# SLOVAK IBBY NEWSLETTER











# ADVOCATES OF READING PREPARED A PROGRAMME FOR KINDERGARTENS

(April - June 2019)

A year-long program for children that encourages them to become advocates of reading for younger classmates was completed by a group of pupils from a private elementary school by selecting appropriate book title to present to their younger friends from the same private kindergarten. They chose the poem Frčko and the Hedgehog by the classical author Krista Bendová. They read the text of the poem and recorded the verses along with various sounds of the environment, in which the action takes place. They prepared questions and tasks for the younger children to help them play with the poem, to get to know the environment and experience the story of the dog Frčko. Since September 2019, two more classes of elementary school pupils have signed up for the program and have shown an interest in becoming advocates of reading.

### **SEMINAR CYCLE - OPEN GATE TO READING**

(April - May 2019)

A series of seminars for adults - parents, pre-primary education teachers, librarians and the general public, continued in April with new cycle - Hide and Seek! The participants of the seminar learned how to discover the space of the book with the youngest children. Space, which is hidden to them, and at the same time, how a meaningful connection or relationship with the child is established through a game (as a dialogue). Through the game of hide and seek, children gain security and confidence that whatever happens, they shall not be overlooked and shall be found whenever they need it. The book thus creates an intermediate space through which the parent talks to the child and which helps them to find "bridges" for their experiences. The children take on various roles, in which they learn to discover the world, observe and get to know the surroundings. In May, the last, practical meeting of this cycle was held, in which participants shared their own experiences in implementing an innovative reading approach with the youngest children.





### CHILDREN'S LITERATURE FESTIVAL ZLATÁ PRIADKA PIEŠŤANY

(May 2019)

In 2019, we commemorated the 100th anniversary of the birth of one of the most important Slovak writers - Mária Ďuríčková. On this occasion, the Municipal Library of Piešťany decided to dedicate to her memory a festival of children's literature, which included discussions with illustrators, publishers, theatre dramatization and reading, exhibitions and literary-art workshops. On May 23, BIBIANA, as a partner of the festival, prepared a seminar "Can You See the Hill?" intended for teachers and librarians, led by Timotea Vráblová.

# LITERARY, ILLUSTRATIVE AND DRAMATIC CREATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN 2018

(May, 22nd)

In May, a scientific conference was held at the Faculty of Education of Charles
University in cooperation with BIBIANA and SK IBBY. Its aim was to evaluate the works for children and youth, created in 2018 in Slovakia. Literary scientists and experts commented on the original prose for children and youth, theatre, Slovak illustrators and illustrations and radio drama. Foreign lecturers spoke about Czech children's literature and unprofessional dramatic ensembles at Brno Children's Stage.





#### **GOOD PAGES**

(all the year)

Timotea Vráblová and Beata Panáková prepare a radio program Good Pages for RTVS every working day. It focuses primarily on children's literature and its creators - from authors to readers, whose aim is to arouse interest in books and bring book tips for reading.





#### **BOOK FEAST 2019**

(June 15th 2019)

The Book Feast (with its motto "The Time is the Life. And the Life is in the Heart!") was organised on Saturday evening, June 15. This open air festival brought not only children's books, but numerous creative activities, workshops, songs, dramas, reader's puzzles, and a rich programme on the main stage, where performances of writers, actors, singers, musicians, researchers, and of course, children, took place. The goal of the Book Feast was to increase the interest of children and their families in cultivating reading, which develops children's perception, empathy, and creativity. This year's book feast was also an opportunity to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of children's writer Mária Ďuríčková in a competition for children, in which children at elementary schools created Janko Hraško (a character from M. Ďuríčková's book about Janko Hraško), to create a 14 days diary, to have him "live" with children, go to school with them, to their hobby groups and to capture his feelings during a visit to their home in a diary form.

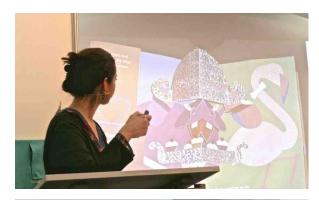


# II. EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS CYCLE FOR ADULTS

(February – May 2019 September – December 2019)

After successfully completing adult education seminars, encouraged by the interest of many graduates in September 2019, the second - follow-up cycle of the "Open Gate to Reading" programme (on reading with children in the age of 0-6 years) and "We Read in the Space of Book" (reading with children 6-15 years). Also the second cycle has a similar structure - each program consists of 4 workshops lasting 90 minutes, organized once a month, while the last seminar is practical, where participants share their own experience in applying new knowledge. At the same time, since October 2019 we have continued the "Open Gate to Reading" programs and "We Read in the Space of Book" with the first cycle seminars for new candidates, which are increasingly coming from the ranks of parents, teachers and librarians.









#### INTERNATIONAL READING CONFERENCES

IBBY INSTITUTE BRATISLAVA organized two international reading conferences, which are held every two years, during the week of the opening of the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava. The conferences were held on 22. and 23. October, with more than 150 participants. The aim of the conferences was to show how to stimulate and cultivate those processes in man that link him to a book and a book culture, how to develop the individual's and community's reading experience. Contributions by 4 domestic and 10 foreign speakers have raised many important topics related to the deeper meaning of reading. The first of the conferences WHAT WE SEE AND WHAT WE CANNOT SEE. A STORY IN THE PICTURE BOOK was mainly devoted to picture books and the use of illustrations in reading with children. The second conference READING AS A CREATIVE PROCESS has brought up some challenging topics on the use of symbolic language in books, intuition in reading and writing, alternative book forms (pop-ups, three-dimensional books), use of stories for bibliotherapy (books used with traumatic children), and many other interesting presentations.



### **MUSIC SALON 2019**

(October, 21st)

A regular event (as part of the International Reading Conferences) is the Zichy Music Salon, held every two years, where we strive to revive the long tradition of music salons, where people used to meet each other to amuse themselves in a friendly atmosphere. It is not a classical concert, although classical music is heard in the program as well as dance and singing. The aim of the event is also to be a socio-cultural event, to bring together people who are dedicated to book culture and share common values.









