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Newsletter 33

July 2008

News from the Sections

IBBY Brazil celebrates 40 years

To celebrate its fortieth anniversary on May 23rd, *Fundação Nacional do Livro Infantil e Juvenil* – IBBY Brazil – invited *Patsy Aldana* (Canada) IBBY President, *Ellis Vance* (USA) IBBY Vice President, *Liz Page* (Switzerland) from the IBBY Secretariat, *Leena Maissen* (Switzerland) former IBBY Executive Director, *Siobhán Parkinson* (Ireland) *Bookbird* Editor, *Emilia Gallego* President of IBBY Cuba and *Silvia Castrillón* former president of IBBY Colombia to participate in its festivities.

These were held at the same time as the 10th *Salão do Livro para Crianças e Jovens*: a 12-day dynamic book fair organized in 2,000 m² tent in the grounds of the Museum of Modern Art of Rio de Janeiro (MAM) with the participation of 66 publishing houses. One of the delightful features of the *Salão FNLIJ do Livro* is that every child who visits the fair receives a book as a gift.

In connection with the *Salão*, FNLIJ organizes a seminar that takes place in the *Cinemateca* auditorium of the Museum. As part of the celebrations there was a round table on IBBY - International IBBY Activities. The seminar, as well as the book fair, had an impressive list of speakers including, amongst others, Andersen award winners *Lygia Bojunga* (1982) and *Ana Maria Machado* (2000), and 2008 Andersen finalist *Bartolomeu Campos de Queirós*.

Other illustrators and authors included *Luiz Antonio Aguiar*, *Marina Colasanti*, *Eva Funari*, *Luiz Raul Machado*, *Laura Sandroni*, *Rui de Oliveira* and *Ziraldó*. *Tayo Shima* (IBBY Japan) was also invited to speak, but sadly she was unable to participate, and sent her speech with a video message to the participants.



This year Italy was the invited country and an Italian “room” was added to the book fair in cooperation with the Italian Cultural Institute of Rio. The 2008 Andersen Award winner *Roberto Innocenti* was invited with fellow Italian illustrator *Francesco Tullio Altan*. The two Italian illustrators also participated in the seminar and spoke about Literature and Illustration in Italy.

The last day of the FNLIJ seminar programme was dedicated to Indigenous authors and illustrators: 5th Meeting of Indigenous Authors and Illustrators with the presence of representatives from the *Ashaninka, Baniwa, Guarani, Krenak, Kura-Bakairi, Makuxi, Maraguá, Munduruku, Nambikwara, Pira-Tapuia, Potiguara, Sterê-Mawé, Terena, Tukano, Umutina Xavante* tribes. Among other themes, they discussed the situation of indigenous literature in

the Brazilian publishing market and its difficulty to compete with other literature genres.

FNLIJ was founded in 1968 as the Brazilian Section of IBBY and in 1974 hosted the first IBBY world congress to be held outside Europe.



Participants in the IBBY panel (from l to r: Elda Nogueira, Liz Page, Patsy Aldana, Emilia Gallego, Ellis Vance, Siobhán Parkinson and Silvia Castrillon, with Isis Valéria (FNLIJ) and FNLIJ General Secretary Beth Serra

ThaiBBY at 1st Asian Children's Museum Conference

Manila 23 – 26 February 2008

Report by Pornanong Niyomka Horikawa
Secretary General, ThaiBBY

Dr Nina Lim Yuson, President and CEO of Museo Pambata Foundation, Inc. organized the First Asian Children's Museum Conference with the theme "Children's Museums as Bridges of Peace".

"It is our hope that this conference will provoke new ideas on how children's museums can help bridge peace in the lives of children"

A number of speakers were invited from children museum's around the world, including *Gail Dexter Lord*, President of Lord Cultural Resources, Canada; *Annemies Broekgaarden*, Head of Troppe museum Junior, Netherlands; *Nurit Shilo-Cohen*, Senior Curator-at-Large for Museum Education, Israel Museum, Israel; *Toshiko Uchiyama*, planning department, Kids Plaza Osaka, Japan. Other speakers attended from other fields of education and museums.

I was assigned to speak on the topic *Children's Books as Bridges of Peace*. After the introduction

of IBBY's mission I talked about the book *Building Bridges* by Empress Michiko of Japan, which was the compilation of the keynote speech at the 26th IBBY Congress held in New Delhi in 1998. After reading this book, both in Japanese and English, I realised that this book would be very useful to help people understand the roles of children's books. In 2004 the Thai version of the book was published.

