BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR



61st edition 8-11 April 2024 Bologna Italy

Immerse yourself in children's content



SLOVENIAGUEST
OF HONOUR



BCBF FACTS & FIGURES

2023

Onsite

1.456

EXHIBITORS

28.894

VISITORS

Website

200.000

VISITORS

2 Million

PAGE VIEWS

Social media

80.000

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

90.000

INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

16.200

TWITTER FOLLOWERS

10.000LINKEDIN FOLLOWERS

1,2 Million

POSTS COVERAGE

GET IN TOUCH! bolognachildrensbookfair.com

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BCBF 2024 FIND OUT WHAT'S ON!

The world's leading event for the international rights and licensing trading

BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR



61st edition 8-11 April 2024 Bologna Italy

Immerse yourself in children's content The Bologna Children's Book Fair (BCBF) – the world's leading event in the children's publishing industry – celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2023! These have been sixty years of growth and development that have seen many new projects abroad and the launch of new initiatives at the fair itself.

Supported by the Italian Trade Agency and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, BCBF is proud to welcome Slovenia as Guest of Honour country 2024. The programme will offer a unique and comprehensive opportunity to discover the creative and rich tradition of the Slovenian children's publishing.

BCBF 2024 will again include its important brand extension partners: BolognaBookPlus (BBPlus), dedicated to general adult publishing and Bologna Licensing Trade Fair/Kids (BLTF/Kids) focused on brand and property subsidiary rights. The Bologna Rights Centre is open to both children's and adult agents in addition to exhibiting companies' rights professionals. The overall offer, including layout, will be upgraded for 2024. BLTF's Business Lounge will also now include audiovisual rights trading.

The Comics Corner 2024 will be bigger, with comics' publishers from across the globe, and a further in-depth look at African publishing with the third edition of the Spotlight on Africa.

In addition to all this, the fair will present a rich programme of initiatives – from awards to exhibitions, and from meetings to special areas devoted to the many different aspects of the publishing industry.

SLOVENIA GUEST OF HONOUR



BCBF fosters a unique, diverse and impressive array of prizes celebrating excellence in children's publishing.



BOLOGNARAGAZZI



reated to highlight outstanding and innovative illustrated books. the BRAW honours the best graphic and editorial production in children's publishing, creating buzz and rights sales for all those selected. Each year the international jury selects the BRAW winners and mentions from more than 2,000 picture books from over 60 countries. Both exhibitors and non-exhibitors are invited to submit their best book published in the last two years. There are five categories: Fiction, Non-Fiction, Opera Prima (debut work). Comics and the brand new permanent category Toddlers. The BRAW 2024 will also feature the annual special category, this time dedicated to The Sea.



BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD SPECIAL CATEGORY THE SEA

s a partner in the preparation of the 39th International IBBY Congress – to be held in Italy in September 2024 - Bologna Children's Book Fair has chosen The Sea for its Special BRAW Category. It links in with Trieste, a city on the Adriatic Sea, where the Congress will be held. Throughout the ages, the sea has been one of the most recurring images in literature for young readers, representing many different themes: the natural environment and its inhabitants, the vastness of timeless adventures, issues related to climate change and plastic pollution, as well as social and political aspects, borders and migrations.

Publishers are invited to enter sea-themed books released in the last six years.



BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD COMICS

reated to highlight the role that comics and graphic novels play in today's children's publishing sphere, the BRAW Comics category is aimed at selecting the finest titles in three different sections: Early Reader, Middle Grade, and Young Adult. These shine a spotlight on the best production internationally.



BOLOGNARAGAZZI AWARD CROSSMEDIA

reated in 2021 to strengthen the connection between the digital and book worlds, this prize selects great books arising from multimedia projects, and also the best narratives that have been successfully adapted across other platforms such as television, cinema, video games, mobile devices, and smart speakers.

Now in its fourth edition, the Award comprises two categories - Crossmedia Projects and The Digital Reading Experience (digital platforms and products offering an outstanding digital reading experience).



in partnership with



BOP-BOLOGNA PRIZE

The BOP – Bologna Prize for Best Children's Publishers of the Year - highlights the valuable and innovative work of publishing houses across the globe. A special feature of the award is that nominated publishers are chosen by their peers: publishers, publishers' associations, and institutions devoted to reading promotion worldwide.



