



INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Newsletter 52 February 2022

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

You can join us or renew your membership [here](#). We appreciate your continued support.

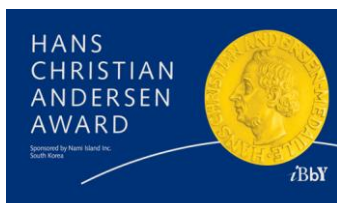
IBBY ICBT DAY 2022

International Children's Book Day is celebrated 2nd April. More details coming soon.

The 2022 theme from IBBY Canada is *'Stories are wings that help you soar every day.'*

Ena Noël Award 2022 Shortlist Announcement

See the six books selected on page two.



President's Letter

Dear IBBY Australia Members and Supporters,

A warm and very happy new year to you all. We have much to look forward to this year with many inspiring events scheduled, such as the IBBY Congress in Malaysia in September, the CBCA conference in Canberra in June, and several literary events and festivals throughout Australia.

Our Hans Christian Andersen Award nominee 2022, author Margaret Wild, features in IBBY UK's blog at present. [\[See link.\]](#) And our HCAA nominee 2022, illustrator Toby Riddle, has an exhibition of his work *Silent Light* at the Blue Mountains City Art Gallery. [See here](#). The winners of the HCAA 2022 will be announced at Bologna Children's Book Fair on 21 March 2022. In the meantime, IBBY Australia is working on an exciting virtual celebration of International Children's Book Day details of which we will share with you soon.

Very sadly, last year we lost two luminaries of Australian writing and art, to whom we pay tribute in this issue: the brilliant fine artist, printmaker and illustrator Arone Raymond Meeks (1957–2021), inaugural winner of the Ena Noël Award, and designer of the medal given to recipients; and Doug MacLeod (1959–2021), the multi-talented Australian writer.

Next month, the ACLF will launch and welcome the next Australian Children's Laureate. We are all anticipating the release of their name.

2022 has unfortunately begun with a disturbing rise in COVID-19 Omicron cases and our thoughts go out to those who are struggling with the outcomes of this insidious virus, and to all whose livelihoods are again being impeded by its impact.

Yours sincerely,

Robyn Sheahan-Bright

IBBY Australia Ena Noël Shortlist announcement

The IBBY Australia Encouragement Award for a young emerging writer or illustrator.

The panel of judges is pleased to announce
the 2022 shortlist:

Freda Chiu, *A Trip to the Hospital*
(Allen & Unwin)

Kay Kerr, *Please Don't Hug Me*
(Text Publishing)

Gary Lonesborough, *The Boy from the Mish*
(Allen & Unwin)

Jessica Miller, *The Republic of Birds*
(Text Publishing)

Kamsani Bin Salleh, *What do You call a
Baby...?*
(Magabala Books)

Kirli Saunders, *Bindi* Illustrated by Dub Leffler
(Magabala Books)

The judges enjoyed reading a diverse range of
titles in a variety of genres submitted by
publishers of Australia's emerging writers and
illustrators for children and young adults.

Since its inception in 1994, The Ena Noël
Award has played a significant role in
identifying talented emerging writers and
illustrators.

Thank you to all the publishers who entered
books by young creators for this award.

IBBY Australia will announce the winner on
International Children's Book Day (ICBD) 2nd
April 2022.

Contact: Claire Stuckey, Coordinator 2022 Ena
Noël Award, for any enquiries.

Email: ibby.australia@gmail.com

Website:

<https://ibbyaustralia.wordpress.com/>

Facebook: @IBBYAustralia



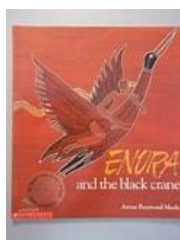
The Ena Noël Medal

Vale Arone Raymond Meeks

IBBY Australia laments the passing of Ku Ku Imidiji man, Arone Raymond Meeks (1957 – 5 May 2021), an acclaimed printmaker, illustrator and fine artist. Inaugural recipient of the Ena Noël Award in 1994 for *Enora and the Black Crane* (Scholastic, 1991) he designed the bronze medal presented to each recipient of the award by IBBY Australia. The same book won the 1992 UNICEF Ezra Jack Keats Award for International Excellence in Children's Book Illustration.

