



BolognaFiere. Minister Franceschini announces the final phase of the Strega Prize for Children's Literature, promoted by BolognaFiere with the Bellonci Foundation and the Ministry of Culture's Centre for Books and Reading

President Campagnoli: *"We are delighted to have contributed with this project, which will reach its climax with the award ceremony at the next edition of the Children's Book Fair, to bringing children's literature to the heart of Italy's most important literary award. We are also honoured to become a partner of such an esteemed and established cultural institution as the Bellonci Foundation. The work that BolognaFiere has put into developing and cultivating the commitment and role of the Bologna Children's Book Fair within international literary culture and the channelling of this value to support new large programmes for books and reading in Italy that Minister Franceschini and the Centre for Books and Reading, directed by Romano Montroni, are promoting and for which we would like to develop new initiatives with the Italian publishing world, is now bearing fruit."*

Just a few months have passed since, during the last edition of the Children's Book Fair, President Duccio Campagnoli announced the establishment of the Strega Prize for Children's Literature together with the Director of the Bellonci Foundation, Sefano Petrocchi and Romano Montroni, President of the Centre for Books and Reading. Today in Rome he joined Minister Franceschini and the President of the Committee and President of the Bellonci Foundation, Tullio De Mauro to announce the two sets of five finalists, whose works will now be judged by young readers from the schools identified by the Centre for Books and Reading.

Today's announcement takes us one step further along the way towards the award ceremony for the winners that will take place in Bologna during the coming edition of the Children's Book Fair from 4th-7th April 2016, an event that is set to see the participation of over eight thousand international publishers, writers, illustrators and publishing agents from 98 countries.

"With this new Prize," Campagnoli explains, "the Children's Book Fair intends to enlarge the scope of its acknowledgements of excellence in the field of children's books, focussing on literature in addition to illustration. The fair is achieving its objectives alongside highly qualified partners that share the conviction that including children's books in the country's leading award for literature is the right way to support the work of writers, publishers and translators committed to producing written work for a young audience".

Press Office, Mara Vitali Comunicazione

Cristina Ricotti tel. +39 02 70108230 cell. +39 3477667191
cristina@mavico.it

Press Office, BolognaFiere SpA

Gregory Picco tel. +39 051 282862 cell. +39 3346012743
gregory.picco@bolognafiere.it