



Lluís Prats Martínez and Paola Zannoner win the third edition of the Strega Ragazzi e Ragazze Award

Bologna, March 28th, 2018. **Lluís Prats Martínez** and **Paola Zannoner** are the winners of the third edition of the **Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi Award**, promoted by the **Fondazione Maria e Goffredo Bellonci**, **Strega Alberti Benevento SpA**, **BolognaFiere-Bologna Children's Book Fair**, the **Centro per il libro e la lettura** and **BPER Bank**. The award ceremony took place this afternoon at the Illustrators Café of the **Bologna Children's Book Fair**.

Lluís Prats Martínez' *Hachiko. Il cane che aspettava* (Albe) for the category +6, (readers aged between 6 and 10), with 19 votes (out of 32) and **Paola Zannoner'** *s L' ultimo faro* (DeA Planeta), for the category +11 (readers aged between 11 and 15), with 99 votes (out of 357), are the most voted books by a jury of readers aged between 6 and 15, belonging to 83 primary and secondary schools from all over Italy and abroad, divided between the two age groups. All votes were cast electronically through the website of the Premio Strega: for the +6 category, one teacher for each class expressed the preferences of their very young readers, while for the +11 category, the kids voted individually. The authors of the two winning books receive a cheque of 5,000 Euros. Alberto Cristofori, translator of *Hachiko. Il cane che aspettava* was also awarded by BolognaFiere with a cheque of equal amount.

Publishers had submitted 80 books to the 2018 edition of the prize. The two shortlists were announced in October by the Scientific Committee of the Prize, chaired by **Giovanni Solimine** (Bellonci Foundation) and comprising **Emy Beseghi** (University of Bologna), **Pino Boero** (University of Genoa), **Ermanno Detti** (*Il pepeverde*), **Ariadne Di Pietro** (Il mosaico bookshop, Imola), **Marta Marchi** (Arcobaleno Primary School, Padua), **Riccardo Pontegobbi** (*Liber*) and **Fiammetta Terlizzi** (Biblioteca Angelica, Rome).

The award ceremony, conducted by **Loredana Lipperini**, was attended by **Gianpiero Calzolari** (President of BolognaFiere), **Marilena Pillati** (Deputy Mayor of Bologna), **Stefano Petrocchi** (Director of the Bellonci Foundation), **Giuseppe D'Avino** (President of Strega Alberti Benevento SpA), **Romano Montroni** (President of the Centro per il libro e la lettura), and **Eugenio Tangerini** (Public Relations Manager, BPER Bank)

BPER Bank awarded a plaque and a cash prize to one of the schools making up the jury of category +6 and to one member of the category +11 jury. The **Istituto Comprensivo Zanella**, Primary **School of Monte Grappa** in Bolzano Vicentino won a bonus of **1000 Euros** (for the purchase of school equipment) for the original reading activities inspired by the shortlisted books of category +6. **Giulia Mereu** of the **Liceo Scientifico Pacinotti** in Cagliari won a bonus of **500 Euros** for the best review of a shortlisted book in category +11.

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The two winners of the Strega Ragazze and Ragazzi Award will meet their young readers in Turin, at the **International Book Fair**, on **Thursday May 10th**, at 1.30 pm for **Paola Zannoner**, and at 2.30 pm for **Lluís Prats Martínez** (both in the Bookstock Village Arena).

www.premiostrega.it/PSR

www.bolognachildrenbookfair.com

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