Details of his distinguished career are provided in one of several articles posted in his honour: 'Born in Sydney in 1957, Meeks grew up in Yarrabah and El Arish, Mission Beach, Far North Queensland, although his country is the area around Laura, Cape York. He studied at City Art Institute in Sydney (now UNSW Art and Design), and after a period of extensive travel abroad, returned to the Blue Mountains (NSW). It was only later, facing the death of his long-time partner, that Meeks returned to Queensland to study with various tribal elders, including those of the Lardil people of Mornington Island.' (Fairley, Gina 'Vale Ku Ku Imidiji man Arone Meeks, Chair of Cairns Indigenous Art Fair' Artshub, 11 May 2021.

In Canberra in the early 1980s, Meeks, through Banduk Marika, was introduced to printmaking and there 'he commenced his ongoing association with the wonderful master printer Theo Tremblay, who at that time was working at the Canberra Art School and at Studio One. Meeks describes printmaking as a friendly, democratic medium that you can share around and, in this way, spread your story. The famous ceramicist, Thancoupie, spiritually adopted him and became his mentor. She gave him the tribal name Arone (Black Crane) during his initiation in 1988 in his home country of Laura. Through this he gained permission to depict the culture and legends of the peoples of Cape York.' (Grishin, Sasha 'Review: Arone Meeks: Beyond the Blue: Unbroken at Megalo' The Canberra Times 19 May 2017.



continued next page

International News

IBBY Canada

The Educator's Resource for *From Sea to Sea to Sea: Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books* (2021 edition) has been launched. You can watch the launch below.



IBBY Netherland's Nominates ...

Two projects were nominated for the IBBY Asahi Award 2022:

The mission of the [Verhalenweverij \(Story Weavers\)](#) in Belgium is to promote reading pleasure among children from disadvantaged groups, such as refugee children, and to promote integration and inclusion through storytelling.

Volunteers of the [VoorleesExpress \(Reading Express\)](#) in the Netherlands are connected to low-literate families that they visit weekly for a period of twenty weeks. This group has been operating since 2006.

2022 Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Awards.

148 brilliant books were nominated for the 2022 Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Awards. The awards announcement is [here](#); two Australians received accolades.

Source *Books and Publishing*
25/01/22.

Cont.

He was also a founding member of Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Co-operative, 'the first Australian Indigenous artists collective created in response to a lack of engagement from mainstream cultural institutions and galleries with the work of urban-based Aboriginal artists'. Bronwyn Bancroft, a proud Bundjalung woman, and IBBY Australia's Hans Christian Andersen Award illustrator nominee 2016, is one of Boomalli's members, and recalls:

'Arone Meeks was a dear friend and an Amazing Artist who I admired for his creativity and connections to his land and stories. He will be missed by many but his Creative legacy will endure. The Brilliant work that he created in his lifetime will only ensure that we will miss him more every day.'

Evidence, an exhibition of his recent work, which was due to open (14 May – 12 June 2021) at *Onespace* Gallery, Brisbane, went ahead, as the directors, John Stafford and Jodie Cox, said, 'as a gesture to recognise and celebrate Meeks' lasting influence'. (Fairley 2021)

In 1994, Arone contributed artwork to Mark Svendsen's *The Bunyip and the Night* (Jam Roll Press), a collection of poems illustrated by six Queensland artists and designed by the late Gregory Rogers. These works later toured Queensland libraries accompanied by other selected works on the theme, including one created by Bronwyn Bancroft. Arone's other picture books included: *This is Still Rainbow Snake Country* (with Catherine Berndt, Martin Educational, 1988), *When the World was New: In Rainbow Snake Land* (with Catherine Berndt, Bookshelf, 1988), *Pheasant and Kingfisher* (with Catherine Berndt, Scholastic, 1998) and *Sisi and the Cassowary* (Scholastic, 2002).

IBBY Australia is honoured that Arone Raymond Meeks' work on the Ena Noël Medal represents his significant legacy to art in Australia, and to Australian literature for children and young people.

Robyn Sheahan-Bright

KOALA 2021 Awards Ceremony

View the live stream recording of the fun filled 2021 KOALA Awards. We can't wait to see who will make the shortlist in 2022. [Follow us and find out.](#)



International News

Histoires Photographiques Prize

Jules Ober has won the 2021 Histoires Photographiques prize for best photography book in the youth category with the French version of *Jacqueline: A Soldier's Daughter* (*Le Seuil Jeunesse*). *Jacqueline* is written by Pierre-Jacques Ober and published in English by Ford Street Publishing.