To reach real peace in this world and working with children, we should start from the culture of peaceful mind, towards peaceful family, peaceful community, bringing peaceful country and peaceful world. I talked about the mission of the Thai Section of IBBY and our various projects, especially the *Bookstart* Project, which is expanding rapidly in Thailand.

Some Thai picture books for children were introduced to the audience as the sample of books we use as bridges for a peaceful mind, peaceful family and peaceful community.

www.museopambata.org/acmc/



USBBY 7th Regional Conference

Over 200 participants interested in international children's literature met in Tucson, Arizona, U.S.A., November 2 – 4, for the 7th IBBY Regional Conference sponsored by the United States Board on Books for Young People. With the theme, "Children Between Worlds: Intercultural Relations in Books for Children and Young Adults", treated attendees and speakers from as far away as Germany, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Brazil, Japan, and South Africa to two wonderful days filled with outstanding plenary speakers and content-rich seminars and discussion groups. A major goal of the conference was to explore and to celebrate intercultural relations in books for children and young adults through a programme of distinguished international presenters.

The conference opened Friday evening with noted children's author and illustrator, *Yuyi Morales*, delighting the audience with her topic, "Genius at Work: An Exploration of the Creative Flair." Morales, born in Veracruz, Mexico, is an artist, author, puppet maker, Brazilian folk dancer, and former host of a Spanish language storytelling radio show.

Saturday morning began with recognition of the 2008 Hans Christian Andersen Award U.S. Nominees, *David Wiesner* for illustration and *Lloyd Alexander* for writing. The plenary speaker, *Ibtisam Barakat*, passionately spoke about "One World, One Wish: To Understand." Barakat, educator, poet, and peace activist, grew up in Ramallah, Palestine, and now lives in the United States. Her work focuses on healing social injustices and the hurts of wars, especially those involving young people. A panel discussion followed with Navajo author/illustrator, *Shanto Begay* and Navajo author/photographer, *Monty Roessel*, stimulating the listeners with a lively discussion on the topic, "Navajo Perspectives on Writing and Illustrating Within and Across Cultures."

The luncheon speaker was *Nancy Farmer*, author of three Newbery Honor Books, who talked about

her experiences in India, "What It Means to be Young and Between Worlds," while serving in the Peace Corps during the 1960s. Small group literary topic discussions followed in the afternoon, but the highlight was the participation of former IBBY President (1998-2002), *Tayo Shima*, and her beautiful slide presentation and talk on "Picture Books as Art: Traversing Time and Culture." In the evening *Joan Glazer*, President of IBBY's Bookbird Board, Inc., was presented with the 2007 USBBY Alida Cutts Lifetime Membership Award. This was followed by the Dorothy Briley Lecture given by *Meshack Asare*, Ghanaian children's author and illustrator whose work is regularly translated and published in many countries and for which he has received numerous awards, including the 1999 UNESCO 1st Prize for Children's and Young Adult Literature in the Service of Tolerance.

The Conference concluded on Sunday morning with lively book discussion groups discussing six books that had been selected ahead of time around the conference theme, "Children Between Worlds." The final plenary speaker was British author *David Almond*, twice winner of the Whitbread Children's Book Award, and regarded as one of the most exciting and innovative children's authors writing today.

Ellis Vance, a Vice President of IBBY, brought greetings on behalf of *Patricia Aldana*, IBBY President, *Liz Page*, Director of Members, Policy and Project Development, and the IBBY Executive Committee. In his greeting he congratulated USBBY for its 47 years of outstanding activities and events since its founding in 1960. He especially lauded USBBY's commitment to twinning with IBBY's national sections: Haiti, Lebanon, Palestine, South Africa, and Zambia, and its plans to fund worthy domestic and international projects through its Special Projects Fund. He also talked about IBBY's new Children in Crisis Fund and USBBY's commitment to raising money for the fund. \$1,000 USD was donated to the fund during the conference and the option of donating to

Children in Crisis is now included on the USBBY membership form. He ended by congratulating USBBY on its efforts to promote the work of IBBY and to children's reading in the United States and worldwide.

The 8th IBBY Regional Conference will be held in Chicago, Illinois, October 2 – 4, 2009.

Ellis Vance

Outstanding in Italy!

