

# **iBbY IRELAND**

**No. 5            January 2008**

Happy New Year from iBbY Ireland!

We are pleased to say that the *iBbY iNfO* e-newsletter will be distributed bimonthly from this issue onwards. We hope that you find the news about topical and upcoming news in the Irish and international children's literature world useful.

*iBbY iNfO* is the electronic newsletter of iBbY Ireland, the Ireland section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). We hope you enjoy this quarterly newsletter about upcoming events of interest to children's literature. All suggestions of events and information relevant to the world of children's literature are welcome for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter.

## **IBBY news**

The Hans Christian Andersen Awards are presented every two years by IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) to an author and an illustrator whose complete works have made an important and lasting contribution to children's literature. IBBY National Sections from 35 countries have made their selections and submitted 30 authors and 30 illustrators as candidates for the 2008 Hans Christian Andersen Awards. Kate Thompson and Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick are the two nominated Irish writers. The elected Chair of the International Hans Christian Andersen Award Jury, Zohreh Ghaeni (Iran) and Jury members from Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, France, New Zealand, Russia, Spain, Switzerland and the United States of America, will meet in March 2008 to select from among these nominations the winners of the 2008 Andersen Awards. The results will be made public at the Bologna Children's Book Fair on 31st March 2008 and the Awards will be presented to the winners at the 31st IBBY Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark on 7 September 2008. For more information, see [www.ibby.org](http://www.ibby.org)

Upcoming conferences, research and calls for papers

Articles are invited for a proposed collection of essays on comics, graphic narratives and sequential art, which will investigate the politics of graphic narrative and critically examine the comic form, particularly the relationship between the aesthetic and the political. Possible topics for essays may include (but are not limited to) the relationship between graphic narrative and literary studies or between various theoretical modes/frameworks and comic form; the relationship between the written and the visual, and the constitution of "text" from these various (and sometimes competing) sources of "meaning"; the relationship between comics as a visual and narrative medium and film/television/theater/videogames as visual and narrative media; issues of sex and gender; "Otherness" as a central theme, whether subversive or supportive of the status quo; analyses of particular works/ crossovers/ series/ characters. Historical, sociological, or other interdisciplinary approaches to reading

graphic narratives are welcomed. Please email abstracts between 200 and 500 words, along with a CV, to Jake Jakaitis ([jjakaitis@isugw.indstate.edu](mailto:jjakaitis@isugw.indstate.edu)) or James F. Wurtz ([jwurtz@isugw.indstate.edu](mailto:jwurtz@isugw.indstate.edu)) by 1st February.

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The July 2008 Issue of the *Biannual Journal of the Children's Literature* will focus on studies in Asian Children's Literature. Articles (in English) addressing Asian children's literature of any category are welcomed for submission by the deadline of 30th March 2008. For further information, contact Dr Anto Thomas Chakramakkil, Department of English, St. Thomas College, Trichur, Kerala, India.

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The 3rd international conference on multidisciplinary perspectives on child and teen consumption will take place in Trondheim, Norway from 24th-25th April 2008. This conference aims to establish and continue a dialogue between specialists from a variety of academic disciplines in order to explore the phenomenon of young consumers in today's society. Research will be presented on childrens' and adolescents' position in the consumer society, how children develop their consumer competences and consumer socialization in general. The emphasis is on creating a multi-disciplinary discussion uniting ideas from historical, psychological, sociological, managerial and other social science perspectives. More information may be found at <http://www.svt.ntnu.no/noseb/Consuming/ctc2008.htm>

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The conference "Relevant Across Cultures: Visions of Connectedness and World Citizenship in Modern Fantasy for Young Readers" will be hosted by the Centre for Children's and Young Adult Fiction at the University of Wrocław from 28th-31st May 2008. Papers addressing how fiction and films of the last three decades are helping to bridge cultural, social and political gaps between different groups of people are welcomed for submission, especially papers addressing issues of world citizenship, new heroic and gender patterns and visions of viable value systems which promote intercultural dialogue, harmonious coexistence and environmental awareness. For further information, contact the Conference secretary Agata Zarzycka at [agata@proteus.pl](mailto:agata@proteus.pl)

