and is intended for wider public, students, teachers, educators, publishers, librarians, pedagogues, various professionals and all those who deal with children's books in their everyday work.

The Special Collection of Children's Books continuously collects and preserves books by Croatian authors for children and youth, writers, illustrators and translators. It also collects valuable Croatian editions of world classics of children's literature. Translations of Croatian authors in other languages and all accompanying literature on the work and history of the book for children and youth are also collected. The collection is constantly replenished with careful selections from current publishing production and thoughtful antique procurement. By the beginning of 2021, the Special Collection of Children's Books had over 7,200 titles.

The collection contains the oldest Croatian illustrated books and picture books by the first Croatian artists of illustrations, Ljubo Babić and Vladimir Kirin. Also, the oldest Croatian magazines and newspapers for children and youth (*Bosiljak, Bršljan, Smilje...*) are kept, and the oldest Croatian comic book editions (Andrija Maurović, Walter Neugebauer, for example) are systematically collected and kept. Interesting examples of secondary material in the collection are catalogues of exhibitions and books that provide valuable information about artists, writers, publishers and published titles.

Through the Special Collection of Children's Books, it is possible to follow the development of Croatian publishing since the collection contains numerous richly equipped and illustrated editions of the most important publishers of Croatian books for children and youth, such as St. Kugli. The collection also provides a detailed insight into the contemporary Croatian production of books for children and youth from 1993 to the latest days.

The Special Collection of Children's Books is continuously digitized as part of the [Digitized Zagreb Heritage](#) project, thus providing an insight into early developments of children's literature in Zagreb and Croatia.

See photo to the left.

Isabella Mauro, Croatian Section of IBBY



CBCA Tasmania

Introducing the Blog Spot

[CBCA Tasmania blog](#) has great reviews, articles and news, including a great article on IBBY Australia's [Hans Christian Andersen](#) nominees by executive member Nella Pickup.

Kate Gordon shares her thoughts in her Tasmanian story:

We live on a small island, separated from the big island by a ferocious sea. We are island people – some of us new immigrants to this place, some of us living on land (always borrowed) lived on by generations of ancestors. Some of us own this land and have ancestry that stretches back generations.

We live on an island of story. We have words in our blood, poetry tying our muscles to our bones. We breathe in images and breathe out black smudges on white pages. We are this way from the time we are born. Parents give the stories to children. Children grow up and do the same.

We are an island who love to read. We are an island whose children love books but who, because of circumstance, because of history, sometimes have trouble turning those smudges back into images. Our literacy rates are low. Our love of story is as big as the blue sky above us. We live on an island where writers and illustrators for children bloom like ferns and fagus.

Read the entire story including the long list of children's authors and illustrators that reside in Tasmania on [the blog](#) to be both saddened and inspired.

Reproduced with permission by the author.

Miffy & Friends

In January this year we visited the Miffy & Friends exhibition at the QUT Art Museum in Brisbane. Not only did it include original artwork by Dick Bruna (1927–2017) but also the responses by seven Australian contemporary artists to Dick Bruna's art and its influence on their work. Brian Robinson, Carla McRae, Nadia Hernández, Nell, Sadie Chandler, Stephen Bird and Vipoo Srivilasa each use very different techniques in their works and the results are stunning.

This is the first time the artist's work has been shown in a major exhibition in Australia. Miffy (or 'nijintje', as he is known in Dutch) is an icon in children's literature. Bruna published 32 books in over 50 languages with 85 million books sold. Dick Bruna House, established in 2006, re-opened in 2016 as Miffy Museum in Utrecht, Netherlands, where Dick Bruna spent his life.

(Lindy Batchelor, who also visited the exhibition, has her own wonderful story to tell. In 2009 she was in Utrecht and arranged to visit Dick Bruna's home and to interview him! That story was told in *Reading Time* Vol 53, No 3, August 2009, pp 13–14.)

The exhibition has now moved to Bunjil Place Library, 2 Patrick NE Drive, Narre Warren, Melbourne 3805 from Saturday, 27th March, to Sunday, 13th June, running Tuesdays through to Sundays. [miffy & friends | Bunjil Place - Narre Warren](#) I strongly encourage you to visit.

Robyn Sheahan-Bright



Photo: Daisy Sheahan and Robyn Sheahan-Bright

IBBY Australia Celebrates International Children's Book Day

Surely Hans would have approved!

Because the 2021 International Children's Book Day, an occasion traditionally marking Hans Christian Andersen's birthday, fell on Good Friday, IBBY Australia members celebrated with a virtual event on 27 March instead. No commute! A easy click into Zoom provided interested members around the country with free, meaty presentations by acclaimed writers Maxine Beneba Clarke and Gabrielle Wang on the theme of 'Words Change the World'. Both creators explored this topic through articulate and thought-provoking comments related to their own writings, experiences and philosophies, leaving listeners with plenty to consider as they switched off their computers.

