



8 April 2024

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **IBBY Announces Winner of the 2024 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award**

Junko Yokota, Chair of the IBBY Reading Promotion Jury announces the winner of the 2024 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award. The International Board on Books for Young People is very grateful for the continuous support of the Asahi-Shimbun Media Group from Japan.

The 2024 winner is:

**ATD (All Together in Dignity) Fourth World's Street Libraries**, nominated by IBBY France. Established in 1968, over 60 street libraries offer accessible opportunities for participation simply by using colourful blankets to establish spaces for reading and responding to books in public areas. Targeting opportunities for children to break the cycles of poverty through nurturing desire to learn and developing creativity, the French Ministries of Education and Culture, and the Depardieu Foundation, have offered 88,000 euros of support.

The jury was impressed with how replicable this project is due to the limited requirements, and how communities could get involved through training offered through digital opportunities.

IBBY congratulates ATD Fourth World's Street Libraries. The prize of US\$ 10,000, which is generously given by the Asahi Shimbun, and a diploma will be presented to the winning project on 30 August 2024 at a ceremony taking place in the framework of the 39<sup>th</sup> IBBY World Congress in Trieste, Italy.

The 2024 IBBY Reading Promotion Award Jury comprised: Tina Bilban from Slovenia, Ingrid Källström from Sweden, Elena Pasoli from Italy, Luis Zenderera from Spain, and was chaired by Junko Yokota from the USA.

Twelve other projects were nominated for the award. These include: Poesía en la Escuela (Poetry at school), from Argentina; Fairy Tale Craftmaster, from Azerbaijan; Forest of Reading, from Canada; Tiny Books from Baltic Authors, from Lithuania; Children Cultural Development Center, from Iran; Stichting De VoorleesExpress (The Reading Express Foundation), from the Netherlands; De Verhalenweverij (Story Weavers), from the Netherlands; Slovenia,

Društvo Bralna značka Slovenije (Slovene Reading Badge Society), from Slovenia; Ikusi Mikusi, from Spain; World in Books, from Mozambique; Barbershop Books, from the USA; and Pez Linterna, from Venezuela. It is generously sponsored by the Asahi Shimbun-Media Group from Japan.

### **About the IBBY-Asahi reading Promotion Award**

The IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award has been given biennially since 1986 to a group or institution, which by their outstanding activities are judged by the Jury to be making a lasting contribution to book promotion programmes for children and young people. The prize is awarded for a specific project rather than to the overall on-going activities of, for example, a National Section. The submitted projects were judged for how well they support the IBBY Mission, as well as evidence of experience, sustainability, and opportunities for growth. Criteria included clearly stated originality and innovation, and evaluation that showed impact on target audience.

### **About IBBY**

The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), established in 1953, is a non-profit organization that represents an international network of people from all over the world who are committed to bringing books and children together.

### **Contact:**

For more information, about IBBY and the IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award, please visit [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org) or write to Executive Director Carolina Ballester at [carolina.ballester@ibby.org](mailto:carolina.ballester@ibby.org).