The winners of the 2004 Hans Christian Andersen Awards are Martin Waddell from Ireland for the Author Award and Max Velthuijs from the Netherlands for the Illustrator Award. The biennial Award remains the highest international recognition for illustrators and authors of children's literature and pays homage to their important and lasting contribution to the field. IBBY would like to congratulate not only the winners but also all the other nominees.

IBBY would like to thank both Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, Patron of the Andersen Awards and the Nissan Motor Co., sponsor of the programme, for their continued support.

Full information about the Award, the nominees, jury members and publications can be found on the IBBY website.

Martin Waddell
Andersen Author Award Winner 2004
This year's Hans Christian Andersen Author Award winner comes from a country that has a long history of division and strife. In the midst of sectarian violence, Martin Waddell's voice has been one of tolerance and compassion. In a recent interview, he echoes IBBY's mission by saying that he has written many books "which feature the underlying theme of the fear of strangers, or people who think and act differently and the need to understand them."

Over the past thirty years, Martin Waddell has been a prolific and versatile writer. He has covered the whole spectrum of children's literature, from picture books and folk stories to novels on life in Northern Ireland's divided communities, to almost musical football stories. All his work is tied together by his sensitive and often humorous tone and by his poetic talent.
Max Velthuijs
Andersen Illustrator Award Winner 2004

The Hans Christian Andersen winner for Illustration this year is Dutch nominee, Max Velthuijs. The full body of Velthuijs' work as an illustrator is fascinating because throughout his forty-year long career, he has toyed with so many different artistic genres, with different colour palettes and illustration techniques. Ultimately, his career has been one of constant experimentation and development. He says: “My illustrations used to be heavier: strong outlines, thick paint. I was primarily concerned with enjoying painting; that meant that the work was more decorative and the characters less important. Since the characters have come increasingly to the fore, I can leave out more and more.”

The culmination of this progress has come in his well-loved Frog series. All his books however, convey a deep sensitivity to issues of nature and the environment, animals and people. While he bathes his stories in fairytale and humour, he also deals with serious contemporary issues like racism and death.

IBBY in Bologna
EC Decisions and Annual Press Conference

As in past years, IBBY hosted its own stand at the Bologna Book Fair. This stand has become a showcase for IBBY’s many activities and a place where members can meet and exchange news and experiences. At the same time, the stand serves as a gathering place for those who are interested in learning more about IBBY and extending their connections within the international network that IBBY represents. Behind the scenes, Bologna is also the setting of the annual Executive Committee (EC) meeting.

One of the first items on the agenda was the decision by the EC to award Yoko Inokuma an IBBY Honorary Membership in recognition of her long and committed service to IBBY as President of JBBY (the Japanese National Section).

New regulations for the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award were accepted and will be applied from 2005. Up to and including this year, the Award has been presented annually to one winning project. From 2005 the Award will be given biennially to two groups or institutions that are judged by the Jury to be outstanding.

The Executive Committee drew preliminary conclusions emerging from the internal Survey that had been conducted among the National Sections. The forthcoming IBBY Congress in Cape Town will provide a forum for discussion of these.

The Executive Committee meeting was the occasion for Kimete Basha, IBBY Executive Director, to announce that she will not be renewing her contract with IBBY. The transition period has been problematic but during her short time as Executive Director, Kimete Basha has
started several key initiatives and brought IBBY a step further in its development.

Patsy Aldana of Groundwood Books, Toronto presented the fundraising project Under the Spell of the Moon. The publishing house will publish an illustrated picture book that celebrates art from around the world created for children. The first edition will be launched at IBBY Congress in Cape Town. The National Sections are asked to identify potential co-edition partners around the world.