PREMIO STREGA RAGAZZE F RAGAZZI

The Premio Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi was born out of the most important Italian award for literature, the Premio Strega. Its aim is to promote reading among young people. It is awarded to children's books published in Italy, including translated titles. For the 2023 edition, over 3.770 young readers from 232 schools in Italy and abroad were involved in the jury process.



PREMIO CARLA POESIO

This award celebrates the most innovative and original Italian degree thesis in Children's Literature. The winning work is published by Edizioni ETS, thanks to BolognaFiere support. The award pays tribute to the literary critic Carla Poesio and her important contribution to the world of children's literature.



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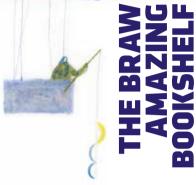


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DEPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE DELL'EDUCAZIONE GIOVANNI MARIA BERTIN' CENTRO DI RICERCHE IN LETTERATURA PER L'INFANZIA







Now in its third edition, this exhibition has become one of the most loved features of BCBF. Alongside the winners the Bookshelf turns a spotlight on 100 outstanding picture books selected among those that came very close to winning, in addition to the winners and mentions.





ILLUSTRATORS EXHIBITION

The world's newest and best creative talents come to Bologna to share experiences and do business. Promoting the work of illustrators worldwide, providing professional and networking opportunities, discovering new talent and creating international synergies are goals that BCBF continues throughout the year, through a wide range of special initiatives, exhibitions, round tables, conferences, and special

pop-up events.

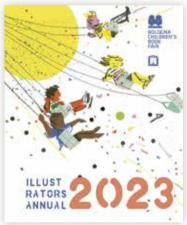
The Illustrators Exhibition showcases a broad selection of artists from around the world. Each year an international jury of experts selects from thousands of artworks those that will be part of the showcase, presented at the heart of the fair. After the opening in Bologna, the exhibition sets off on a two-year international tour, which visits Japan, South Korea and China to name but a few.

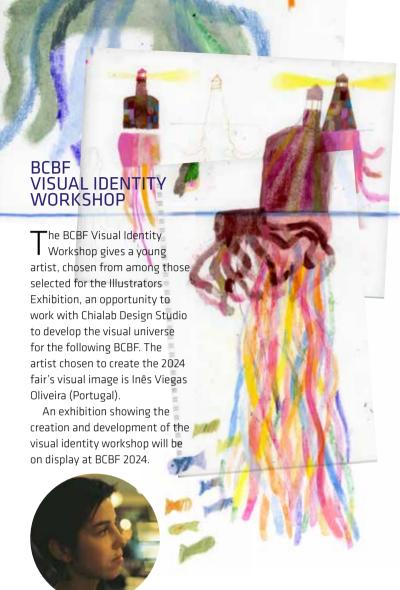




ILLUSTRATORS ANNUAL

The Illustrators Annual is a comprehensive catalogue displaying the selected works of the Illustrators Exhibition. It is published in Italy, Japan, China, and South Korea. The Annual cover is traditionally created by the winners of the prestigious H.C. Andersen Award and the Grand Prix of the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava, alternating between the two prizes. The wonderful 2023 cover was illustrated by Korean artist Suzy Lee, winner of 2022 H.C. Andersen Award.





INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR ILLUSTRATION BCBF | FUNDACIÓN SM

This prize is for artists under 35 years, who have already been selected for the Illustrators Exhibition. The winner receives a cash prize, thus securing resources for a year, to develop a picture book which will be published by the Spanish publisher SM. The original illustrations are presented at the following edition of BCBF, as part of a solo exhibition of the winning illustrator.

The winner of the 2023 edition was Andrea Antinori (Italy).

Inês Viegas Oliveira

in partnership with



in partnership with

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| 10 | BCBF 24 |



NORKSHOP



ARS IN FABULA GRANT AWARD

Ars in Fabula – a higher education institute directly involved with children's books – has joined forces with BCBF to create the Ars In Fabula Grant Award. The aim is to train new talent through a postgraduate illustration course, and assist publishers in their search for new illustrators. The award is given to young, unpublished illustrators under 30 years, who have been selected for the Illustrators Exhibition. The winner of the 2023 edition was Yalan Xu (China).

ILLUSTRATORS SURVIVAL CORNER

ne of BCBF's proud flagship initiatives, this is where artists from across the globe can gather, share experiences, and receive professional advice on their craft and profession.