Book Boat Norway

Epos is a floating library boat, a unique service that has operated on the west coast of Norway since 1959. The boat visited tiny villages across three counties operating September until April until it lost funding in 2019. During the short season more than 50,000 books were borrowed from the boat each year. Cultural and literature services were offered to families at the villages where short visits of only a few hours saw families enjoy the valuable service. In summer 2021 27 municipalities and organisations joined forces to fund Epos – Det flytande litteraturhuset (The Floating House of literature) lead by Alver Municipality to get boat back in service. The tour became magic with more than 40 literature programs, book loan and happy visitors. The visit from Epos was very important part of our service in rural districts last year since we have had very little to offer in terms of cultural events, especially for children in this communities. 1 December 2021 the project ended. However, the story about Epos is not ended. Alver municipality have reached out to find others that have the possibility to support and drift the boat for the future. I will not be surprised if Epos will come back and visit us again.

Jorun Systad Library Director
[Sunnfjord commune Norway](#)

Remembering Doug MacLeod

One of the very first author visits I ever organised was to bring the late, great writer Doug MacLeod (13 October 1959 – 22 November 2021) to Toowoomba City Library (where I was children's librarian) for Children's Book Week in 1984. I also ran a Puffin Club and Doug was then the editor of the club's journal *Puffinalia*. He had a sterling career, beginning in his teens, and was a multi-talented writer – a comedy scriptwriter and producer of some of Australia's best-known television comedy programs, a playwright, children's poet, picture book writer, and junior and young adult novelist. His children's books included several picture books with Craig Smith, including *Heather Fell in the Water* (2012); poetry, such as the hilarious *Sister Madge's Book of Nuns* (1986) and *The Fed-up Family Album* (1983); and novels such as *I'm Being Stalked by a Moonshadow* (2006) and *The Life of a Teenage Bodysnatcher* (2010). He was a gifted speaker and performer, and I still distinctly recall how he had young readers transfixed by the power of his wit, charm and charismatic talent. We have lost a truly brilliant artist who was a much-loved friend and mentor to many in the industry. See: '[Vale Doug MacLeod' Books + Publishing 1 December 2021](#)

Robyn Sheahan-Bright



Photos from *The Toowoomba Chronicle* 1984

Diversity in Children's Literature

See the link to IBBy Finland's special edition [here](#).



IFLA - The World Through Picture Books 3rd edition.

Ten Australian picture books have been selected for inclusion in the *IFLA World Through Picture Books 3rd edition*, which will formally be launched at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in July 2022. The titles have been nominated and suggested by librarians across Australia with a committee selecting the final top ten titles for ages 0-18. They represent the diversity of themes and storytelling styles that also have high quality visual literacy concepts complementing their texts. All the titles have been shortlisted and/ or honoured in various Australian awards.

Congratulations to these creators:

Jeannie Baker, **Window**, Walker Books, 2002

Bronwyn Bancroft, **Why I Love Australia**, Little Hare, 2016

Graeme Base, **Animalia**, Picture Puffin, 1990

Christopher Cheng, Stephen Michael King, ill. **Bear and Rat**, Puffin 2021

Irena Kobald, Freya Blackwood, ill. **My Two Blankets**, Little Hare, 2014

Alison Lester, **Are We There yet?** Penguin/Viking, 2004

John Marsden, Shaun Tan ill. **The Rabbits**, Lothian, 2008

Lian Tanner, Jonathan Bentley, ill. **Ella and the Ocean**, Allen & Unwin, 2019

Coral Vass, Dub Leffler, ill. **Sorry Day**, National Library of Australia, 2019

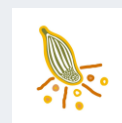
Anna Walker, **Mr Huff**, Penguin/Viking 2015

These titles will be featured in the 2022 3rd edition online catalogue; you can view the 2015 2nd edition catalogue [here](#). Two exhibition collections will be created to promote the program. One is based in Tokyo, Japan, at [International Library of Children's Literature](#) and the other in Paris, France, at the [Bibliothèque Nationale de France](#). The exhibition collections will be available for any country to borrow and exhibit them.

[Claire Stuckey](#), Australian Coordinator

ALIA-Magabala Books partnership

ALIA has announced its partnership with Magabala Books, Australia's leading Indigenous publisher, to create two children's picture books written and illustrated by Indigenous creators specially for the ALIA Online Storytime program in 2022. The books are being made possible through the Australian Government's RISE Fund grant.



Language on the Move

Readers might be interested to check out *Language on the Move* [here](#).

Language on the Move is a language research site devoted to multilingualism, language learning, and intercultural communication in the contexts of globalization and migration.

Language on the Move is run by a team of applied sociolinguists from Macquarie University under the leadership of Distinguished Professor Ingrid Piller.