The annual IBBY press conference is the occasion to keep the wider public aware of these advances and of other key IBBY news. This year the attentive audience listened as Vangelis Iliopoulos read the International Children's Book Day message for 2004 in melodious Greek and to Lona Gericke as she provided an encouraging report about the programme for the Cape Town Congress. The audience was also introduced to one of the new Bookbird editors Valerie Coghlan, who together with Siobhán Parkinson will take over from long-term editors Evelyn Freeman, Barbara Lehman, Lilia Ratcheva Stratieva and Patricia Scharer in January 2005. The announcement of the 2004 Hans Christian Andersen Award winners was reserved until last – Martin Waddell and Max Velthuijs for the author and illustrator award respectively.

**IBBY Delegation to China and Japan**

During May, IBBY President Peter Schneck and IBBY Treasurer Urs Breitenstein travelled to China and Japan. Liz Page, IBBY Administrative Director joined them in China.

Peter Schneck has made the creation of personal contact between the international organization and the National Sections one of his priorities. This trip was also the occasion to prepare for the 30th IBBY Congress in Beijing in September 2006.

In China, the IBBY delegation visited Beijing, Guilin and Shanghai. In Beijing they were welcomed by Hai Fei, President of CBBY and Director of the Children's Publishing Branch of China's Publishers Association. It was also an opportunity to meet the Chairman of the Publishers Association of China, Yu Youxian and the Person-in-Charge of the All-China Youth Federation, Zhang Xiaolan. In Guilin, Li Yuan Jun, Vice President of CBBY and President of Jieli Publishing House welcomed the delegation and accompanied them on a tour of the scenic area. Director and Chief Editor of the oldest children's publishing house in China, the Juvenile and Children's Publishing House, Zhu Sun Pei, also a Vice President of CBBY hosted the group in Shanghai. Accompanying the delegation throughout the visit were Liu Haiqi President and Chief Editor of Tomorrow Publishing House and Vice President of CBBY, M a Weidong Secretary General of CBBY, Huang Jianbin IBBY EC member and Editor-in-Chief of the Fujian Children's Publishing House and Zhang Mingzhou Deputy Secretary General of CBBY and Congress 2006 Coordinator.
After the visit to China, Peter Schneck and Urs Breitenstein flew onto Tokyo. During the JBBY Annual General Meeting Peter Schneck presented Yoko Inokuma with Honorary Membership for her long service to JBBY and IBBY. As well as meeting JBBY President Kuniko Kameda, EC member Chieko Suemori and other members of JBBY, the delegation visited the National Diet Library, the International Library of Children's Literature (Branch of the National Diet Library), and the home of former IBBY President Tayo Shima. The trip to Japan was also the occasion to meet with and thank the generous sponsors: Takagi Toshiyuki Director of the Cultural Projects Division of The Asahi Shimbun, and Kyoko Shimada the General Manager of Nissan Motor Co., who support the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award and the Hans Christian Andersen Awards respectively. The delegation was received at the palace and had the opportunity to inform Empress Michiko of Japan of current developments in IBBY.

The initiative was developed to give young people with disabilities, like other children, the opportunity to enjoy books and so open the way for their inclusion in society. The project aims to compile a general overview of quality books for these children, to inform about such books internationally and to make them more readily available. As such, it makes the most of the international network within IBBY. Another underlying objective is the promotion of books that emphasize similarities between children and thus encourage tolerance.

National Sections are invited to suggest titles to be included in the catalogue and exhibition and to direct them to:
Ms. Heidi Boiesen
Bærum Municipality
Haug School and Resource Centre
NO - 1304 Sandvika, Norway
E-mail: heidicbo@online.no

**Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities 2005**

IBBY will once again launch a catalogue and travelling exhibition of selected books specifically designed for disabled young people. Heidi Boiesen is responsible for leading this remarkable project at the IBBY Documentation Centre for Young People with Disabilities based at the Haug School and Resource Centre in Norway.