The Corner offers a wide programme of masterclasses, workshops and portfolio reviews, delivered by internationally renowned artists and publishing experts. The Illustrators Survival Corner has become a very successful format and is now hosted in many international venues, the first of which is China Shanghai International Children's Book Fair, where it is now a regular feature.

in partnership with

ARS FAB SCUOLA DI ILLUSTRAZIONE

in partnership with





CBF is proud to welcome this special Planting which honours forty-three years of extraordinary illustration featuring forty-nine beautiful pieces from the Society of Illustration's 2023 show in New York, together with the children's books they represent.

CELEBRATING THE FINE ART

ILLUSTRATION

The Original Art is an annual exhibit created to showcase illustrations from the year's best children's books published in the United States. For illustrators, it's a unique opportunity to celebrate and be celebrated for the art they create. For editors and art directors, it's a treasure trove of talent to discover and draw upon.

Founded by painter, art director, and artists' representative Dilys Evans, The Original Art was first exhibited in 1980 at the Master Eagle Gallery in New York City. On display was the work of a wide variety of artists, some well-known and well-loved, some newcomers to the field. Then in 1990, the show found a permanent home at the Museum of Illustration at the Society of Illustrators in New York City.

Books are selected for the show by a jury of outstanding children's book illustrators, art directors, and editors.













RIGHTS TRADING: THE HEART OF THE FAIR

GHTS CENTRE

The Bologna Rights Centre is open both to children's and general publishing agents. In addition, publishers across BCBF and BBPlus can buy tables or offices giving their Rights Professionals colleagues dedicated meeting spaces alongside their peers. The Rights Centre will be located again in Hall 30 with a brand new layout and set-up.

BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR







COMICS

In recent years, comics and graphic novels have been one of the fastest segments in the publishing industry worldwide. BCBF dedicates a special spotlight to this thriving sector: the Comics Corner collective area features showcases and meeting tables available to publishers.

Comics publishers also have a Comics Corner Directory on BCBF website and a special section on the digital platform GRE-Bologna Global Rights Exchange.

In 2023, Comics Corner welcomed more than 40 comic book publishers and country collectives from 14 countries and regions.

BCBF's spotlight on comics will also include a broad raft of events, one of which is the BolognaRagazzi Comics Award, and there will be meetings looking at the comic book publishing internationally.

with the support of







THE PLACE TO BE FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS TRANSLATORS

A VIBRANT HUB FOR THE EXCHANGE OF CHALLENGES AND GOOD PRACTICES FOR TODAY'S BOOKSHOPS

RANSLATORS CENTRI

he BCBE's Translators Café is an information, debate and international exchange hub for sector professionals. A wide range of information is made available on this specialist branch of translation. such as trade associations, residencies, and scholarships for translators, as well as translations grants available to publishers. The Translators Café offers an exciting programme of activities. These include meetings with the diverse stakeholders in the book translation world, translation workshops, and seminars.

A Translation Forum for those in general trade publishing takes place as part of the BolognaBookPlus programme. Finally, the annual translation competition 'In Altre Parole' will be dedicated to SLOVENO as a tribute to the language of the 2024 Guest of Honour Country.

in collaboration with











BOOKSELLER LOUNGE

The BCBF Bookseller Lounge welcomes Italian and international booksellers and offers a programme aimed at sharing good practices and experiences and helping booksellers keep up-to-date with the latest trends in global publishing.

BBPlus, in partnership with the European and International Booksellers Federation (EIBF) organises a hosted bookseller programme, offering selected booksellers a full programme at the fair, including events, awards, networking and seminars.

in collaboration with







THE VIRTUAL MARKETPLACE DEDICATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS, DISTRIBUTION AND LICENSING OF CONTENT



THE BOLOGNA LOBAL RIGHTS EXCHANGE

Powered by the international rights platform PubMatch, the Bologna Global Rights Exchange (GRE) is the virtual marketplace dedicated exclusively to the international rights, distribution and licensing of content.

Born in 2020, the GRE has become a key tool of the BCBF digital strategy and hosts approximately 22,000 titles and more than 200 properties. It offers the international community 365° support, and plays an active role throughout the year enabling BCBF exhibitors and visitors to continue to display, discover and trade rights across the world.

The GRE has been enhanced with numerous functions and includes BBPlus to offer rights trading opportunities across general trade publishers and agents and BLTF/Kids to learn what is new in licensing brands and properties. The Comics Corner section features comics and graphic novel companies attending the BCBF area dedicated to this exciting medium.

Working as an all year round rights marketplace, GRE offers exhibitors the opportunity to present their titles and brands, create and name their own showcases, search contents and trends, have instant chats, schedule and hold calls and video meetings directly on the platform.

