



## PRESS RELEASE THE STREGA PRIZE RAGAZZE E RAGAZZI

Now in its eleventh edition, the **Strega Prize Ragazze e Ragazzi** is the award for literature for children and teenagers sponsored by the **Fondazione Maria and Goffredo Bellonci** and **Strega Alberti Benevento**, the organizers of the Strega Prize, in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Culture's Center for Books and Reading and **BolognaFiere – Bologna Children's Book Fair**. The Prize also benefits from the support of **BPER Banca**, media partner **RAI**, and technical sponsors **Librerie Feltrinelli** and **SYGLA**.

Created to foster dialogue between the Strega Prize and the Bologna Children's Book Fair and to recognize excellence in the field of picture books, the **Best Narrative in Pictures** category returns to the fair for its fifth year. The selection committee, composed of **Anna Castagnoli**, **Diletta Colombo**, and **Emilio Varrà**, has selected the three finalists from the **49** titles submitted by publishers:

- **Beatrice Alemagna**, *Her Muddy Majesty of Muck* (Topipittori)
- **Nicolas Digard**, **Myriam Dahman**, *The Owl Witch* (Gallucci editore), translation by Clara Serretta, illustrations by Júlia Sardà
- **Ziggy Hanaor**, *Life (As We Know It)*, (Quinto Quarto), translation by Gioia Guerzoni, illustrations by Cristóbal Schmal

For the first time, the prize for the **Debut Book**, now in its sixth edition, will also be presented in Bologna. The selection committees for the 6+, 8+, and 11+ categories, which are composed of Alessandro Barbaglia, Simonetta Bitasi, Lorenzo Cantatore, Tania Coleti, Mariella Greco, Vittorio Macioce, Marcella Terrusi, and Maddalena Vaglio Tanet, have shortlisted the following three titles:

- **Leonardo Ligustri**, *Il grande viaggio di Larry* [Larry's Great Voyage], (Giunti Editore) – 6+ category
- **Helena Hedlund**, *The Best Thing About Kerstin* (La Nuova Frontiera Junior), translation by Samanta K. Milton Knowles, illustrations by Katarina Strömgård – 8+ category
- **Antonio Carmona**, *Non si dice sayonara* [We Don't Say Sayonara], (Emons Edizioni), translation by Mirta Cimmino – 11+ category

The winning books in the two categories will be announced during the Bologna Children's Book Fair 2026 (April 15, 2:40pm–3:30pm, The Illustrators Café). The authors will receive a cash prize and an equivalent amount will also be given to the illustrator, for the Best Narrative in Pictures category, if different from the author, and to the translator for the Debut Book category in the case of translated works. The prizes are offered by BolognaFiere and Strega Alberti Benevento.



During the event in Bologna, the initial selections for the 6+, 8+, and 11+ categories will also be announced. The complete list of nominated titles is available on the [premiostrega.it](http://premiostrega.it) website.

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