Generous and much appreciated member donations in support of this event enabled IBBY Australia to contribute a sum to the international Children in Crisis fund.

Perhaps 2022 circumstances will make in-person celebrations of ICBD more feasible. For now, IBBY Australia thanks those who found the time to join us online to be informed and inspired by Maxine and Gabrielle.

Karen Jameyson IBBY Australia Executive Member

'New Beginnings' Storytelling Event in Tasmania

World Storytelling Day celebrates the art of oral storytelling. This year in Tasmania it was marked by a concert on 20 March that was part of Moonah's Taste of the World Festival held in Harmony Week. Moonah is Hobart's most multicultural suburb.

The concert featured local storyteller Tamas Oswald ([Roaming Trees](#)), Anne E Stewart from Victoria ([Anne E Stewart - Home](#)) and poet Young Dawkins, plus musicians Emily Shepherd, Moran Wiesel and Warren Mason.

Interest in oral storytelling has fluctuated in Tasmania over many years, from the 1980s when well-known storyteller Patricia Scott started the Tasmanian Storytellers Guild and organised workshops and events statewide. Hobart-based Tamas Oswald is doing his best to currently revive the scene with his Roaming Trees storytelling initiative.

In the concert 'New Beginnings' he framed the event with his blending of stories about an entitled prince who comes to learn the value of poverty, hard work and self-denial as he seeks to woo a silent princess. Anne E Stewart told a selkie story and also a version of 'The Loathly Lady' in which Sir Gawain comes to realise the ugly/beautiful woman he has been prevailed upon to marry has the right to choose for herself. Anne's stories were notable for the agency of women – choosing what to do with their lives. Young Dawkins poem told of his own experience in the Tasmanian landscape.

The three musicians complemented the tellings to create a memorable and satisfying performance for those lucky enough to be there!

Prue McCausland IBBY Member

Australian Children's Laureate Summit report

The Laureate summit, held on the 16th March 2021, catered to in-person and digital participants. Starting with the topic *The Digital Laureate*, Laureate Ursula Dubosarsky and Program Manager Kristin Darell discussed the challenges, solutions and discoveries of running a national program during COVID. Board member and IBBY President Robyn Sheahan-Bright then summarised the key findings of the consultation sessions held during the [first Laureate Summit](#) and opened the discussion to the audience on how to create a strategy to further progress key ideas shared by the children's literary community. Ron Gorman, Deputy Director of the Association of Independent Schools of WA, spoke about how literature fits into the global view of young people's learning. Later Ursula Dubosarsky and author and publisher Louise Park proposed ways to encourage reading from toddlers to teenagers. *Crashing the Barriers* was an open discussion; Lindy Batchelor spoke with all Summit presenters and participants on how we can embed a reading culture in Australia. In the final session online presenters and board members Emily Banyard and Laurine Croasdale launched **#OneLoudVoice** calling to action increased social media comments to promote children's literature across Australia.



NAIDOC Week 2021

will be held from Sunday 4 July to Sunday 11 July.

This year's theme is Heal Country!

Original Bob Graham Artwork Auction

IBBY Australia is delighted to offer for auction an original Bob Graham artwork, the proceeds from which will be dedicated to IBBY Australia's programs and to IBBY's Children in Crisis Fund. Our thanks again to the esteemed artist Bob Graham for his donation in support of international promotion of Australian creators of works for young people.'

This original artwork 'Cosy on the couch' by Bob Graham was generously donated by Bob; it is a celebration of his award-winning book *Let's Get a Pup!* which won the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award (US), 2002, and the CBCA Early Childhood Award, 2002 and shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal (UK), 2001.

Media: Inks, pencils and chalks on watercolour paper

Image size: 41.5 x 30 cm Paper size: 51 x 38.5 cm

IBBY Australia Inc. invites you to bid on this unique piece of original art.

Auction Monday 19 April - Monday May 31, 2021
32auctions.com/IBBY-BobGrahamOriginal



Birds of a Feather Exhibition

At LOST IN BOOKS ([map](#)) Join Dirt Lane Press, Kia Literary Agency, WestWords and LOST IN BOOKS to discover the rich tradition and contemporary practice of Iranian illustration for children's literature! Dates: April 30, 2021 to May 30, 2021

The Children's Book Council of Australia Awards Shortlist 2021

IBBY Australia congratulates all the authors and illustrators who have made this year's shortlist announced on the 30th March. See the CBCA national [website](#)

The CBCA has some amazing Bookweek [merchandise](#) featuring Shaun Tan's artwork supporting the 2021 theme, 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds.'



[The Daisy Utemorrah Award.](#)

The deadline for entries has been extended to the 16th of May 2021. The award is for an unpublished manuscript of junior or YA fiction by an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander writer.