GRE is open to publishers, agents/literary agencies, scouts, licensees, licensors, developers, licensing agencies, TV/audiovisual producers, promotion and services providers free to all in person fair exhibitors of BCBF. BLTF/Kids. BBPlus.

An initiative by

powered by





WWW.GLOBALRIGHTSEXCHANGE.COM

Features include:

TRANSLATABLE INSTANT CHATS

- Chat on the GRE in your own language
- Create group chats

INSTANT VIDEO MEETINGS

- Schedule and hold meetings directly on the platform
- Share the screen and send files within the video chat

IMPROVED SEARCH FEATURES

- Apply filters specifically targeting the children's book market
- Use Search filters by book topic, book type, age level, country, and more
- Highlight function of membership in a national association or collective

USER-FRIENDLY UPLOADING OF CONTENTS

- Easy-to-use automated single or bulk upload of titles and pdfs
- Highlight function for key titles
- Create and rename custom digital catalogues in the New Titles/ Brands showcase section







THE INVITATION **PROGRAMME** FOR INTERNATIONAL **PUBLISHERS**

he BCBF-BBPlus Invitation Programme - supported and created with the Italian Trade Agency (ITA) and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) - is organised for publishers from all over the world.

The programme includes the World Lounge, a collective exhibition area, and a series of activities whose main purpose is to foster business relationships with the Italian publishing industry.

with the support of



WORLD LOUNGE

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THE EXCELLENCE OF AFRICAN PUBLISHING

frica is an extraordinary reservoir of potential new readers, ideas and creativity in the publishing industry. With this in mind, the Spotlight on Africa programme, now in its third edition, was launched with the support and collaboration of the Italian Trade Agency and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. In 2024 BCBF will welcome the last edition of this initiative. The Spotlight on Africa will feature a dedicated exhibition area bringing together an even greater number of excellent publishing houses from the continent, together with a series of panels dedicated to the African publishing scene and reading culture.

with the support of



SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICA

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WOMEN N PUBLISHING

PublisHer was created in 2019 to empower women in publishing and address the industry's continuing gender imbalances.

Bodour Al Qasimi, the Founder and CEO of UAE-based Kalimat Group, created PublisHer for professional women to discuss pressing publishing industry issues, learn from each other and seek creative, scalable solutions to the gender-based inequities that still characterize publishing and other creative industries worldwide.

At BCBF 2024, the PublisHer area will once again offer a variety of meetings, a dedicated book exhibition and networking opportunities. This space will provide access to meeting tables, foster connections and facilitate a survey for publishing industry stakeholders, while offering valuable insights into the PublisHer initiative.





BOLOGNA BOOK PLUS



EXHIBIT TRAINING CONTENT

TRADING FOR GENERAL PUBLISHERS

An event by





In partnership with



BolognaBookPlus (BBPlus) is the general adult trade publishing arm of BCBF. It was launched in collaboration with the Italian Publishers Association (AIE) in 2020. BBPlus 2024 offers flexible exhibiting opportunities; a Market of Honour programme; quality training events, including a new Audio Forum; hosted bookseller and publisher programmes; strategic partnerships, book jacket exhibitions, and a topical seminar programme.



EXHIBIT & SHOWCASE AREA

BolognaBookPlus aims to give general trade companies an opportunity to expand their reach across Europe and beyond, through a variety of exhibiting packages.

Building on the 60-year history of BCBF, and with a team of experienced exhibition organisers, BBPlus is an additional focal point on the trade calendar, allowing those who traditionally visit BCBF additional opportunities for their general trade colleagues.

RIGHTS

The Bologna Rights Centre hosts exhibitor publisher rights professionals across the industry, trading rights in both adult and children's publishing. Exhibiting publishers can also take tables for their rights colleagues.

Global Rights Exchange (GRE) is a dedicated rights trading platform, enabling exhibitors and visitors to continue to showcase, discover and trade rights across the world. Comprising BCBF, BBPlus and Bologna Licensing Trade Fair, it offers the international community 365 support, and the opportunity to ensure that the Rights Centre can play its part thoughout the year.

How to Sell Rights and Understand Licensing in Children's Publishing is one of suite of training events, taking place on the eve of the fair, Sunday 7 April 2024. It is the definitive training for all those wishing to get into rights, or in their first role.

TRANSLATION

Translation rights are bought and sold in the Bologna Rights Centre and on exhibitors' stands, enabling stories and information to travel the world.

