

Concorso per giovani illustratori



Biblioteca che cura e protegge VII EDIZIONE 2025

CALL

English version

AIB Emilia Romagna announces, as part of the Bologna Children's Book Fair (march 31 - april 3 2025), its 7th Competition for Young Illustrators, on the theme The Library that Heals and Protects.

1. Participation Requirements

The competition is open to Italian and foreign artists, not over 30 years old on the date of the call publication (minors require parental or guardian authorization). Each participant may submit only one artwork, which must be unpublished and not awarded or mentioned in previous contests. The online registration form can be found at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeZcOgdA46Prqvvs4ahvAgoR_RQE-C3dt_a6s56PePFCQuMw/viewform?usp=header

2. Technical Specifications for Illustrations

All mediums and styles are acceptable. Format requested: A3 vertical (297×420 mm), digital only, 300 dpi resolution, JPG extension, maximum quality.

3. Theme

The theme of the 2025 edition is "The Library that Heals and Protects."

"Medicina animi," medicine for the soul, was the inscription displayed on the entrance portals of the libraries of the Egyptian pharaohs. Reading within these spaces has the power to evoke vivid emotions; it is both therapy and mental exercise. The library has the ability to regenerate degraded areas of metropolises and serves as an oasis spared from the noise and speed of the present. It protects the most vulnerable and stands as a stronghold of social equality; it preserves written memories and culture from the erosion of time and oblivion.

Libraries must be safeguarded and protected in times of peace and war, defended against natural disasters and human catastrophes so that they may continue to shelter and share the knowledge they hold within.

4. Submission Guidelines for Artworks

Authors will email the digital image as an attachment to the following addresses: [paolo.tinti\[at\]aib.it](mailto:paolo.tinti[at]aib.it) and [alessia.bergamini\[at\]aib.it](mailto:alessia.bergamini[at]aib.it).

In case the file exceeds 15 MB, a file transfer service will be mandatory.

(https://www.google.com/intl/it_it/drive/; <https://wetransfer.com/>; <https://www.dropbox.com/> etc.).

5. Deadline

Artworks must necessarily be received by **SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025, at 02:00 PM CET**

6. Criteria for artworks and winners selection

The evaluation criteria take into consideration the following parameters: originality – technique mastery – adherence to the proposed theme – complexity of the artistic expression – other recognizable elements of value in the work (such as marketability, international appeal and the like).

7. Selection and final award

The jury will, at its sole discretion, select the illustrations to be exhibited at the 2025 Bologna Children's Book Fair, as well as at future exhibitions.

The artwork deemed best by the jury will be awarded a 500€ prize. In addition, 4 “book vouchers”, offered by librerie.coop, will be awarded to the top-four works.

The awards will be presented during the fair on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 11:00 AM, at the AIB stand. The winners and mentioned authors will be informed via email about arrangements for the exhibition and details of the awarding ceremony.

8. Jury

The jury is composed by:

Ottavia Carli (librerie.coop)

Maja Celija (Academy of Fine Arts, Bologna)

Franco Fornaroli (President of IBBY Italia)

Otto Gabos (Academy of Fine Arts, Bologna)

Filippo Milani (University of Bologna)

Maria Teresa Panini (Franco Cosimo Panini Publisher, Modena)

Alberto Sebastiani (IULM University, Milan)

Francesca Tancini (Newcastle University)

Milena Tancredi (Delegate of the Apulia Section, National Commission for Libraries and Services for Boys and Girls, AIB)

Paolo Tinti (President of AIB Emilia-Romagna)

Roberta Turrichia (Member of AIB CEN, National Executive Committee, mandate on Reading policy and cultural welfare, AIB)

Loredano Turrini (Association “Luigi Bernardi”, Bologna)

9. Artwork rights

By participating in the contest, authors grant the non-exclusive right of publication of their works, even of those not selected for the exhibition, in any AIB publication and on its website, inclusive of the right to reproduction on any medium and size for the promotional purposes of the Association and of its member libraries, without any claims to copyright. They also grant AIB the right to exhibit the submitted works in exhibitions, displays and events consistent with the Association’s goals.

AIB and its member libraries undertake to always credit authorship and title of the work. The rights to the artwork remain the property of their authors.

Personal Data Processing

All personal data shared by the authors within the application process will be treated in compliance with legal obligations as prescribed by D.Lgs. 30 June 2003, n. 196 “Personal Data Protection Code” and subsequent amendments, as well as Art.13 of GDPR n. 679/2016.

Bologna, 3.3.2025

in collaboration with



FRANCO
COSIMO
PANINI

librerie.coop