Since 2018, Language on the Move has been running an annual reading challenge to encourage broad reading in the discipline and beyond, and to make linguistics reading fun. Anyone with an interest in the intersection of linguistic diversity and social life can join. The 2022 Language on the Move Reading Challenge can be found [here](#) and includes the picture book *We Children and the Narrow Road to the Deep North* by Libby Hathorn and Sadami Konchi.



Professor Ingrid Piller.



WestWords is a significant provider of literacy development programs in Western Sydney, Australia. Western Sydney has 10% of Australia's population, representing over half the world's cultures, but houses some of our most disadvantaged. The Western Sydney Young People's Literature Development Project (WestWords) was established in 2007 to address the low level of literature development in Western Sydney, core funding coming from the NSW State Government.

We are dedicated to celebrating and championing the stories of the people, places and cultures that comprise the heart of Western Sydney. Why? Because we believe in the power of literature and literacy self-expression and creativity to change lives and the experience of communities. We promote and encourage reading, writing and story-making by, and for, children, young people and emerging writers, developing and enhancing community sustainability through cultural vitality.

With a particular focus on lower socio-economic groups and our varied cultural and linguistic demographics, we maintain a comprehensive program of workshops, residencies, fellowships and support for writers, offering professional opportunities for the growth of distinctive voices.

Our programs use highly experienced writers, illustrators and other creators with schools, community and cultural organisations. Always responding to need, creating tailor-made programs that support the creation and sharing of the stories of our cultural diversity, we collaborate and partner with groups having similar objectives, both within Australia and overseas.

Programs run by WestWords include:

- school programs, such as writing workshops with author mentors, often resulting in publication of student writing; professional learning for educators
- residencies, fellowships and mentorships for young, emerging & aspiring writers
- writing and poetry competitions
- creative writing workshops
- literature development programs for varied cultural and community groups, e.g., refugees, African/Australian, LGBTQI+, etc.
- The Clubhouse, a dedicated site for 9-12-year-olds

For information about WestWords programs see the [website](#).

Sheryl Cootes / School Programs Manager

Australian Children's Laureate

The Foundation is counting down to the launch of the seventh Australian Children's Laureate.

Save the date so you don't miss this exciting announcement. For more information about the ACLF and the Laureate program, head to www.chidrenslaureate.org.au

The Australian Children's Laureate Exhibition is online now. This very special exhibition features original illustrations from the stories of our sixth Australian Children's Laureate, Ursula Dubosarsky. To visit the gallery just [CLICK HERE](#).



Margaret Wild

The Australian HCAA author nominee Margaret Wild has had a spotlight article shared by IBBY UK on their blog. Link [here](#).



IBBY Australia's list of HCCA nominees can be found [here](#)

Conferences and Events

2022

- 8th March [Australian Children's Laureate Announcement](#)
- 21st – 24th March [Bologna Children's Book Fair](#)
- 22nd March [Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award announcement](#)
- 2nd April [IBBY International Children's Book Day](#)
- June Carnegie and Greenaway Awards Announcement
- 10th 12th June CBCA National Conference, Canberra
- 20th – 26th August CBCA BOOK WEEK 2022
[Dreaming with eyes open...](#)
- 1st September Indigenous Literacy Day
- 5th – 8th September 38th IBBY World Congress, Putrajaya, Malaysia [The Power of stories](#)
- 19th – 23rd October [Frankfurt Bookfair](#)

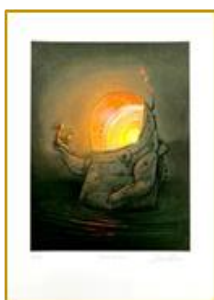
2024 – 39th IBBY World Congress, Trieste, Italy

2025 – 40th IBBY World Congress, Ottawa, Canada

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



STOP PRESS

Every two years IBBY National Sections including Australia are asked to nominate books for young people with disabilities to be added to the Collection. A selection of Outstanding Books (approximately 50) is then made. This selection of outstanding titles is summarized in a [catalogue](#)

IBBY Australia Inc. invites publishers submit nominations for the IBBY Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities program. Currently titles from 2018 until February 2022 can be submitted. Submissions are due by 1st March 2022. Please see [IBBY Collection of Books for Young People with Disabilities](#)



Bookbird issue 4 /
2021
[Is out now.](#)

IBBY Australia Executive Committee

President: Dr Robyn Sheahan-Bright **Vice-President:** Joanna Andrew
Secretary: Margot Lindgren **Treasurer:** Bernice Cusack
Committee members:
Karen Jameyson Sara Khamkoed
Nella Pickup Dr Alyson Simpson Claire Stuckey