

## **International Children's and Young Adult Book Collection at the Alexander Library, Rutgers University**

A representative collection of children's and young adult books, both translated and in their original language, that celebrate writing and visual style and design from outside of this country. Established in Spring, 2019.

### **Rationale for the Collection**

- Potential for collaboration with other departments and other nearby institutions with international collections
- Potential for partnerships with National and International Organizations
- Potential for creating a regional hub for international literature in the NY Metro Area
- Outreach to community
- Support for the International Youth Literature Course

### **Selection Criteria**

The nature of the collection: Children's and Young Adult books that are contemporary and popular in the country of origin as well as books by authors and illustrators who have won significant international awards are included in the collection. The collection includes a wide range of formats and genres including: graphic novels, nonfiction, etc.

The collection is a representative collection and includes books that are:

- Translated into English
- Originally published in a country other than the United States or published in the United States by creators from other lands.
- Written in a language other than English
- Written outside the United States in English.
- Global books written by a refugee or immigrant to a country other than their Homeland
- Reference books, catalogues from major international exhibitions, secondary resources.

Exceptions:

- Books that are broadly available in a United States Public Library
- Authors and illustrators who are so generic that there are no cultural markers, that is, nothing in the text, illustration or design that make it 'feel' international
- Books that are classic in the canon of children's literature in the United States (e.g. Winnie-the Pooh, Pippi Longstocking).

**Consideration is given to the following awards:**

Mildred L. [Batchelder](#)

[Outstanding International Books List](#)

[Hans Christian Andersen](#)

[IBBY Honour Lists](#)

[Nami Island Concours](#)

[GLLI YA Translated Book Prize](#)

[IBBY Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities](#)

**National Awards From Countries outside the U.S.**

[Children's Book Council of Australia Awards](#)

[The CILIP Carnegie](#)

[Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards](#)

[Other UK Children's Book Awards](#)

[Canadian Children's Book Awards](#)

[New Zealand Children's Book Awards](#)

[Major Japanese Children's Book Awards](#)

[Chen Bochui International Children's Book Award](#)

[Children's Africana Book Award](#) [South Asia Book Award](#)

**Children's Choice Book Awards**

[Children's Book Award](#) (UK)

[Children's Choice Awards](#) (Australia)

INKY Awards-Australia's only teen choice book awards are run annually by the Centre for Youth Literature.

## **Acquisition Policy**

At the present time books are acquired by donation.

## **Donations**

Initial collection of nearly 1,000 books created with books donated to the library. Fall 2018 -Spring 2020. Initial donations received from the Northport-East Northport Public Library International and Global Books Collection that was created by Doris Gebel in December 2018.

Commitments for ongoing donations from various publishers, Kirkus Reviews and Publishers Spotlight

## **Processing and Cataloging**

Book Processing supplies and labels provided by the library. Books are to be cataloged by the Cataloging Department as opportunity allows.

- Books will retain their dust jackets and be covered with mylar protectors. These supplies have been ordered.
- Books will receive a label and be filed in a separate section of the Children's Book Collection on the third floor of the Alexander Library.



- Actual spine label is on white background, image is brown.

## **Budget**

- At present we rely on donations for books.
- Goal: to establish a budget

## **Inventory**

An inventory of the collection was started by students in the Spring 2020 session of 17:610:597:90 SPECIAL TOPICS II: International Youth Literature for Children and Young Adults and completed by Josh Cohen during Field Experience Spring 2020.

### **Short Term Goals**

- To catalog the books in the collection
- To move the collection to the children's book collection on the third floor
- To prepare a poster session for the 2021 Bologna Children's Book Fair
- Completion of a LibGuide to promote the collection.

### **Long Term Goals**

- To host virtual webinars and in-person workshops promoting international youth literature in order to feature the collection.

### **Promotion**

Hosted the [IBBY Silent Book Collection](#) at an event at the Alexander Library to introduce the International Collection, May 2, 2019.

Exhibit on display at the Alexander Library May 2-May 30, 2019.

Poster session presented by Janet Croft anetat the New Jersey Library Association Annual Meeting

Collection to be promoted at the [Bologna Children's Book Fair](#), 2021.

Collection promoted throughout the USBBY membership and to other national and international library associations.

### **Benefit for MI Program**

- Supports all Children's Literature Coursework.
- Creates an on-campus opportunity for Field Experience for MI candidates.

### **Benefit for the Rutgers Library and Academic Community**

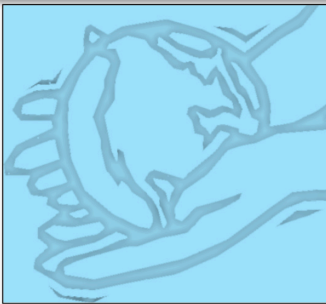
- Significantly improves and updates the current Children's Literature Collection at the Alexander Library.

- Promotes a source of global and international literature for all students of children's literature in all departments campus wide.

## Benefit for Surrounding Community

- Extends outreach opportunities for the library's mission of [public service](#) and [diversity](#) by offering opportunities for access to quality diverse literature that promotes global awareness and social justice that is bias free.

# THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH LITERATURE COLLECTION



## WHERE IS IT?

The collection is currently located in room 108 in the Alexander Library / New Brunswick Libraries Administrative Suite. It is sorted by age level and organized by author name.

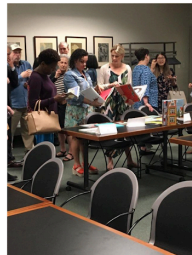
## WHO'S GOING TO USE IT?

