



## David Cirici and Luigi Garlando are the winners of the second edition of the Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi Award

**Bologna, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017.** David Cirici and Luigi Garlando are the winners of the second edition of the Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi Award, promoted by the Maria and Goffredo Bellonci Foundation, Strega Alberti Benevento SpA, BolognaFiere-Bologna Children's Book Fair, the Centre for Books and Reading and BPER Banca. The ceremony took place this afternoon at the Illustrators' Café at the Bologna Children's Book Fair.

David Cirici with *Muschio* (by Il Castoro) for the category +6 (for the age group 6-10) with 10 votes and Luigi Garlando with *L'estate che conobbi il Che* (by Rizzoli) for the category +11 (for the age group 11-15) with 79 votes, are the winners selected by a jury composed of readers aged between 6 and 15 from sixty primary and secondary schools across Italy, split evenly between the two age groups. All of the votes were made electronically through the Bellonci Foundation website: for the category +6, the teachers (one for each class) expressed the choices of their pupils (a total of 25 votes out of a possible 26), while for the 11+ category the youngsters voted for themselves (250 out of 300). The authors of the two books will each receive a cheque for 5,000 euros. Also rewarded with a prize of the same value, the translator of the book *Muschio*, Francesco Ferrucci.

The 2017 edition of the prize saw 88 books submitted in the two categories of the competition. The two sets of five finalists were selected in October by the Award's Scientific Committee, presided over by Tullio De Mauro and made up of Emma Beseghi (University of Bologna), Pino Boero (University of Genoa), Ermanno Detti (*Il pepe verde*), Mena Ferrara (teacher), Milena Minelli (bookseller), Mara Mundi (librarian) and Riccardo Pontegobbi (*Liber*).

The award ceremony was presented by Loredana Lipperini, and involved speeches by Antimo Cesaro (Undersecretary of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Tourism), Franco Boni (President of BolognaFiere), Marilena Pillati (Deputy Mayor of the city of Bologna), Giovanni Solimine (President of the Bellonci Foundation), Giuseppe D'Avino (President of Strega Alberti Benevento SpA), Romano Montroni (President of the Centre for Books and Reading), and Gian Enrico Venturini (Deputy General Manager of Bper Banca).

For the first time in addition to this year's awards BPER Banca awarded a plaque and a cash prize to one of the schools that participated in the jury for the category +6 and a member of the +11 jury.

For the original activities for promoting reading, beginning with the shortlisted books for the category +6, the prize of 1000 euros was awarded to the Istituto comprensivo Tartini, Arcobaleno Primary School, Padova, for the purchase of school equipment. For the best review of





one of the shortlisted books in the +11 category, the prize of **500 euros** was awarded to **Federico Giovannetti**, of the **Istituto comprensivo Strocchi**, Faenza.


The two winners of the Strega Ragazze and Ragazzi Award will meet with some of their young readers at the **Turin International Book Fair** on Thursday **18<sup>th</sup> May**, at 12.30pm **Luigi Garlando** and at 1.30pm **David Cirici** (both in the Sala Stock in Bookstock Village).

At [www.premiostrega.it](http://www.premiostrega.it) news and in-depth reports.

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