Our annual Translation Forum looks at the trends in sales of translated books and hot topics in the world of translation.

SEMINARS

A topical seminar programme takes place throughout the fair. It considers the challenges and opportunities facing the industry through 45-minute seminars led by industry names from across the globe. Submissions to be considered for this programme are open now on our website, with a mid-December deadline.

SELF-PUBLISHING

Learning how to self-publish one's own work can be an overwhelming process for the uninitiated, given there are many companies offering platforms and services. Understanding the commercial side, rights, distribution, marketing and social media is vital to navigate this route to market. BBPlus offers a comprehensive two-day training event Self-Publishing: How to Succeed in Italy and Abroad, taking place 8-9 April 2024, where the first day focuses on writing for success.

DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION

Recognition of the production and design work of general trade publishing will be celebrated through the Jackets Off! Award, now in its third year. The Market of Honour region will display the Best of the Best jackets from their country.

AUDIO FORUM

New for 2024 is a forum focussing on audio, 10 April 2024. It will consider this important growth area in the book world. The world of podcasts, with creators platforms and marketers, will be discussed, plus voices from the diaspora, how languages from Romania, Turkey, Poland, and Spain can capitalise on the diaspora reach.

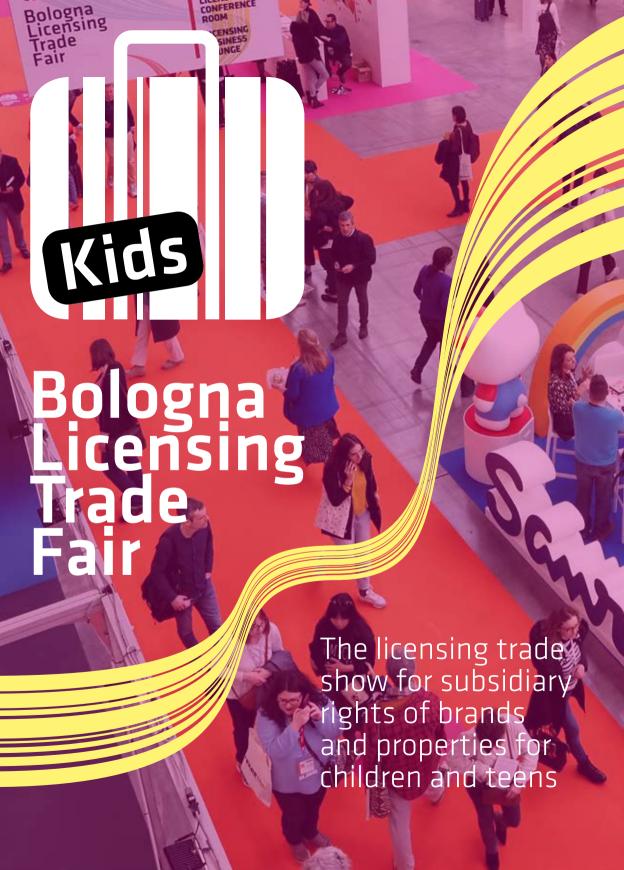
AUTHOR AMBASSADOR

BBPlus celebrates writers through its Author Ambassador programme. 2023's holder of the title was Loyd Grossman, following in the footsteps of Michèle Roberts, 2022 and Victoria Hislop, 2021.

GET IN TOUCH!

Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn: @bolognabookplus

bolognabookplus@bolognafiere.it



Bringing together the major international licensing and entertainment players, BLTF/ Kids features more than 600 Brands, an equipped Licensing Business Lounge, and a Retail focus. Located at the heart of BCBF, BLTF/Kids also offers an exciting programme of events including the Bologna Licensing Awards, previews, an intense conference programme and the International Kids Licensing Days.

INTERNATIONAL KIDS LICENSING DAYS 4TH EDITION

The International Kids Licensing Days are a series of conferences on the latest trends in children's content.

Spanning licensing, publishing, toys, video content, gaming, retail and the digital revolution, these conferences aim to give a vision on the new ways for the industry to retain the attention of an increasingly fragmented and evolving customer base.

BOLOGNA LICENSING AWARDS

The Bologna Licensing Awards are a one-of-a-kind prize, as they are the only international awards for outstanding licensing projects developed worldwide and according to the main business categories and targets, which are: PRESCHOOL; KIDS; TEENS for the age groups, and FASHION, RETAIL, PUBLISHING and TOY regarding the covered categories.

