



This will be the tenth year that a children's jury made up of children from around Slovakia is to decide which illustrator deserves their award at the 2011 Biennial of Illustration Bratislava (BIB 2011). The young jurymen will have to work two full days, but they will be helped by Fifík magazine's staff members and the children's Association Tortoises (Združenie Korytnačky). The BIB Children's Jury will present their award to some of children's book illustrators coming from almost all over the world. Each jury member is a gifted young artist or a winner of any local fine art competition held either in Slovakia or elsewhere.

The Children's Jury works on a two-year basis, and each time is made up of new children. In the past few years, to date, children bestowed their awards to the following illustrators:

1993 Igor Piačka, Slovakia
 1995 Hiromi Beppu, Japan
 1997 Nikolai Ustinov, Ukraine
 1999 Alenka Sottler, Slovenia
 2001 Charlotte Dematons, the Netherlands
 2003 Marcin Kołpanowicz, Poland
 2005 Charlotte Dematons, the Netherlands
 2007 Jae-Hong Kim, South Korea
 2009 Peter Uchnár, Slovakia

Almost all of the artists who have won the children's award arrived, at the invitation of BIB, in Bratislava to pick up their awards. In addition to a diploma, each of the artists was also given a sculpture made by children from some of Slovakia's elementary fine art schools.

The Children's Jury and their performance has also been incorporated in BIB Organizational Rules.

What is interesting is that the children's jury opinion has so far never been the same as that of the official BIB International Jury. In choosing their winning candidate, children are not influenced by any outer conventions or the opinions of professionals, and their sole task is to reach a unanimous verdict on whom to bestow the award. Two years ago, the BIB International Jury decided to present the BIB Golden Apple to Alenka Sottler of Slovenia. The female artist had won the Children's Jury Award as early as 1999.

Members of Fifík Magazine Children's Jury:

1. Katarína Marušicová of Svätý Jur (a townlet near Bratislava) is a 12 years old girl who has designed the 2011 BIB Children's Jury Award for the Fifík magazine. She, as the Jury Chairperson, will present the award to the winner in person at the 2011 BIB ceremonial opening held at the Slovak National Theatre on 2 September 2011.
2. Vanessa Hrabáriková of Križovany nad Dudváhom, 10 years
3. Mikuláš Martiška of Dunajská Lužná, 13 years
4. Eva Kelešiová of Komjatice, 10 years
5. Martin Andričík of Košice, 9 years
6. Eliška Futová of Prešov, 14 years

The Children's Jury members are selected by the *Fifík* magazine and the children's Association Tortoises (Združenie Korytnačky), then approved by BIB Organizational Committee.

A book of short stories intended for children written by several prominent Slovak writers entitled *Adela, neopováž sa!* (Adela, Just You Dare!) was released recently. The book is illustrated with works by all Slovak BIB Grand Prix, BIB Golden Apple or BIB Plaque winners plus those exhibiting their illustrations at this year's Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava. The lovely thin little book is printed on luxury Swedish paper by Munken.

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