



## **Application Fund IBBY-Yamada 2022**

A: IBBY Executive Committee

From: Cuban section of IBBY

### 1.-Title of the project and category

(a) Title “The land in which I was born”. Significance of quality books in the communicative competence and in the conformation of the cultural identity of children and young people. (X IBBY International Workshop “For Children We Work”)

b) Category: A 2.-Description of the workshop: objective, summary, duration Founded on the initiative of Patricia Aldana in 2005, the IBBY International Workshop “For Children We Work” (IBBY) is a system of fundamental activities of the Cuban Committee of the IBBY and its Latin American and Caribbean Chair of reading and writing that is broken down according to specific requirements, adapting flexibly, in each case and without losing its character, to the objectives that arise from the relevant needs of our region.

Since its establishment to date, this Workshop has been held in the context of the International Reading Congresses to read the XXI whose space, consolidated in more than twenty years of work — from providing the necessary and sufficient coverage intellectually, professionally and financially — has guaranteed its logistics and promoting its current state of maturity.

In its tenth edition, the year 2022, again under the aid received from the Fund IBBY - Yamada 2022, the Workshop fulfilled its dream of expanding its radius of action to the geographical space of the center of the American continent. A bridge between two countries of Central America and the Caribbean (CUBA and COSTA RICA), evidenced and reiterated the scope and solidity of fraternal and close human and professional relations born in the heat of similar needs and in the work that the Latin American IBBY has imposed itself.

The X Workshop fully met the objectives committed to the IBBY-Yamada 2022 Fund and in its development, elements, situations, deficiencies came to light, such as, a weak internalization of the concept of identity, not only as regards self-perception and

individual conduct, but also those that concern membership as a family, professional, community group, all become national, continental and, of course, universal, ie, human consciousness.

Therefore, based on the work carried out and the experiences derived from the VI and IX IBBY International Workshops “For Children We Work”, respectively: How to recognize, select and guide the best destination of quality books for children and young people (Yamada-Fund 2016) and “Hans Christian Andersen Award”, and *the live legacy: literature, paradigm and transcendence in books for children and young people.* (Yamada- Fund 2019); in this Workshop **“The land I was born in”. Significance of quality books in the communicative competence and in the conformation of the cultural identity of children and young people**, we focus on the search and the encounter of the questions and vital answers that underlie the eternal dilemmas “who am I?” “Where do I come from?” “Where do I go?”... and in those that, derived from the above, as a reason for being from reading, arouse concerns and promote the need to approach the book and ask it: who are you who question me, conquer me with your silent talk, involve me in all your stories? Why are you interested in me?

Once again, the workshop was aimed at *mediators*, who have the function of establishing the bridge between the books they expect and young readers, which requires a knowledge of the best that has been written with or without thinking about these potential listeners, because this possibility contributes to arouse interest in reading books of universal importance and to distinguish and appreciate them in their fair value. However, in order to contribute to the effectiveness and efficiency of ‘mediation’, the aim of which is the creation of a strong voluntary, emotional and intellectual link between books and readers, it was necessary, on the one hand, to enrich the scientific knowledge of the interests, characteristics of the ages and skills of the readers with whom the mediator performs and concretizes his work and, on the other hand, to expand his conceptual apparatus and to train him in its application and implementation in the critical analysis of texts.

**We work with the literature of four Latin American women: María Elena Walsh (Highly recommended), Lygia Bojunga Nunes (Brazil), Ana María Machado (Brazil) and María Teresa Andruetto (Argentina) and their most representative works. It has also worked with the collective work carried out by IBBY Latin**

**America and the Caribbean: Voices of Latin America. Anthology of songs, poems and stories.**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mS1aPVfi1ibtEfarfSYU94t-N5ZLVorE/view>

**The IBBY International Workshop “*For Children We Work*” took place on 29, 30 November and 1 and 2 December 2022.**

**Location: San José, Costa Rica. Central America.**

**Participants:**

- **Hazel Hernández Astorga (Costa Rica). Host. Read IBBY Costa Rica Foundation.**
- **Emilia Gallego Alfonso (Cuba). Project Manager and who applied to YAMADA.**
- **Margarita Robleda (Merida, Mexico): representing Central America and Mexican culture.**
- **Enrique Pérez Díaz (Cuba): IBBY Cuba.**
- **Gabriela Dreyer (Uruguay): IBBY Uruguay**
- **Nora Lía Sormani (Argentina): delegate IBBY Cuba, Latin American and Caribbean Chair of Reading and Writing.**
- **Rodrigo Ures (Argentina): Latin American and Caribbean Chair of Reading and Writing.**

**Venues, schedules and number of mediators involved:**

**November 29: Colegio Francisca Pancha Carrasco. Carthage: 70 mediators.**

**30 November: Municipality of San José: 50 mediators.**

**December 1: Cultural Center of Spain: 50 mediators.**

Emilia Gallego Alfonso, Hazel Hernández Astorga and Nora Lía Sormani have worked since January 2022 in the assembly of bibliographic materials, contents and development of logistics. We send in another archive some of the many materials and contents used in the classes and shared with the mediators.

. Qualitative results, change indicators and tools to measure change

The Workshop directly influenced the knowledge of the attendees who not only delved into the theoretical, methodological and epistemological tools to address literature, but also received relevant and necessary, high-quality information about the selected writers,

which will be better able to organize in the future any type of seminar, course or workshop with similar or similar objectives to the one they have just received. The main results are related to the development of the mediator as a subject of change, flexible, proactive in the new circumstances, in order to be able to face any type of activity that requires a certain order or method to be addressed in depth.

- Qualitative results

After the workshop, and in the following months, we will ask the mediators to review and evaluate some of the suggested and recommended books, since many of them have the possibility to download from the internet.

.-Criteria of a successful result

We carried out 100% of the planned activities since they were workshops of feasible implementation. It is assumed that a minimum expected result was the acceptable knowledge of literary resources and criteria for a critical reading in 75% of the selected mediators, above all, the acceptable consolidation of said knowledge to transfer and implement them in other contexts and the possibilities of organizing a promotion session without help and defend its stages with a suggestive and own look. In other words, we contribute to the formation of cultural agents *-mediators-* who are able to creatively replicate what was implemented in the Workshop.

The holding of this workshop, on the one hand, helped to develop and perfect the system of the IBBY International Workshop “For Children We Work”, broadening its horizon of impact in other countries of the area and, on the other hand, helped to consolidate the work of the Latin American and Caribbean Chair of Reading and Writing in its purpose of establishing a bridge that allows coordinating the efforts of different Latin American institutions committed to reading and publishing and distributing quality books for children and young people in our continent in order to decisively influence the gradual enrichment of the universe of its cultural heritage and the preservation of its identity, in line with the new realities andemics that characterize the design, production and dissemination of books for infants, children and young people.



Emilia Gallego Alfonso

President

Cuban Committee of the IBBY



General Coordinator of the Latin American and Caribbean Chair of Reading and Writing

Havana, December 13, 2022.