FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IBBY ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 2020 HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD

4 May 2020

Junko Yokota, Chair of the Jury for the Hans Christian Andersen Award of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) announces the winners of the 2020 IBBY Hans Christian Andersen Award. IBBY is very grateful to Nami Island Inc. in the Republic of Korea for their sponsorship of this prestigious award.

The 2020 winners are:

**Jacqueline Woodson of the U.S.A. for Writing and Albertine of Switzerland for Illustration**

The criteria used to assess the nominations included the aesthetic and literary quality as well as the freshness and innovation of each nominee’s work; the ability to see the child’s point of view and to stretch their curiosity; and the continuing relevance of the work to children and young people. The Award is based on the entire body of work.

IBBY National sections submitted 34 author nominees and 36 illustrator nominees. From this pool of incredibly highly qualified candidates, the jury deliberated each nominee, carefully and thoroughly assessing each candidate while maintaining discussions related to the criteria.

**2020 Author Winner Jacqueline Woodson**

The dossier submitted for her nomination notes that all Jacqueline Woodson’s books “feature lyrical language, powerful characters, and an abiding sense of hope. The dialogues are pitch-perfect, the stories are raw and fresh, and the endings satiate the reader.”

**2020 Illustrator Winner Albertine**

Albertine creates books with multiple levels of interpretation as an illustrator, but also as an author. Her dossier states that she is “known for work that expresses spontaneity combined with attention to detail, infinite precision as well as a sense of humor.”

The 2020 Shortlist comprises:

**Authors:**
- Maria Cristina Ramos from Argentina
- Bart Moeyaert from Belgium
- Marie-Aude Murail from France
- Farhad Hassanzadeh from Iran
- Peter Svetina from Slovenia

**Illustrators:**
- Isabelle Arsenault from Canada
- Seizo Tashima from Japan
- Sylvia Weve from the Netherlands
- Iwona Chmielewska from Poland
- Elena Odriozola from Spain
The 2020 Jurors in alphabetical order by country:

Mariella Bertelli from Canada  Viviane Ezratty from France
Denis Beznosov from Russia  Eva Kaliskami from Greece
Tina Bilban from Slovenia  Robin Morrow from Australia
Yasuko Doi from Japan  Cecilia Ana Repetti from Argentina
Nadia El Kholy from Egypt  Ulla Rhedin from Sweden

Profiles of all the 2020 Hans Christian Andersen Award nominees can be found in the Bookbird special Andersen issue #57/4. Bookbird can be read for free on Project MUSE until the end of May 2020. Visit the IBBY website/BOOKBIRD to access Project MUSE. https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/41386

Contact:
For more information, full biographies of the winners and information about IBBY go to www.ibby.org or write to Executive Director Liz Page at: liz.page@ibby.org

About the International Board on Books for Young People – IBBY
The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) is a non-profit organization, which represents an international network of people from all over the world who are committed to bringing books and children together.

IBBY’s mission is

• to promote international understanding through children’s books;
• to give children everywhere the opportunity to have access to books with high literary and artistic standards;
• to encourage the publication and distribution of quality children’s books, especially in developing countries;
• to provide support and training for those involved with children and children’s literature;
• to stimulate research and scholarly works in the field of children’s literature;
• to protect and uphold the Rights of the Child according to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.