

The United States Board on Books for Young People announces a CALL FOR BREAKOUT SESSION PROPOSALS for the 12th IBBY Regional Conference, October 20-22, 2017, at the University of Washington Information School in Seattle

CONFERENCE THEME: **Radical Change Beyond Borders—The Transforming Power of Children’s Literature in a Digital Age**

IBBY was founded after World War II to share and build on the belief that books can help children deal with life’s uncertainties, fear, violence, and tragedy. The 12th IBBY Regional Conference provides an opportunity for educators, creators, and curators of literature written for children and young adults worldwide to come together to revisit this belief. Though their settings, lifestyles, and cultures differ widely, many of the world’s children are acquainted with violence and tragedy, and they must deal with anger and fear.

The conference theme invites participants to think about international children’s literature in all its forms, reflecting on its power to influence change. Can everyday individuals, including children and young adults, influence change? Excellent literature demonstrates that they can. Today’s children and youth need international perspectives to confront world conditions and challenges brought into their lives.

The sessions will focus on excellence in books and other resources for young people, from global perspectives including challenges of translation and distribution, contributions of the graphic format in promoting information and visual literacy, and effects of the ever-changing geopolitical landscape. IBBY is strongly committed to the role of literature in promoting international peace and understanding; this gathering celebrates that enduring vision.

Please submit a title and 100-word abstract for a one-hour conference breakout session. The title and abstract must *fit the conference theme and feature international children’s literature*. (Proposals will be evaluated according to these criteria). The conference theme is taken from the title of the groundbreaking book, *Radical Change: Books for Youth in a Digital Age* by Eliza Dresang, former Beverly Cleary Professor in Children and Youth Services in the University of Washington Information School. This theme was chosen to honor the late Professor Dresang, who saw children as capable, connected, and open to the world’s stories.

Technology support will be provided for PowerPoint only.

In addition to the abstract, please include your complete contact information (name, affiliation, address, email, telephone) with the proposal. If the proposed session has multiple speakers, this information must be provided for everyone listed. The conference planning committee may combine single speaker proposals into one session.

The deadline for submission is March 15, 2017

Submit the proposal electronically as a Word document to 2017 IBBY Regional
(2017IBBYRegional@gmail.com)