

BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR



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CONTENT

8-11 APRIL
2024
BOLOGNA
ITALY



61^a BOLOGNA CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

THE BOP - BOLOGNA PRIZE FOR THE BEST CHILDREN'S PUBLISHERS OF THE YEAR

The winners of the 2024 edition

Created by Bologna Children's Book Fair in collaboration with the Italian Publishers Association (AIE) and the International Publishers Association (IPA) on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Fair, every year the **BOP - Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publishers of the Year** acknowledges the best publishers around the world.

The winners are selected by the publishers themselves, who vote for the publishing houses that have stood out over the last year for their innovation, creativity and the quality of their editorial choices in each of the six areas of the world: Africa; Asia; Europe; North America; Central and South America and Caribbean; Oceania.

The award ceremony for the **twelfth edition** of the award was held in the evening of **Monday 8 April 2024** as part of the celebrations to mark the start of the Fair's 61st edition.

The winners are:

AFRICA

African winner is **Yanbow Al Kitab**, from **Morocco**: Yanbow Al Kitab is a Moroccan children's publishing house founded in 2006 by Amina Hachimi Alaoui. It publishes books with a Moroccan/Arabic cultural focus in French, Arabic and English. After co-founding Le Carrefour des Livres bookshop in Casablanca's Maarif district with Marie-Louise Belarbi in 1984, and Morocco's first specialist art bookshop, Le Carrefour des Arts, in 1995, Amina Hachimi Alaoui realised that there was no Moroccan children's literature and decided to start publishing children's books with a Moroccan cultural focus. In 2006, she finally set up her own children's publishing house, Yanbow Al Kitab. The aim of Yanbow Al Kitab is to promote Moroccan heritage, to awaken and train young people to become aware citizens, and to democratise reading in Morocco.

<https://www.facebook.com/yanbowalkitab/>

ASIA

POPLAR Publishing Co., Ltd., from **Japan**, wins the prize for Asia. POPLAR Publishing Co., Ltd., a leading independent publisher of children's books that has been in business for more than 70 years. As it started as a children's books publisher, it has always tried to provide children with enjoyable and exciting books. Today, the company's goals remain unchanged: everything it publishes should be enjoyable and enrich people's lives. To date, POPLAR Publishing Co., Ltd.



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has published many best-selling picture book series, which have sold more than one million copies, including "the Little Mouse" and "Hide & Seek." Furthermore, it expanded by publishing books for adults, including fiction, non-fiction, essays and business books, in 1999. Several works of fiction have sold nearly one million copies and have been made into a TV drama and film. POPLAR Publishing Co., Ltd. publishes around 500 titles annually, and many of its titles have been licensed to foreign countries.

<https://www.poplar.co.jp/foreignRights/>

EUROPE

For Europe, the winner is the **Spanish Mosquito Books Barcelona**, a small publishing house specialising in non-fiction picture books. It introduces itself by saying: *"All production is our own. Our obsession is to discover talent and make it known to the world. Our goal is to spread knowledge through beauty. Our first book was published in 2016, and to date we publish 20 titles a year, with co-editions in more than 10 languages. We take our creativity to more than 30 countries"*.

<https://mosquitobooksbarcelona.com/>

NORTH AMERICA

North American winner is **Canadian Greystone Kids**: Greystone Books is a leading independent publisher of books about nature, science, health, and social issues, with a commitment in reducing environmental footprint in their production and supply chain. Founded in Vancouver in 1993 and named after the grey stone commonly used in heritage architecture in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, it publishes books that show readers how we can respect, protect, and care for the species we share this planet with. Greystone Kids launched in 2019 as an imprint of Greystone Books, to produce books that aim to help kids understand both the wonders of nature and the complex world around them. <https://greystonebooks.com/>

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

In Central and South America and Caribbean **Cataplum Libros (Colombia)** wins the BOP. To create good books, Cataplum digs in the collective memory and explores the roots that connect Latin Americans; it recovers the oral tradition, the game and its diverse and inexhaustible possibilities; it looks for texts by authors of yesterday and today; it tracks down illustrators with new proposals and makes the effort to see how text and image can coexist harmoniously. Its catalogue, it says, is conceived as a living creature: *"Good books are like tame animals that wake up when we caress their backs and show us their bellies to invite us to play, but do not hesitate to give us a good bite to get us out of the clutches of everyday life"*.

<https://www.cataplumlibros.com/>

OCEANIA



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For Oceania, the winner is **Huia Publishers**, from **New Zealand**. Huia Publishers is a Māori owned, independent publisher producing innovative and inspiring books and resources. *"Since 1991" they say "our purpose has been simple and uncompromising – we share stories that resonate with our people, that reflect our experiences and that value our culture and language"*.

<https://huia.co.nz/>

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