

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IBBY ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 2020 HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD

4 May 2020

Junko Yokota, Chair of the Jury for the Hans Christian Andersen Award of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) announces the winners of the 2020 IBBY Hans Christian Andersen Award. IBBY is very grateful to Nami Island Inc. in the Republic of Korea for their sponsorship of this prestigious award.

The 2020 winners are:

Jacqueline Woodson of the U.S.A. for Writing and Albertine of Switzerland for Illustration

The criteria used to assess the nominations included the aesthetic and literary quality as well as the freshness and innovation of each nominee's work; the ability to see the child's point of view and to stretch their curiosity; and the continuing relevance of the work to children and young people. The Award is based on the entire body of work.

IBBY National sections submitted 34 author nominees and 36 illustrator nominees. From this pool of incredibly highly qualified candidates, the jury deliberated each nominee, carefully and thoroughly assessing each candidate while maintaining discussions related to the criteria.

2020 Author Winner Jacqueline Woodson

The dossier submitted for her nomination notes that all Jacqueline Woodson's books "feature lyrical language, powerful characters, and an abiding sense of hope. The dialogues are pitch-perfect, the stories are raw and fresh, and the endings satiate the reader."

2020 Illustrator Winner Albertine

Albertine creates books with multiple levels of interpretation as an illustrator, but also as an author. Her dossier states that she is "known for work that expresses spontaneity combined with attention to detail, infinite precision as well as a sense of humor."

The 2020 Shortlist comprises:

Authors:

María Cristina Ramos from Argentina

Bart Moeyaert from Belgium

Marie-Aude Murail from France

Farhad Hassanzadeh from Iran

Peter Svetina from Slovenia

Illustrators

Isabelle Arsenault from Canada

Seizo Tashima from Japan

Sylvia Weve from the Netherlands

Iwona Chmielewska from Poland

Elena Odriozola from Spain

The 2020 Jurors in alphabetical order by country:

Mariella Bertelli from Canada
Denis Beznosov from Russia
Tina Bilban from Slovenia
Yasuko Doi from Japan
Nadia El Kholy from Egypt

Viviane Ezratty from France
Eva Kaliskami from Greece
Robin Morrow from Australia
Cecilia Ana Repetti from Argentina
Ulla Rhedin from Sweden

Profiles of all the 2020 Hans Christian Andersen Award nominees can be found in the *Bookbird* special Andersen issue #57/4. *Bookbird* can be read for free on Project MUSE until the end of May 2020. Visit the IBBY website/*BOOKBIRD* to access Project MUSE.
<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/41386>

Contact:

For more information, full biographies of the winners and information about IBBY go to www.ibby.org or write to Executive Director Liz Page at: liz.page@ibby.org

About the International Board on Books for Young People – IBBY

The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) is a non-profit organization, which represents an international network of people from all over the world who are committed to bringing books and children together.

IBBY's mission is

- to promote international understanding through children's books;
- to give children everywhere the opportunity to have access to books with high literary and artistic standards;
- to encourage the publication and distribution of quality children's books, especially in developing countries;
- to provide support and training for those involved with children and children's literature;
- to stimulate research and scholarly works in the field of children's literature;
- to protect and uphold the Rights of the Child according to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.