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

Lecture, Panel Discussion, and Opening Reception: Pane Room, Alexander Library, Thursday, May 2, 2019, 6:00 p.m. Exhibit: May 2-24, 4th Floor, Alexander Library

The International Board of Books for Young People 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. When populist nationalism and xenophobia create walls between people, books can help to surmount those barriers and build bridges instead. Come help us celebrate the Silent Books exhibit and 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, 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 JRR Tolkien’s books for children

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