Last but not least, there is also the award for the PROPERTY OF THE YEAR.

SPOTLIGHT ON VIDEO CONTENT FOR CHILDREN NEW IN 2024!

rom TV series to movies, the BLTF/Kids' Business Lounge dedicates a special area to audiovisual producers who are interested in buying and selling video rights with publishers exhibiting at the BCBF. The animation and movie production industry is an important follower of the BCBF, and they will finally have their official place in the big Bologna community.



LICENSING PORTFOLIO REVIEW

In 2024, the BLTF programme will be enriched by new Licensing Portfolio Reviews, a way of bringing together the big names in animation, brands, consumer goods - and everything associated with them - with young talents. A unique opportunity to scout for new ideas and create new opportunities for collaboration.

BCBF OFFICIAL MERCHANDISING

To delight the large 'Bologna community' the first official BCBF merchandising line will be launched at BCBF 2024. Are you ready to collect the item that will make your Bologna Experience even more unforgettable? Stay tuned!



SHANGHAI, 17-19 NOVEMBER 2023

Since 2018, Bologna Children's Book Fair is proud to be the co-organiser of the China Shanghai International Children's Book Fair (CCBF), the only book fair entirely dedicated to children's books and content in Asia Pacific. Launched in 2013, CCBF has quickly become a premium event for the global children's publishing industry. Over its ten years of development, CCBF provides a leading copyright exchange hub for children's books and plays an important role in promoting quality children's literature and reading culture among young people.

CCBF is the only event that can be assimilated to the Bologna Children's Book Fair in being focused exclusively on children's publishing and with a predominantly professional format.

CCBF professional seminars cover a wide array of topics and formats such as panels on business practices, reading promotion, and creative workshops with children's book and illustration masters.

This special edition will welcome over 450 exhibitors from 20 countries and regions, while more than 30.000 visitors are expected. Among the celebration features: a 10th Anniversary theme Forum, a charming Gala Dinner on the river and a series of 10th Anniversary special Awards.

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organised by

Shanghai Xinhua Distribution Group Co., Ltd. China Education Publishing & Media Group Ltd. China Universal Press & Publication Co., Ltd.

co-organised by





HIGHLIGHTS

BOP - BOLOGNA PRIZE LOUNGE

This collective area is dedicated to the winners and finalists of the BOP – Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publishers of the Year. The BOP Prize annually acknowledges the most significant publishers in each of the six areas of the world: Africa, Central and South America, North America, Asia, Europe and Oceania.

CCBF INTERNATIONAL BOOK SHOWCASE

The book showcase is the exhibition opportunity allowing overseas publishers to show their new titles at the fair when they are unable to attend in person.

CHILDREN PLUS

A special book exhibition and seminar programme aiming to cast light on a trend, a topical subject, a book category. This year exhibition will be BEAUTY AND THE WORLD: the New Non-Fiction Picturebook, a project by the Centre of Research in Children's Literature - Department of Education (University of Bologna) in partnership with BCBF.

GOLDEN PINWHEEL YOUNG ILLUSTRATORS COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION

The international illustration contest designed for illustrators under 40. It aims to build bridges between illustrators and children's publishers, both locally and globally.

ILLUSTRATORS SURVIVAL CORNER

One of the BCBF's proud flagship initiatives, where artists can gather, share experiences and receive professional advice on their artwork and profession.

The space is managed and designed by Mimaster Illustrazione (Milan).

FROM THE GRAND TOUR TO BOLOGNA: A TRULY NEW ADVENTURE

hanks to the support and collaboration of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) and the Italian Trade Agency (ITA), the Bologna Children's Book Fair has been strengthening its international reach and foster opportunities for the publishing industry. Riding the wave of past vears' success. this year the Bologna Grand Tour features an amazing programme of exhibition and activities across the world: Frankfurt, New York, Guadalajara, London and New Delhi.

ITA and MAECI supported initiatives will also include the organisation of an enhanced Invitation Programme in Bologna involving 150 highprofile professionals from many countries, and major business areas: Spotlight on Africa, World Lounge, BolognaBookPlus, Comics Corner and the Italian Illustration Lounge at the Illustrators Survival Corner. These initiatives will be complemented by an intense matchmaking programme with Italian publishers and illustrators, organised in cooperation with AIE-Italian Publishers Association.



Guadalajara

London ROLOGNA New Delhi

With the support of



Bologna

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Bridging the business of books and creativity Join us

8-11 April 2024











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With the support of







