

iBbY IRELAND

No. 6
March 2008

Welcome to *iBbY iNfO*!

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 Ireland news

iBbY Ireland is turning 10 years old this year! Come help us celebrate our 10th Birthday at 2.30pm on Saturday 8th March in Dublin City Hall, Dame St., Dublin 2. Guest speakers will include Martin Wadell, winner of the IBBY Hans Christian Andersen award for children's literature, and all members are invited to attend our AGM from 1-2pm in the Council Chamber.

+++

IBBY news

Since 1967, IBBY has celebrated International Children's Books Day in early April to help inspire a love of reading and to advocate children's books. For more information about ideas and activities to promote reading and children's books on International Children's Books Day, visit www.ibby.org.

+++

Upcoming conferences, research and calls for papers

"The Sands of Time: Children's Literature, Culture, Politics and Identity", addressing controversial issues in children's literature studies, will be held from Thursday 3rd to Friday 4th April in the University of Hertfordshire. For further information, contact Lisa Garner, University of Hertfordshire at l.a.garner@herts.ac.uk.

+++

The Reading Association of Ireland (RAI) invites proposals for papers for its annual conference, *The Changing Landscapes of Literacy – Building Best Practice*. The conference will comprise papers and workshops on the role and development of literacy across the strands of language, reading and writing. Proposals on building best practice in literacy in the Irish language will also be considered. Proposals for papers (250 words) should be submitted by Friday, 4th April 2008 to Brendan

Culligan, Froebel College of Education, Sion Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin. For more information on RAI, visit www.reading.ie

+++

The International Society for Historical and Systematic Research on Schoolbooks are calling for papers for their annual conference on “Illustrations in Textbooks” in Bayerisches Schulmuseum Ichenhausen from 25th to 27th September 2008. Textbooks without pictures are almost inconceivable nowadays. That was completely different in the 19th century when even primers were edited without permanent illustration. The informative abstracts should make clear how the following aspects will be reconsidered in the papers:

- methodical reflections about the analysis of illustrations in textbooks;
- general didactic reflections about learning from pictures; considerations about the ratio of the text to the illustrations;
- the function of illustrations in textbooks through the ages; – social and historical influences;
- questions of design; – contextualisation of the exemplary case.

Please send your abstract on a scale of 300 to 400 words (including basic bibliographical references), as well as some personal information (current occupation, main fields of research, up to five important publications or rather the topic of the qualification project) by the 15th of April to:

Prof. Dr. Eva Matthes and Dr. Carsten Heinze, Universität Augsburg, Lehrstuhl für Pädagogik, Universitätsstr. 10, D-86159 Augsburg, Phone +49/821/5985564 – 5573, Fax +49/821/5985630, e-mail: carsten.heinze@phil.uni-augsburg.de.

+++

The Journal of Children's Literature, published biannually by the Children's Literature Association of India, seeks insightful and well-researched articles on children's literature in India for its June 2008 issue. "Literature," of course, includes not just novels, short stories, or magazines, but also movies, theater, TV shows, computer games, cartoons, radio programs, music, advertisements, etc. All submissions must conform to the basic MLA Handbook (sixth edition) style. Articles must be double-spaced, but not right justified. Article length should be between 5000 to 10000 words. All articles MUST be submitted by April 15, 2008. Please send articles as WORD file attachments to jigsawcreations@gmail.com

+++

Recent and upcoming awards for children's literature

The Reading Association of Ireland is delighted to announce its short list for the 2007 Awards: Colmán Ó Raghallaigh's *An Táin* (The Cartoon Studio, Cló Mhaigh Eo); Dermot Somers' *Buaic* (Cois Life); Conor Kostick's *Saga* (The O'Brien Press); Dairíne Ni Dhonnchú and Maria Murray's *Bríona ag Brionglóideach* (An Gúm) and Eddie Lenihan and Alan Clarke's *Irish Tales of Mystery and Magic* (Mercier Press). Presentations of the RAI Children's Book Award and RAI Special Merit Award will be made at a ceremony at Church Of Ireland College at 6:30 on March 11th. Full details can be seen at www.reading.ie.

+++

The Shortlist for the 2007/2008 CBI BISTO Book of the Year Awards will be announced on March 26th and the winners will be announced on May 22nd 2008. Any school or library reading groups wishing to register for the CBI Bisto Book of the year Award Shadowing scheme or looking to find out more information should go to www.childrensbooksireland.