Students in the children's literature course in the Library and Information program are already using it to learn about collection development, evaluating children's literature, creating reviews, and the various important awards in the field. We anticipate that once it is cataloged and accessible, it will also be useful to language, literature, and area studies programs, early childhood through young adult education, students of illustration and book arts, and even the broader New Brunswick community for programming, education, and entertainment.

## THE BEGINNINGS

In late 2018, I worked with Marc Aronson, faculty member in SC&I, and Doris Gebel, recently retired from Northport Library in New York and currently an SC&I adjunct, to acquire a collection of international children's and young adult books either written in or translated into English, many of them award-winning, from Northport Library. This collection is a core piece of our vision for Rutgers, a global university situated in a highly diverse state in which a rich variety of languages are spoken in the home, to become an anchor for a regional concentration in international children's literature.

The initial collection of some 500 books is being continually updated by books acquired from publishers and at the international Bologna Book Fair, among other sources. The collection currently numbers nearly 1000 items.



## WHAT HAVE WE DONE WITH IT SO FAR?

### SILENT BOOKS EXHIBIT



The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY) is a global alliance that works to use books as bridges across all of the barriers that separate young people. In order to help refugee children, IBBY annually selects a collection of "silent books"—picture books that have no words—so that children can have stories without needing to learn a new language.

During May 2019, the Archibald Alexander Library had the honor of hosting the most recent Silent Books collection, which was then touring the world.

### BOOKS AS BRIDGES: How Books for Children and Teenagers Can Speak Across Borders of Language, Nation, and Culture

Lecture, Panel Discussion, and Opening Reception: **Panero Room, Alexander Library, Thursday, May 2, 2019, 6:00 p.m.**

- SPEAKERS:**
- Dr. Junko Yokota, director of the Center for Teaching through Children's Books and chair, Hans Christian Andersen book award jury
  - Doris Gebel, former president of USSBY, the section of IBBY representing the United States, and retired librarian
  - Marc Aronson, Assistant Professor in Library and Information Science at Rutgers, creating the International Youth Literature Section at Rutgers
  - Janet Brennan Croft, Liaison to the School of Communication and Information for Rutgers—New Brunswick Libraries and expert on J.R.R. Tolkien's books for children

Spring 2019: Special Topics II students did preliminary sorting and assessment of the collection, eliminating duplicates, items in poor condition, and items that did not fit the collection development criteria that we designed as part of the course assignment.

Spring 2020: LIS student Josh Cohen did his field work project with this collection, consolidating and greatly expanding a finding aid/spreadsheet and doing investigative work on the awards represented in the collection.

## And WHAT'S NEXT?

Fall 2020: Another exhibit and lecture or lecture series based on the collection.

Fall 2020-Spring 2021: Students will learn the basics of public library physical processing, applying book covers, spine labels, and book plates to the collection before it goes to cataloging.

Fall 2020-Spring 2021: Students will develop a LibGuide to collect and make discoverable the collection development statement, finding aids, reviews, award lists, and other information and metadata they have developed around the collection.

???? Weeding of the existing juvenile collections.

???? Sending the collection through cataloging and making it accessible to the broader New Brunswick campus and community population.

## CONCLUSION

The International Youth Literature Collection is a worthwhile gift to the Rutgers Libraries, already seeing intensive use in teaching and hands-on projects by the LIS program, and with potential for interdisciplinary use across the university and the community. We look forward to making it available in the general circulating collection in the near future.

Janet Brennan Croft,  
Liaison to English,  
Cinema Studies,  
Linguistics, and the  
School of  
Communication and  
Information, and  
Librarian for Copyright  
Education and Disability  
Services, NBL



# BOOKS AS BRIDGES: How Books for Children and Teenagers Can Speak Across Borders of Language, Nation, and Culture

**Lecture: Pane Room, Alexander Library,  
Thursday, May 2, 2019, 6:00 p.m.  
Exhibit: May 2-30, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Alexander Library**

The International Board of Books for Youth is a global alliance that works to use books as bridges across all of the barriers that separate young people. In order to help refugee children, IBBY annually selects a collection of “silent books”—picture books that have no words—so that a child can have stories without needing to learn a new language. In a time when populist nationalism and xenophobia create walls between people, we believe that books can help to surmount those barriers. Come help us celebrate the Silent Books exhibit, the launch of the International Youth section at Alexander, and hear from experts on books from other lands.

**SPEAKERS:**

- **Dr. Junko Yokota**, director of the Center for Teaching through Children's Books and chair Hans Christian Andersen book award jury
- **Doris Gebel**, retired librarian who created an international youth books collection in her Long Island library
- **Marc Aronson**, Assistant Teacher Professor in Library and Information Science at Rutgers
- **Janet Brennan Croft**, Liaison to the School of Communication and Information for Rutgers—New Brunswick Libraries



**libraries.rutgers.edu**



## Appendix 1

[International Juvenile Literature Awards Guide](#)

## Appendix 2

[Spreadsheet of books in collection](#)

## Appendix 3

Draft Unedited Annotations by students of books in the collection as of Spring 2020

## Appendix 4

Draft [Sample LibGuide Annotation prepared by Josh Cohen](#)

## Appendix 5

Draft [Sample Page Layout for LibGuide](#)

### Next Steps

- Establish processing procedure and timetable for cataloging
- Establish criteria, procedure and time table for weeding existing children's collection
- Determine shelving arrangements
- Contact interested schools and departments university wide: Ed School, Language and Literature, Anthropology
- Strength connection with Cotsen Library East Asia Collection at Princeton