2019 winner Kirli Saunders has published several titles with her latest release, *Bindi*, a verse novel shortlisted in the Children's Book Council of Australia Awards

Twelve Panels Press, a new Melbourne-based press specialising in graphic novels, has recently added to the literature on refugees with Safdar Ahmed's *Still Alive: Notes from Australia's Immigration Detention System*, published in April. 'Still Alive is about the humble power of writing and drawing, by anyone brave enough to hold a pencil, to subvert the silence that others would wish to impose upon us.' – *Shaun Tan, artist and writer.*

Two other texts which examine migration issues are Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin's *Illegal*, with artwork by Giovanni Ritano and lettering by Chris Dickey (Hodder, 2017), an epic story which follows a boy's journey across Africa to Europe; and G.B. Tran's *Vietnamerica* (Villard, 2011), written by the son of immigrants, born and raised in South Carolina. He knew that his parents had fled Vietnam during the fall of Saigon, but it was only in his late twenties that G.B. Tran began to learn their extraordinary story. When his last surviving grandparents die within months of each other, G.B. visited Vietnam for the first time and began to learn the tragic history of his family, and of the homeland they left behind.

Social Justice in Young Adult Graphic Novels: A Global Perspective

Graphic novels are useful tools to engage youth with social justice issues they care about, like climate change, immigration, racism, mental health and gender. The combination of text and pictures offers a visual bridge for readers to think about challenging topics, and many titles are often developed from the creators' personal experiences (i.e. #ownvoices) like Omar Mohamed, co-author of *When Stars Are Scattered* (2020), does in telling the story of his youth in the Dabaad refugee camp in Kenya.

[*Social Justice in Young Adult Graphic Novels: A Global Perspective*](#) is a curated annotated bibliography of YA graphic novels like these and a toolkit with lesson plans and instructional activities that librarians and teachers can use as recreational and educational resources. Using the broad [definition of diversity](#) supported by [We Need Diverse Books](#) (WNDB), the graphic novels in this bibliography address 'diverse experiences, including (but not limited to) LGBTQIA, Native, people of colour, gender diversity, people with disabilities, and ethnic, cultural, and religious minorities as well as the social justice issues related to these experiences. The project, developed with my colleague Karen Gavigan from the University of South Carolina, was funded through the Carnegie Whitney Grant from the American Library Association with grants from the University of Florida and Kent State University.

Kasey L. Garrison, PhD

Senior Lecturer & Children's Specialisation Coordinator
Teacher Librarianship School of Information Studies
Faculty of Arts & Education
Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW

Australian Book Industry awards

Children's publisher Maryann Ballantyne was inducted into the ABIA Hall of Fame at the Australian Book Industry Awards (ABIAs) 29/04/21. Maryann Ballantyne will receive the 2021 Pixie O'Harris Award, which recognises excellence and dedicated service to Australian children's literature. She is currently children's publisher of independent press Wild Dog Books and was publisher of Black Dog Books, which was acquired by Walker Books in 2011.

Source *Books and Publishing* 19/04/21

Conferences and Events

2021

20th – 22nd June [Australian Booksellers Association National Conference](#)

June – July [London Bookfair](#) Dates to be announced

19th – 26th August [World Library and Information Congress](#)

10th – 12th September [37th IBBY World Congress, Moscow, Russia](#)
Great Big World Through Children's Books

25th – 27th November [Small Press Network Independent Publishing Conference](#)

2022

5th – 8th September 38th IBBY World Congress, Putrajaya, Malaysia

Please check all events and dates with the relevant organisations.

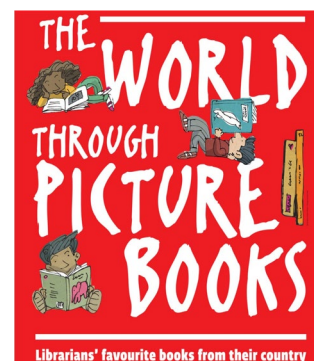
Story Furnace

IBBY Australia offers this special limited-edition print by Internationally acclaimed Australian author/illustrator Shaun Tan. Shaun generously made available one original illustration, Story Furnace, for giclée digital prints in a limited edition of 200. Each print is signed and numbered with proceeds supporting the continued work of IBBY Australia.

Prints can be purchased from Books Illustrated, an IBBY supporter.

Or email: info@booksillustrated.com.au

Cost: \$150 (unframed) Australia \$15 postage Overseas \$35 postage



Are you a public or school children's librarian ?

The Australian Committee for the [World Through Picture Books Programme](#) is asking you to assist in reviewing the current 2nd edition Australian list! Information on the 3rd edition is [here](#). If you would like to participate please [email](#) for the information.



All the latest Bologna Bookfair news, events & awards can be found [here](#).

IBBY Australia Executive Committee

President: Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright
Secretary: Margot Lindgren

Vice-President: Joanna Andrew
Treasurer: Bernice Cusack

Committee members:

Karen Jameyson
Nella Pickup

Sara Khamkoed
Dr Alyson Simpson

Dr Robin Morrow
Claire Stuckey