The Italian section of IBBY co-organized a travelling exhibition and series of roundtables that highlighted the IBBY Outstanding Books for Disabled Young People selection 2007.

The section organized the tour with the libraries of Rome with thanks to *Letizia Tarantello*, *Marisa Spasiano* and *Ottavia Murru* in Rome and *Valeria Patregnani* in Bologna.



At the Biblioteca Ennio Flaiano. Photo: Ottavia Murru

The first meeting took place at the Biblioteca *Ennio Flaiano* in Rome with an interested audience of librarians, administrators, teachers and specialist publishers. The books travelled further to the *Biblioteca Pier Paolo Pasolini* and the *Biblioteca Gianni Rodari*.

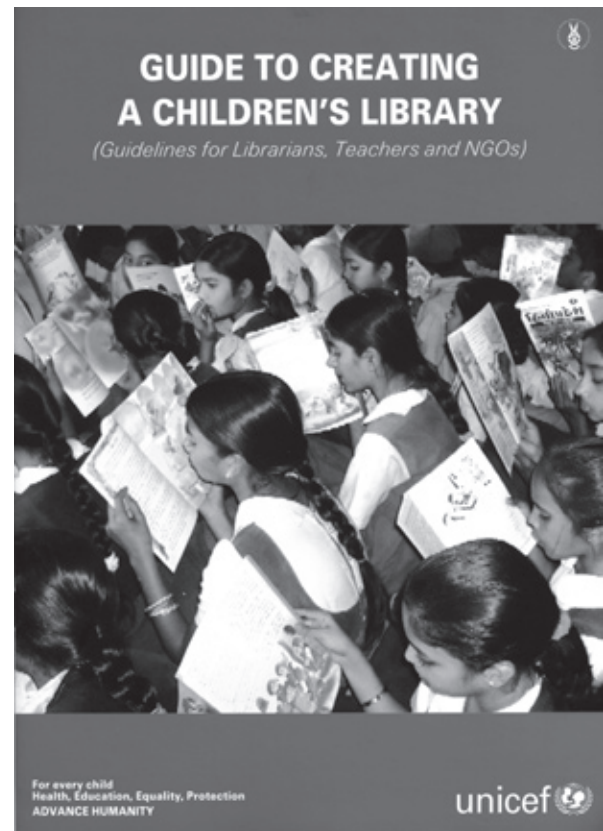


The catalogue, translated into Italian by *Deborah Soria*, was distributed to the public during the exhibition and is available from IBBY Italy. (ibbyitalia@gmail.com)

The 2007 exhibition later travelled to Jakarta in Indonesia for a workshop and seminar organized by Indonesian IBBY and led by the Director of the IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Disabled Young People *Heidi Cortner Boiesen* and *Sissel Hofgaard Swensen*. From Indonesia the Exhibition travelled directly to Tokyo for a series of venues and workshops around Japan. Its next destination will be Slovakia in 2009.

AWIC – IndianBBY

Over the years AWIC the Indian Section of IBBY has been successfully establishing libraries in India. In 2006 following the Tsunami disaster in the Indian Ocean, AWIC established libraries on the Coromandel Coast with support from the IBBY Tsunami Fund. In recent years they have established four more libraries with support from the IBBY-Yamada Fund. This great wealth of experience and expertise has led them to publish a Guide to Creating a Children's Library. The guide is written by *Surekha Panandikar* and *Indira Bagchi* and is published in co-operation with Unicef (India). Copies of this useful aid have been distributed to the IBBY National Sections and can be ordered from AWIC at awicbooks@yahoo.com



31st IBBY World Congress

The 31st IBBY World Congress will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark from Sunday, 7 September until Wednesday, 10 September. The members of the organizing committee of Danish IBBY are working hard to make this a memorable occasion and with the theme of **Stories in History – History in Stories**, hope to make this congress another successful story in the history of IBBY.



On the day of the opening IBBY is holding a pre-congress workshop for its members. We have invited every National Section to send a representative and have distinguished speakers to led us through the day. Although space and time is limited this promises to be a very rewarding session for our members and one that we hope will enrich their sections and encourage them in their valuable work.

The festive opening will take place in the Tivoli Gardens in the heart of Copenhagen on Sunday, 7 September and will include the presentation of the 2008 Hans Christian Andersen Awards to the winners, *Jürg Schubiger* and *Roberto Innocenti*, during the evening.

