

Basel, 11 September 2026
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

International Board on Books for Young People Announces Its New Officers for the Term 2026–2028

The following **Executive Committee** was elected at the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) General Assembly held in Ottawa, Canada, on Saturday 8 August 2026. The newly elected officers are:

IBBY President

Basarat Kazim from Lahore, Pakistan

President of the 2028 Hans Christian Andersen Award Jury

Shereen Kreidieh, from Beirut, Lebanon

Members of the IBBY Executive Committee

Charalambos Demetriou, from Nicosia, Cyprus

Hazel Hernández, from Cartago, Costa Rica

Yukiko Hiromatsu, from Tokyo, Japan

Diana Kovach, from Buenos Aires, Argentina

Elisabetta Lippolis, from Trieste, Italy

Laia López from Barcelona, Spain

Jane O'Hanlon, from Dublin, Ireland

Virginia Phiri, from Harare, Zimbabwe

Tucker Stone from Maple Grove MN, USA

Mingzhou Zhang, from Beijing, China

The IBBY General Assembly also confirmed the following Officers as **Ex-officio Members** of the Executive Committee:

Chair of the IBBY Trust

Redza Khairuddin, from Putrajaya, Malaysia

Treasurer

Hasmig Chahinian, from Paris, France

Executive Director

Carolina Ballester, from Basel, Switzerland

President of Bookbird, Inc.

Valerie Coghlan, from Dublin, Ireland

Incoming Bookbird Editors 2027-2030

Justyna Deszcz-Tryhubczak, from Wrocław, Poland

Lorraine Kerslake Young, from Alicante, Spain

The IBBY Executive Committee is responsible for determining IBBY's policies, programmes and projects. In its first meeting held in Ottawa on 10 August, the Committee approved the appointment of **Tucker Stone** and **Laia López** as IBBY Vice Presidents for the period 2026-2028, and elected the 2028 IBBY Reading Promotion Awards Jury, which will be formed by **Charalambos Demetriou**, **Hazel Hernández**, **Yukiko Hiromatsu**, **Diana Kovach**, **Virginia Phiri**, and co-chaired by **Elisabetta Lippolis** and **Jane O'Hanlon**.

Information about other appointments, including the Projects Subcommittee, and IBBY Regional and Institutional Liaison officers, is available on the [IBBY Website](#).

To know more about the current IBBY programmes and projects, please contact Executive Director Carolina Ballester (carolina.ballester@ibby.org).