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The "Forbidden Fruit" conference, hosted in Southport, UK, from 25th-26th June 2008, will focus on the censorship of print, electronic and other literary and information resources for young people. It will be an opportunity for practitioners from libraries, information services and education, researchers from a range of disciplines, publishers, authors and policymakers from all sectors interested in to meet, network and share experiences. Suggested themes include: young people, the Internet and censorship; access to citizenship, health and other information for young people; censorship and media/publishers/writers; the role of information literacy; graphic novels and Manga and 'crossover' novels; library selection policies and the history of censorship. For more information contact [sarah.mcnicol@uce.ac.uk](mailto:sarah.mcnicol@uce.ac.uk)

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The "Twenty First Century Teenager: Media Representation, Theory and Policy" conference will be hosted by the Association for Research in Popular Fictions from 10th-12th July 2008 in Trinity and All Saints College, Leeds. Papers addressing the following themes are invited for submission: TV drama, young adult fiction, music, art, citizenship agenda, documentary, photography, journalism, pedagogy, youth culture, social exclusion, child poverty, curriculum and literacy, sub-culture, new media, disability, teen audiences, magazines/comics, juvenile delinquency, beauty and

lifestyle, pop and politics, internet cultures, texting and social ritual, teen nights and street culture, ASBOs and Hoodies, comparative studies. The deadline for submitting an abstract of 200-300 words is 17th December 2007 to Nickianne Moody, Convenor ARPF, MCCA, Liverpool John Moores University, Dean Walters Building, St James Road, Liverpool L1 7BR. E-mail [N.A.Moody@ljm.ac.uk](mailto:N.A.Moody@ljm.ac.uk) Fax 0151 6431980

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Ireland has recently become a member country involved in conducting an international European Research project on Cultural, Contextual and Risk Issues in Children's Safe Use of the Internet and New Media. The EU Kids Online (2006-2009) will examine research carried out in 18 member states into how children and young people use the Internet and new media. This three-year collaboration aims to identify comparable research findings across Europe to evaluate the social, cultural and regulatory influences affecting both risks and children's and parents' responses to them. It will chart available data, note indicate gaps and identify factors that shape the research capability of European research institutions. Finally, it will examine methodological issues relating to cross-cultural analyses and the study of children's online experience in order to develop a best practice guide to research. All Irish researchers, policy-makers and practitioners are invited to support this work. If you know of any relevant research or research-related activities that impact on questions of children and young people's use, risk and safety online, please email [P.Tsatsou@lse.ac.uk](mailto:P.Tsatsou@lse.ac.uk) or further information, contact the website <http://www.eukidsonline.net/>

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The International Research Society for Children's Literature (IRSCCL) is inviting reviews for the inaugural issues of *International Research in Children's Literature*. This new journal, from Edinburgh University Press, aims to be essential reading for literary scholars in the field of children's literature. It will publish material from the IRSCCL conferences, along with other, open, submissions; book reviews will also be an important part of the journal's work. The first issue will be published in July 2008. Authors who are interested in writing reviews, are invited to send their details, as well as their subjects of interest and expertise to the Reviews Editor, Vanessa Joosen ([vanessa.joosen@ua.ac.be](mailto:vanessa.joosen@ua.ac.be)). Her address is Universiteit Antwerpen, Prinsstraat 13 / R 214, 2000 Antwerpen, Belgium, tel. + 32 3 220 45 98. Suggestions with specific, recent titles are most welcome. Submissions are welcomed from all scholars of children's literature; and are not limited to members of the IRSCCL.

### **Recent awards for children's literature**

The 2007 Mythopoeic Fantasy Award for Children's Literature was awarded to Catherine Fisher's novel, *Corbenic*. This award honours books for younger readers (from picturebooks for beginning readers to young adult fiction), in the tradition of *The Hobbit* or *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Contact the website for further information at [www.mythsoc.org](http://www.mythsoc.org)

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The Australian Environment Award for Children's Literature is intended to promote books which inspire a sense of wonder and a sense of caring for the natural world. The winner of the 2007 Environment Award share the fundamental theme of ecological interconnection – how every species' survival depends on a myriad of

other species. The winner of the Picture Book Award is Graeme Base for *Uno's Garden* and the winner of the Non-Fiction Award is Rachel Tonkin for *Leaf Litter: Exploring the Mysteries of a Hidden World*. More information may be found at [www.wilderness.org.au](http://www.wilderness.org.au)

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The winners of the 2007 New Zealand Post Children's and Young Adult Book Awards have been announced. Awards are presented to New Zealand books in five categories: the winner of the Junior Fiction Category is Janice Marriott for *Thor's Tale*; the winner of the Picture Book Category is *Kiss! Kiss! Yuck! Yuck!* by Kyle Mewburn, Ali Teo & John O'Reilly; the winner of the Young Adult Category is Bernard Beckett for *Genesis* and the Best First Book award was won by Ben Galbraith for *The Three Fishing Brothers Gruff*.

