IBBY INSTITUTE CONFERENCE in Bratislava was held on September 5 and 6, 2017 as two international conferences for parents, teachers and all those who work with kids of preschool and younger school age. It was organized by BIBIANA, International House of Art for Children and SK IBBY. The Institute of the Slovak Literature of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Creative Europe – Creative Europe Desk Slovakia and the civic association Fanfáry also participated.

Conference Look behind the picture, what do you see? (May 5, 2017), showed the world of pictorial books - how reading can promote healthy development of children, symbolic thinking, how we can help children formulate thoughts through illustrations and positively influence the verbal expression of the child. The attention was also focused on the artwork of complicated themes and on how to work with stimulus and with illustrations constructively.

On September 6, the conference was held - Come read in the book and in life! focusing on the issue of reading as an interesting and complex process that seriously affects human life. The quality of reading is also affected by how we live our everyday life. Notable experts from Slovakia and from various countries of the world have devoted themselves to the process of reading and how movement, sound and music perception, or various social activities can stimulate the child’s ability to perceive, understand the text, and transfer experience to his or her own living space.

See more in bulletin.
MUSICAL SALON AT ZICHY  Amateur and professional musicians - domestic and foreign experts in the field of children's literature meet on - September 7, 2017 in Bratislava to "jam" and recall the good tradition of old Bratislava and its music salons. The event was organized by BIBIANA, the International House of Art for Children and the Slovak Section of the International Union of Children's Book SK IBBY as part of the Biennale of Illustrations Bratislava, in cooperation with Bratislava City - Old Town. The music and dance program featured: Ellis Vance (USA), Björn Sundmark (Sweden), Timotea Vráblová, Hana Muchová, Janka Mikulčíková, Viera Sádovská and Myosotis dance group. Part of the program was the award ceremony for the Ľudmila Podjavorinská Plaque, which was awarded to Milada Šubrtova (CZ) and Ellis Vance (United States).

BOOK FEAST  In September 16, 2017, BIBIANA, the International House of art for children and SK IBBY organised open-air festival Book feast, focused on the culture of reading. Part of the program was attractive form of reading, presentations of writers, illustrators, musicians, happening activities, theatrical performances of the stories of children's books, an unusual form of dramatic reading and reading riddles. In the program participated also the Bratislava District - Old Town, OZ Fanfary, the national culture centre, libraries, schools and initiatives dedicated to reading to children. The winners of the biggest nationwide competition in reciting Hviezdoslavov Kubín performed as well.

See more
ĽUDOVÍT FULLA AWARD 2017 and TROJRUŽA AWARD 2017  Award ceremony for national awards for literature for children and youth, which is regularly organised by BIBIANA, International House of art for children and SK IBBY was held on December 7, in Radio and Television of Slovakia.  ĽUDOVÍT FULLA AWARD 2017 "for a creative approach to illustrating books, which artistically combines the illustrations with the overall graphic design" won the young artist Daniela Olejniková (picture on the right side). The prize was awarded by the Fine Arts Fund, the Slovak section of IBBY and BIBIANA. The TROJRUŽA was awarded by the Literary Fund, the Slovak section of IBBY and BIBIANA for current work or past works that significantly contributed to the development of Slovak literature for children and young people. The Trojruža was awarded to the poet and writer Daniel Pastirčák (picture on the left side) "for developing the spiritual dimension in children’s literature".

ESTABLISHING THE CENTRE  BIBIANA - CENTRE FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE, READING AND SK IBBY was established on January 1, 2018 by Slovak Government Resolution No. 554/2017, dated 29. 11. 2017. The Centre focuses on building and cultivating the culture of reading in Slovakia and will positively influence the reading of the children population. The target group is preferably children in early childhood, preschool and elementary schoolage. Its content is artistic, educational and publishing activities. It organizes its own programs on reading culture; strengthens the combination of literature, illustration and theatre, and creates a unified platform for the education of children in all areas of art.

Main tasks of the Centre:

- It monitors and analyzes the reading status of the children population and the necessary needs in this area. Based on this, it strategically focuses on educational and methodological activities and creates appropriate artistic forms and programs that will stimulate cultured reading of children.
- It focuses on extending the existing ways of reading support, but especially on the development of new forms and innovative methods of work that will respond to new needs and crisis situations.
- It creates methods to support reading, combines various initiatives and organizations in this area, develops methodical materials, provides expert advice, and teaches. Methodological assistance is based on cultural conditions and focuses on forming a culture of reading.
- The Centre includes the IBBY INSTITUTE BRATISLAVA, where cooperation with experts associated in IBBY and other related organizations is being developed. Its role is to disseminate knowledge from domestic and foreign research on reading issues.

From left side:
Coordinator Timotea Vrábolová, Head of the department Eva Cíferská, Specialists Lucia Obuchová, Gabriela Mikulčíková
NEW FEAST  At the beginning of the year, some people celebrate, others party, we had a feast in the Centre for children’s literature, reading and SK IBBY. At the first meeting of the partners of the 2018 BOOK FEAST, on January 30, 2018, we wrapped around a bunch of wool balls, created magical Gulko Bombulko, our national fairy-tale hero, and got into the first preparations for the May reading festival. With the faithful pig brothers Budkáčik and Dubkáčik, we put the slogan of the 2018 BOOK FEAST - Books can bring you further! Visitors will be able to see on Saturday, May 26, during the open air reading festival.

Preparations for the May reading festival BOOK FEAST 2018 Wrapping around a bunch of wool balls, created magical Gulko Bombulko.

CULTIVATED READING, NOT ONLY AS A SOCIAL THEME, BUT AS A VISION  At the 1st seminar of the Centre of children’s literature, reading, and SK IBBY, on February 5, 2018, at the Ministry of culture of the Slovak Republic, the Centre Coordinator Timotea Vrábolová spoke about cultivated reading as a vision, within the meaning of the theme and the title of the seminar-“Cultivated reading, not only as a common theme, but as a vision.” Dance teacher, Viera Šádovská, stage manager Mária Bačová, RTVS dramaturge Beáta Panáková and musician Jana Mikulčíková subsequently presented a variety of art forms to promote reading. Part of the program were also musical riddles, and Room of reading "The book Dierožrút as a scenic laboratory”.

Viera Šádovská (SK) „Room of reading” from left side: Timotea Vrábolová and Mária Bačová (SK) Beata Panáková (SK)

SPREAD THE MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE CHILDRENS BOOK  The message is "even small things might be big in books" on the occasion of the day of the children's book (April 2), which was written for the year 2018 by the Latvian children books author Inese Zandere, the poster was created by illustrator Reinis Peterson, promotion in Slovakia through BIBIANA Revue 2/2018 to all libraries, institutions, schools and to places, where people care about children and books. It was published also through the BIBIANA website, the international house of art for children, and also in the children’s literary magazine ZIPS. The message will also be conveyed to the Slovak children during the days of the children’s book- April 17 to 19, in Žilina.

LOOKING FOR READING PROMOTERS  On March 1, we have organized a seminar for the pupils of ninth grade of primary schools in Dunajská Lužná under the name: "We are looking for reading promoters". The aim of the meeting with the oldest pupils of the primary school was to inspire them to cultured reading and prepare them for reading promotion, who will be spread the message of cultured reading among their peers. The workshop was led by Timotea Vrábolová.