In April, in celebration of the International Children’s Book Day, CBBY donated about 2,500 books to the elementary school of the Gaoli Village in the Henan Province. Huang Jianbin, IBBY Executive Committee member, represented CBBY for the occasion. The Gaoli village is plagued with poverty and has an HIV/AIDS rate of over 10%. Through this action, CBBY carries IBBY’s mission forward in its belief that books can provide children with hope and nourish their souls even in the most difficult of circumstances. During a speech, Huang Jianbin said: “Some people will provide you with material food, and we provide spiritual food. [...] We hope that the tree of children's books will be forever green. Together, we will share the experience of reading and its delight” The creation of this Library of Love is part of CBBY’s long-term project of donating books to secondary and
IBBY at the Basel Book Fair

From 7 to 9 May, the city of Basel hosted the second international Book Fair BuchBasel as part of a triple literature festival: for children, young people and for the general public. With 187 readings for young and old in some 40 locations throughout the town, BuchBasel is more than just another book fair, it is as its name implies about books in Basel. The book fair has grown by more than a third since it began in 2003: this year 350 exhibitors displayed their current publications. Thanks to generous sponsoring by the fairground management IBBY is able to host its own stand during the three-day event. For IBBY BuchBasel is an important event in its hometown as the visual presence helps to remind the public, as well as the authorities, of the major event and prestige that IBBY brought to the city in 2002 during the Jubilee Congress, and thus reinforce IBBY’s presence in Basel. Following IBBY’s two-year cycle, the 2004 Hans Christian Andersen Awards winners and nominees were displayed at the stand.

The Swiss writer Jürg Schubiger Andersen Award finalist 2004 and the German writer Kirsten Boie Andersen Award nominee 2004 were very happy to attend the stand between their other engagements. Both authors chatted with young visitors and signed books. The fair was also an opportunity to meet Katalin Budia the Chief Counsellor for Literary Affairs at the Hungarian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and member of IBBY Hungary. The Swiss Section of IBBY (SIKJM) was also present, sharing a stand with other Swiss organizations.

Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award

The 2004 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award was given to former Andersen Award winner Lygia Bojunga of Brazil. One of the reasons the Jury chose this year’s winner was that “in a deeply original way she fuses playfulness, poetic beauty and absurd humour with social critique, a love of freedom and a strong empathy with the vulnerable child”.

The Prize – ALMA – is the largest cash prize for children’s and young people’s literature. It was established by the Swedish Government in 2002 and may be awarded to authors, illustrators and promoters of reading whose work reflects the spirit of Astrid Lindgren. The previous winners were Christine Nöstlinger and Maurice Sendak both former Andersen Award winners. IBBY extends its heartfelt congratulations to the 2004 winner Lygia Bojunga.

UNESCO Tolerance Prize 2003

The winners of the last and final UNESCO Prize for Tolerance in Children’s and Young People’s Literature were: Books for Young Children: La composición (The Composition) written by Antonio Skármeta and illustrated by Alfonso

Congratulations to both winners!

Information about the now sadly discontinued prize can be found at www.unesco.org/culture/toleranceliterature.

Berlin Literature Festival

From 21 September to 2 October, Berlin will host its 4th International Literature Festival. It enjoys the patronage of the German Commission to UNESCO and is organized in collaboration with the Berliner Festspiele. This year over 20 children's authors, illustrators, specialists from more than 15 countries will be present, including Azouz Begag (France), Melvin Burgess (UK), Michèle Lemieux (Canada), Anna Onichimowska (Poland), Nasrin Siege (Iran) and Kazumi Yumoto (Japan). Keynote speaker Antjie Krog from South Africa will give the opening speech. The theme this year is Literatures of the World.

For more information contact: Miriam G. Möllers Internationales Literaturfestival Berlin Oranienburger Strasse 4-5 DE-10178 Berlin Tel +49 30 27 87 86 70 Fax +49 30 27 87 86 85 E-mail: miriam.moellers@literaturfestival.com Website: www.literaturfestival.com

New Biennial of Illustrations in Portugal

Illustrate is the name of the new biennial of illustrations organized in Barreiro, Portugal. Illustrate is described by its organizers as, “an opportunity to bring together children's books illustrators, originals, editors, collectors and of course, readers whatever their age”.