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The 2007 winners of the Children's Book of the Year Awards have been announced by the Children's Book Council of Australia. There are five categories of awards: Shaun Tan's *The Arrival* won the Picture Book of the Year award; Catherine Bateson's *Being Bee* won the Younger Readers Book of the Year award; Margo Lanagan's *Red Spikes* won the Older Readers Book of the Year award; Libby Gleeson's *Amy and Louis* won the Early Childhood award and Mark Norman's *The Penguin Book: Birds in Suits* won the Eve Pownall Award for Information Books award. The list of Honour Books and more information may be found at [www.cbc.org.au/awards1.htm](http://www.cbc.org.au/awards1.htm)

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The 2007 List of Notable Children's Books has been announced by the American Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC). This list of books of fiction, information, poetry and pictures for all age levels (birth through age 14) that reflect and encourage children's interests may be found at <http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/awardsscholarships/childrensnotable/notablebooklist/currentnotable.htm>

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In 1982, Scott O'Dell established The Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction. This annual award of \$5,000 goes to a meritorious book published in the previous year for children or young adults. Scott O'Dell established this award to encourage other writers--particularly new authors--to focus on historical fiction. He hoped in this way to increase the interest of young readers in the historical background that has helped to shape their country and their world. The 2007 winner of this award is Ellen Klages for her debut novel *The Green Glass Sea*, set in 1943 New Mexico.

### **Upcoming events in the field of children's literature and childhood studies**

TASCQ and The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children will present "Temple Bar Trad Storytelling for Schoolchildren" with Nuala Hayes and Ellen Cranitch on Tuesday 22nd to Friday 25th January at 10.15am and 12.15pm. The Ark is delighted to welcome actor and broadcaster Nuala Hayes and flautist Ellen Cranitch for some traditional storytelling for senior infants to fourth class groups. With Nuala's wealth of tales collected during her extensive travels across Ireland and Ellen's musical accompaniment, this event is sure to brighten those dark winter weekday mornings for children and their teachers.

The Ark is also pleased to announce the world premiere of the stage version of *Beware of the Storybook Wolves*, adapted by Tom Swift and based on Lauren Child's

best-selling children's book, from Tuesday 5th February to Sunday 16th March. Herb is a little boy who loves bedtime stories. Every night Herb's mother reads him a story, sometimes it's about a wolf, and even though things get very nasty in the middle, there's always a happy-ever-afterly ending. But what happens when she forgets to take the book out of Herb's bedroom one night? Could there be wolves lurking between the pages, ready to jump out? Director Jo Mangan brings her exuberant and playful style to this energetic and funny show (suitable for ages 6+) which will delight fans of Lauren Child's wonderful story. For bookings and more information please see [www.ark.ie](http://www.ark.ie) / call 01.6707788 / The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children, 11a Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.

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The Children's Books Ireland Annual Table Quiz will take place on Thursday 24th January at 7pm in The Teachers' Club, 36 Parnell Square, Dublin 1. This is a fun event for adults where teams can battle it out over Potter, Blyton, Dahl, Artemis as well as plenty of general knowledge questions. Tickets for tables of four(ish) are 40 euro. Please note the event is for anyone aged 16 and over. Numbers are limited so please book your tickets early by contacting Jenny in the CBI Office at 01 8727475

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The Barnstorm Theatre Company will go on national tour from 5th February with *The Bus*, which follows the progress of the new boy as he familiarises himself with the politics of the school bus and learns for himself the rules for survival and acceptance. He has to learn where to sit, who to talk to and when to lie low – how to survive as one of the gang. This is a high-energy ensemble piece with seven actors playing multiple roles. For more information, visit [www.barnstorm.ie](http://www.barnstorm.ie)

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