+++

The 2008 winners of the Newbery Awards have been announced: the Newbery Medal winner is Laura Amy Schlitz for *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village*, illustrated by Robert Byrd, and published by Candlewick. The 2008 Honor Books consist of Christopher Paul Curtis' *Elijah Of Buxton* (Scholastic); Gary D. Schmidt for *The Wednesday Wars* (Clarion) and Jacqueline Woodson for *Feathers* (Putnam).

+++

The U.S. Library of Congress has appointed children's book author Jon Scieszka as the first National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. The position was created to raise national awareness of the importance of young people's literature as it relates to lifelong literacy, education, and the development and betterment of the lives of young people. Scieszka is the author of several bestselling children's titles, including "The Stinky Cheese Man," which won a Caldecott Honor medal, "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs" and the Time Warp Trio, a chapter book series. Scieszka is the founder of Guys Read (www.guysread.com), a nonprofit literacy organization. "Jon Scieszka's platform will spotlight the diversity and breadth of children's literature available today and in so doing present a solution to what can be done to change the state of reading in this country," said Robin Adelson, executive director at Children's Book Council. The National Ambassador for Young People's Literature is named by the Librarian of Congress for a two-year term, based on recommendations from a selection committee representing many segments of the book community. The selection criteria include the candidate's contribution to young people's literature and ability to relate to children.

+++

Upcoming events in the field of children's literature and childhood studies
Seven Stories, the Centre for Children's Books, is proud to announce the launch of its new website, giving access to records of its extensive collection of artwork and archives. The site is accessible from the main Seven Stories website www.sevenstories.org.uk - just click on the collection tab on the home page. Authors such as Philip Pullman, Robert Westall, Peter Dickinson, Jan Mark and Berlie Doherty, illustrators including Edward Ardizzone, Harold Jones and Jan Ormerod and editors such as Kaye Webb and Miriam Hodgson, are well-represented in the Seven Stories Collection. Original material held by Seven Storis includes draft manuscripts, sketchbooks and notebooks, correspondence and finished artwork. The new website also includes an interactive game, exploring items from the collection, and information on how to access the collection for research purposes.

+++

The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children continues the successful run of *Beware of the Storybook Wolves*, adapted by Tom Swift from the book by Lauren Child until 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? Adapted by Tom Swift from Lauren Child's best-selling children's book, this world premiere of the stage version has all the mischievous charm of the original. Director Jo Mangan brings her exuberant and playful style to this energetic and funny show which will delight fans of Lauren Child's wonderful story. Suitable for ages 6+. For bookings and more information please see www.ark.ie / call 01.6707788 / The Ark, A Cultural Centre for Children, 11a Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.

+++

The Dublin Book Festival, organised by Clé- the Irish Book Publishers' Association- will take place from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th March in Dublin's City Hall. The Festival will celebrate the best of contemporary Irish publishing and writing by both established and new authors in a warm, welcome and festive environment and will be open to all from 10am to 6pm each day. The theme of this year's festival is 'Debuts and New Beginnings.' Authors attending will include Joseph O'Connor, Dermot Bolger, John Montague, Cathy Kelly, Margaret Mac Curtain and many others. Children are very welcome at all festival events but for a special treat there are a series of events with some of Ireland's best children's authors.

Friday 7th March 2008:

10.30amwith Marita Conlon-McKenna - perfect for children aged 9, 10 and up.

11.30am.....with Judi Curtin - perfect for children aged 9, 10 and up.

12.30pmwith Eddie Lenihan – for of all ages!

Saturday 8th March 2008

10.30am.... with Riona Nic Congáil, Laoise Ní Chomhraí, Eithne Ní Ghallchobhair

11.30amwith Enda Wyley – perfect for children aged 9, 10 and up

12.30with Tom MCCAughren

2.30pm..... iBbY10th Birthday Party – come help iBbY Ireland celebrate its tenth birthday!

The festival is free and all events are open to the public. To sign up and receive Dublin Book Festival news or to request a programme, email

projects@publishingireland.com

+++

Leabhar Power, now in its fourth year, is set to promote the wealth of Irish language books with a series of events and promotions during Seachtain na Gaeilge from 4th to 14th March. Bookshops across the length and breadth of the country will be holding one-off events, with the cream of Irish language authors, designed to inspire and enthuse children to pick up that book! Authors such as Gabriel Rosenstock, Gearóidín Bhreathnach, Riona Nic Congáil, Mícheál Ó Ruairc, Aoife Ni Ghuairm and Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin will be reading from their bestselling books for children in locations from Dublin to Galway, Antrim to Kerry. Leabhar Power will be helping people to choose from the huge range of new Irish language

books available through the Leabhar Power catalogue. The catalogue is an invaluable guide to what's new and what's hot in Irish writing and will be available in all good bookshops as well as libraries all over Ireland, north and south. Leabhar Power is a promotional initiative organised by CLÉ - Irish Book Publishers' Association, Foras na Gaeilge, Bord na Leabhar Gaeilge, The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon and ÁIS the book distribution agency. For more information contact Elly Shaw, Events Manager (085 7889472 or eolas@leabharpower.com) or contact CLÉ – The Irish Book Publishers' Association for information on the Leabhar Power campaign: 051 447945 or email projects@publishingireland.com.