The competition celebrates the art of illustrating for children and will provide a context to discover and encourage new talents.

The winner of the 2003 Illustrate Award was Frédérique Bertrand (France). Chiara Carrer (Italy), Katja Gehrmann (Germany) and José Manuel Saraiva (Portugal) received Special Mentions.

More information about Illustrate can be found at: http://pwp.netcabo.pt/bonifacio/illustrarte

2004 Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustration

The Asia/Pacific Cultural Center for UNESCO (ACCU) is organizing the 2004 Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustrations. The award encourages illustrators in Asia, the Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and the Arab States by providing them with an opportunity to introduce their works widely and to contribute to one of the major contests for picture book illustrations in the world. The winner of the Grand Prix will be awarded with a medal and US$3,000. The winning artist's works will be exhibited and published in selected locations.

The prospectus with the application form is available at the Noma website at http://www.accu.or.jp/noma/

Closing date for applications: 31 December 2004.
Hannie Wolff
Hannie Wolff was born 10 August 1907 in Arnhem. From 1931 to 1972 she worked in the library of The Hague as head of the Youth Section and quickly became a key figure in Dutch libraries.

In 1953, together with Annie M oerkercken-Van der M eulen and Jannie Daane she established the Dutch IBBY Section and in the same year, attended the first IBBY Congress in Zurich, where she met Kurt Held and Lisa Tetzner, whom she subsequently invited to the Netherlands. In 1956 she was one of the five jury members that designated the first Hans Christian Andersen Award. Throughout her life she remained an important figure in Dutch IBBY and, even at the age of 92, she continued writing about matters that concerned her. On 22 May 2004, after a battle with failing health Hannie Wolff passed away. It is with grateful thanks that we remember her work, both national and international.

IBBY Congresses

South Africa 2004
The South African Section of IBBY will host the 29th IBBY Congress, under the banner of Books for Africa in September this year. The wife of Nelson M andela, M s. Graça M ahel, has graciously agreed to be the Patron of the Congress.

The Congress promises to be a fascinating and enriching experience for all. The latest figures show that some 420 full-participants have already registered representing over 60 countries, including 15 from Africa - this is quite a record!

Just a foretaste of what to look forward to:
• over a hundred speakers and workshops many of which will provide an opportunity to learn about relevant African issues (folk stories, literacy, preserving mother tongue minority languages, etc.)
• presentation of the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award winner 2004
• presentation of the 2004 Hans Christian Andersen Awards
• presentation of the IBBY Honour List 2004
• various exhibitions and displays, storytelling sessions, dramatized presentations of children's books from South Africa

For any further details contact the South African Children's Book Forum (SACBF)
P. O. Box 847
Howard Place, 7450 South Africa
Tel +2721 532 05 55
Fax +2721 671 29 02
E-mail: sacbf@worldonline.co.za
Website: www.sacbf.org.za or www.ibby.org

China 2006
The Chinese Section of IBBY will host the 30th IBBY Congress in Beijing, 20-24 September 2006. The theme of the Congress is Children's Literature and Social Development.

For more information, contact:
Zhang M ingzhou
Chinese Board on Books for Young People (CBBY)
21 Dongsi Shi'er Tiao
Beijing 100708, China
Tel +8610 64 05 07 60, Fax +8410 64 03 27 66
E-mail: cbby@cbby.org
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<td>September</td>
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<td>21 to 2 Oct.</td>
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<td>October</td>
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<td>German Section of IBBY – Arbeitskreis für Jugendliteratur</td>
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<td>20 to 24</td>
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Reminder

All Newsletters will include an agenda of IBBY events worldwide. If you would like to contribute information about activities or events that your National Section is organizing to this rubric, please send relevant details to the Secretariat as soon as possible they are available.