

BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR



IMMERSE
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IN CHILDREN'S
CONTENT

8-11 APRIL
2024
BOLOGNA
ITALY



61ST BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR BOLOGNARAGAZZI CROSSMEDIA AWARD: 2024 WINNERS AND SPECIAL MENTIONS

Main trends this year: serialized products, a focus on social issues, and the horror genre

Evolving digital media and the book's ongoing generative role within contemporary narratives prompted the Bologna Children's Book Fair to expand its scope and establish the BolognaRagazzi CrossMedia Award (BRCMA), which is running for the fourth time this year.

Under the auspices of the **European Aldus Up Project** and in collaboration with Mamamò, this international prize spotlights outstanding and innovative content that has successfully transitioned, intersected or expanded from traditional publishing to other platforms (from TV and cinema to video game consoles, mobile devices, and smart speakers) or, conversely, stories born on other platforms that have found their way into print. The BRCMA also gives awards to platforms and digital products that provide effective screen reading experiences.

An international jury of **Warren Buckleitner** (Editor of the Children's Technology Review, USA), **Julie Fox** (founder of Serendipity Animation, France), **Neal Hoskins** (founder of Winged Chariot, United Kingdom), **Beatrice Yong-in Lin** (digital content professional, co-founder and managing director at CO.MINT Inc., South Korea), and **Elisa Salamini** (co-founder of The Content Makers and Mamamo.it, Italy) reviewed **100 projects from thirty different nations around the world**. Expert in digital content for children and young adults, these five professionals selected **two winners** – one in the **CrossMedia Projects** category, one in the **Digital Reading Experience** category – and made **six special mentions**. They are discussing their work in the meeting **"Stories across media. New forms of reading and storytelling for children from the BolognaRagazzi CrossMedia Awards 2024"** (8 April, Authors Café, 12.30-1.20 pm).

Click here for full bios of the six jurors:

<https://www.bolognachildrenbookfair.com/en/awards/bolognaragazzi-crossmedia-award/2024-braw-crossmedia-jury/10741.html>

Trends: This year's submissions are proof of many projects that focus on social issues, leveraging digital technology and new media to make reading accessible to children with special needs or from deprived backgrounds. There has also been an increase in the number of TV series adapted from books and, notably, numerous submissions in the horror/zombie genre, including for pre-adolescent age groups.

Winners and special mentions follow:

					
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CROSSMEDIA PROJECTS

WINNER

BOOK

Title: **Sam & Julia. The Mouse Mansion**

Publisher: The Mouse Mansion Company BV

Country: Netherlands

Written by: Studio Schaapman

Images by: Ton Brouwer

TV SERIES

Producer: Cielo Films and Superswiss Red with ZDF, ZDF Studios, France télévisions, Caribara and M.A.R.K.13

DIY PRODUCT LINE

Producer: The Mouse Mansion Company BV

Country: Netherlands

Originally created as a dollhouse made entirely from cardboard boxes and recycled materials, *Sam & Julia. The Mouse Mansion* has evolved into a successful book series, extending its reach to children via websites, social media, YouTube, a line of toys, and an animated television series. Featuring meticulous craftsmanship that pays close attention to every detail and using sustainable materials, the animated series offers a delicate portrayal of childhood.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

BOOK

Title: **The Day I Became a Bird**

Publisher: Tres Tigres Tristes – Publicaciones Ilustradas TTT

Country: Spain

Written by: Ingrid Chabbert

Illustrations by: Guridi

SHORT FILM

Produced by: Passion Pictures

Country: UK

Taking a tender-hearted, memorable, and bold approach, illustrated book *The Day I Became a Bird* (about first love) morphed into pure sound animation. Drawing on sophisticated, moving and captivating illustrations, enhanced by meticulously designed sound effects and background music, this short film delicately explains the nuances of emotions associated with first love, rendering them accessible to younger audiences.



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BOOK

Title: **The Imaginary**

Publisher: Bloomsbury Children's Books

Country: UK

Written by: AF Harrold

Illustrations by: Emily Gravett

MOVIE

Producer: Studio Ponoc

Country: Japan

This 2014 A.F. Harrold novel comes to life on the big screen, seamlessly blending the English book and its exquisite illustrations with the cultural nuances of visually stunning Japanese anime. Wondrously exploring the world of kids' imagination, the movie highlights connections with memory and books, not to mention the power imagination has to change reality.

BOOK

Title: **The Paper Boat**

Publisher: Owlkids Books

SHORT FILM

Title: Boat People

Written and directed by: Thao Lam and Kjell Boersma

Produced by: Justine Pimlott, Jelena Popovic – National Film Board of Canada

Country: Canada

This extraordinary tale unfolds like a modern-day odyssey. Delicately narrated through a young girl's innocent eyes, it portrays the fragility and strength of an immigrant community. Seemingly focused on ants, the animated short offers a powerful metaphor on the strength of family bonds, resilience, and the transformative power of art for addressing trauma.

DIGITAL READING EXPERIENCE

WINNER

Title: **MakeMake Digital Library en Español**

Publisher: Makina Editorial SAS

Country: Colombia

DIGITAL LIBRARY

MakeMake is a reading platform designed for children and teenagers aged 3 to 15, offering a collection of some 2200 books – fiction and non-fiction – from over seventy-five Latin American publishers.



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SPECIAL MENTIONS

Title: **Zoog**

Produced by: Zoog A.I. Ltd

Country: Israel

APP

Anyone can take a children's book from the Zoog platform library and bring it to life using modern AR, ML, and advanced animation features.

Title: **Super Simple Kids Songs**

Produced by: Skyship Entertainment

Country: Canada

APP

The Super Simple Kids Songs app provides interactive versions of Super Simple fairy tale books published by Scholastic: children can read a physical book or a digital version with enhanced narration, interactivity, and animations.

Title: **Better Time Stories**

Produced by: Better Time Stories

Country: Netherlands

BOOKS AND DIGITAL PLATFORM

Better Time Stories created a gift pack for Ukrainian children in their new host countries: five bilingual illustrated books on the themes of comfort, love, and hope, a secure web app to access the books in digital and audio format, and a DIY box.



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