



BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR STEP BY STEP

4th - 12th April 1964 ▶ First Fiera Internazionale del Libro per l'Infanzia e la Gioventù: 44 Exhibitors from 11 countries.

1966 ▶ First "Premio Grafico Fiera di Bologna" and "Critici in erba" Prize.

1967 ▶ First Illustrators Exhibition. In 46 years the Exhibition has received 47,326 entries from all over the world; 3,794 of these were selected and brought to the international stage.

1974 ▶ Ten years later the Fair has grown in importance and size: 412 Exhibitors from 63 countries.

1978 ▶ The Illustrators Exhibition starts travelling abroad: first trip to Japan.

1984 ▶ Focus on comics: "Black and White in Comics", an exhibit curated by Claude Moliterni.

1986 ▶ Opening of the Literary Agents Centre. A copyright exchange, the centre continues to increase in size and popularity: 2012 saw 122 agents representing 92 agencies.

An ambassador for excellence in children's books, the Bologna Children's Book Fair starts travelling around the world, organizing exhibits of selections from the books submitted by publishers to Prizes. First venue Tunis, followed subsequently by Athens, Rio de Janeiro, Tehran, Guadalajara, Tokyo, New York, Taipei, Jerusalem.

7th - 10th April 1988 ▶ 25th anniversary of the Children's Book Fair
Special feature: The World of Maurice Sendak.

1988 ▶ As part of the Italy Guest of Honour events at the Frankfurt Book Fair, the Bologna Children's Book Fair organizes the exhibit "Italian Illustrators of Children's Books from the 25 years of the Bologna Book Fair".

1988 ▶ Australia organizes a large exhibit dedicated to Australian illustrators: Koalas Kangaroos and Kookaburras. Other countries will follow: Iran, Canada, Spain, India, China.

1990 ▶ The world of television bursts into the Fair: first TV/Publishing Market – International Exhibition of Television, Cinema and Video.
A special prize – "Asinello d'oro" – is awarded recognizes excellence in transposing book and film.

1992 ▶ New technologies steps into the Fair: over 1,000 publishers attend the "Children's Book Multimedia Seminar", organized by BolognaFiere in cooperation with the Association of American Publishers.
A special Guide to Electronic Publishing is released together with the Fair catalogue.

1994 ▶ Starting this year, the annual foreign country exhibition becomes an official yearly “Guest of Honour Country” event. Japan is the first guest country, followed by Brazil, France, Flanders, Africa, Italy, the Netherlands, the Arab Countries, Poland, Greece, Spain, Hungary, Wallonia-Brussels, Argentina, Korea, Slovakia, Lithuania, Portugal and, in 2013, Sweden.

1995 ▶ “Premio Grafico Fiera di Bologna” becomes the “BolognaRagazzi Award”. From 1966 to 2012, 167 titles have been awarded the first prize, and 346 have received special mentions.

1997 ▶ Technology takes a front row seat: first Software Arcade and Bologna New Media Prize.

2000 ▶ 1,416 Exhibitors from 83 countries: the Bologna Children’s Book Fair enters the new Millennium with big numbers!

2002 ▶ Opening of the TV/Film & Licensing Rights Centre.
A special venue for the Illustrators Exhibition: The Art Institute of Chicago.

2005 ▶ Opening of the Translators Centre and release of the World Directory of Children’s Book Translators in cooperation with UNESCO.

2008 ▶ Launch of the Kids Licensing Forum, which in 2010 becomes the Bologna Licensing Trade Fair, one of the prominent European events devoted to the business of subsidiary rights, covering all licensing areas (fashion, entertainment, branding, sport).

2010 ▶ First International Award for Illustration sponsored by the Fundaciòn SM and the Bologna Children’s Book Fair.

2011 ▶ Launch of TOC – Bologna, the first children’s digital publishing event organized in cooperation with O’Reilly Media.

2012 ▶ First BolognaRagazzi Digital Award: this new category in the awards line up has 252 app submissions from 25 countries in its first edition!

25th – 28th March 2013 ▶ **50th Bologna Children’s Book Fair**

Sweden Guest of Honour Country

Special feature: BOP – Bologna Prize for the best Children’s Publishers in the World, organized by BolognaFiere and AIE (Italian Publishers Association). The Prize is designed to acknowledge those publishers from anywhere in the world whose publishing choices during the year have shown greatest innovation.

Bologna, March 2013

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