Monday morning will begin with the first plenary session by Spanish author and philosopher *Fernando Savater*, followed by emeritus professor of children's literature and former director of the Danish Centre for Children's Literature *Torben Weinreich*. The presentation of the 2008 IBBY

Honour List by *Dr Junko Yokota* and the bestowing of the diplomas will be another highlight of the Monday morning. The afternoon will be given to seminars and story-telling sessions. A panel discussion on the Hans Christian Andersen Awards and the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) will also take place during the afternoon.

Tuesday morning opens with further plenary sessions from *Michèle Petit* (France), *Grete Haagenrud* (Norway), *Josefine Ottesen* (Denmark) and *Ana Maria Machado* (Brazil). A presentation of the winning projects of the 2008 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award will finish the morning session. The afternoon session will continue with the seminar programme and the Open IBBY Forum. The forum first took place in 2004 in Cape Town and was structured around specific themes. In 2006 in Macau it was based on a general open discussion about what each section was doing and how they were structured. The aim for 2008 is to allow informal discussions by the membership about the activities of IBBY at regional levels, we hope that this will lead to fruitful exchanges of ideas.

On Tuesday evening there will be the festive presentation to the winners of the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award of their diplomas and awards of US\$ 10,000 to each project to help them further their outstanding work. This evening will be hosted by the City of Copenhagen and we are honoured to be able to enjoy visiting the Copenhagen Town Hall for the occasion.

Wednesday will begin with speeches from *Ngarmpun (Jane) Vejjajiva* (Thailand), *Sharif Kanaana* (Palestine), *Ondjaki* (Angola), *Rukhsana Khan* (Canada), *Mats Wahl* (Sweden) and *Peter Sís* (USA). The afternoon will be taken up with the IBBY General Assembly. Important issues will be discussed and the elections of the IBBY officers for the term 2008 – 2010 will be an important item on the agenda. For those not expected to attend the General Assembly, there will be meetings of professional groups and various social activities on offer.

The gala closing ceremony will take place in the centre of Copenhagen in the former circus building. The Wallman theatre is a fantastic place to hold such a gala evening and as you sit around the circus ring under the high dome of the tent-like ceiling, you will see a glimpse of circus life gone by. The congress will close and the invitation to the 2010 IBBY World Congress in Santiago de Compostela will certainly tempt you to start planning your participation!

It must be also remembered that IBBY congresses are not only events to enjoy, learn, exchange and share experiences, they are also the working meetings of IBBY. On Saturday, 6 September the current Executive Committee will meet for the whole day. Later, on Thursday, 11 September the newly elected EC will meet with the outgoing EC to discuss and plan for the future. Both meetings will take place in the so-called Black Diamond: the Royal Library of Denmark.

Full details of the congress and accompanying programme of events can be seen at the website: www.ibby2008.dk

Contact *Vagn Plenge* if you have any questions: vagnpl@get2net.dk



IBBY Congress 2008
Stories in History – History in Stories

IBBY Agenda July 2008 to October 2008

This is a brief overview of forthcoming important events
 For more information and news of further events visit the IBBY website
www.ibby.org > IBBY Worldwide

July		Publication of <i>Bookbird</i> , issue 3 #08, focusing on literature from the Nordic Countries.
	1-3	Asia-Pacific Conference on Children's Book Publishing 2008, under main theme of "Inspiring Young Minds and Creativity". Kuala Lumpur
August	10-14	World Library and Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference and Council: "Libraries without borders: Navigating towards global understanding"
	11	IFLA conference: Global Literacy and Reading Fair: sharing good library practices in support of the United National Literacy Decade 2003-2012. Quebec with contribution by IBBY President Patsy Aldana
September	7-10	IBBY Congress, SAS Radisson Scandinavia Hotel, Copenhagen, Denmark
	6	EC meeting
	7	Pre-Congress workshop for members, registration, Opening Ceremony
	8	Plenary sessions, HL Presentation, seminar and story-telling programme
	9	Plenary sessions, presentation of IBBY-Asahi winning projects, IBBY Forum, seminar and story-telling programme, reception at Copenhagen Town Hall for the 2008 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award
	10	Plenary sessions, IBBY General Assembly, professional group sessions, closing gala and farewell dinner
	11	EC meeting
October	7-10	Liber Book Fair, Barcelona with OEPLI-IBBY participation
	15-19	Frankfurt Book Fair, IBBY participation at the German IBBY Stand in hall 3.0

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