+++

Dublin City Libraries is launching a promotion to encourage children to start their own book clubs. Branches of Dublin City Libraries will help them to get started, suggest titles and get books for them. Each member will receive free copies of *tbk*, a pre-teen readers magazine and tickets for regular author events. To launch the promotion a Junior Readers' Day is being held in Dublin Zoo on Friday 28th March. Authors Anne Fine, Marita Conlon-McKenna, Don Conroy and Robert Muchamore will attend. For more information, call 01 6744840 or email childrens.library@dublincity.ie.

+++

“Dublin: One City One Book” this year features Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift. During the month of April everyone in Dublin - children and adults alike- will be encouraged to read and have fun with the book. All types of events are organised including film shows, stories for under 5s, book cover competition, interactive shows with Mr History Live as well as many more. Full details on www.dublinonecityonebook.ie after 4th March

+++

The Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival will take place in Oxford from 31st March to 6th April. There will be readings by children's writers such as David Almond, Anthony Browne, Charlie Higson, Shirley Hughes, Philip Pullman, Meg Rosoff, Chris Riddell and Paul Stewart, and there will be workshops and events for younger children. For more information, visit the conference website at: <http://www.sundaytimes-oxfordliteraryfestival.co.uk/>

+++

To celebrate the launch of the next installment of his Skullduggery Pleasant series, Derek Landy will be staging two events for schools audiences in early April. On the morning of Monday April 7th he'll be visiting the Mermaid Arts Centre in Bray (tel. 01 885 2622) and on Tuesday April 8th he'll be at the Draíocht Arts Centre in Blanchardstown (tel. 01 272 4030). Any teachers interested in bringing their classes along should contact the venues directly for further information. NB. These events are best suited to readers from 5th & 6th class.

+++

Poetry Ireland will be holding a Child Protection and Welfare seminar in the Damer Hall, St. Stephen's Green West, Dublin 2 at 10.00am on Saturday 26th April. The day will provide an opportunity to hear back from those who have already been using the Poetry Ireland Child Protection Guidelines and who may have comments and suggestions regarding a review and update of these Guidelines, and their impact to date on work with Writers in Schools. The HSE will also give an update on current developments. Further information and booking from www.writersinschools.ie

+++

The annual CBI Summer Conference, taking place on 24th and 25th May in Pearse St library, Dublin 2, is a weekend-long celebration of the very best in books for young people, both Irish and international. Featuring some of the most exciting names in illustration, writing, publishing and criticism, the weekend is an opportunity to meet established favourites and discover new voices, all in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The theme of the conference is "Voices in Children's Books". This year's sessions will examine address questions such as: Who is talking and what are they saying? Who is listening and what are they hearing? As adults immersed in the world of books for children, how can we know if we are getting it right? Speakers will include Julia Eccleshare (The Guardian), Polly Dunbar, Laoise Ní Chomhraí, Julie O'Callaghan, Mary Finn and Enda Wyley, Professor Kristin Wardetzky (University of Arts Berlin), Anne O'Gorman (Draíocht Arts Centre), Tiina Nunnally, Nina Christensen (Centre of Children's Literature in Copenhagen), Tim Bowler and Robert Dunbar. The conference fee for both days is €90 for members and €100 for non-members. The fee for attending a single day is €45 for members and €50 for non-members. The conference fee includes admission to all sessions and the Saturday evening reception. Tea, coffee and a light lunch are also provided. Places are limited and must be booked in advance. To book, please visit www.childrensbooksireland.ie or call 01-8727475. CBI acknowledges the following friends and partners for their generous support of the 2008 conference: Goethe Institut, IBBY Ireland, Ireland Literature Exchange, Foras na Gaeilge and The Arts Council.

+++

Co-ordinator of newsletter: Dr Patricia Kennon
Lecturer in English Literature and Programme Coordinator for Lifelong Learning
Froebel College of Education, Sion Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin, Ireland
Tel.: +3531 2888520
Fax.: +3531 2880618
email: patricia@froebel.ie