



IRELAND SECTION – INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
C/O CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND,
17 NORTH GREAT GEORGE'S STREET, DUBLIN 1.

Dear iBbY Section,

iBbY Ireland are delighted to announce our successful bid to act as sponsors of International Children's Book Day (ICBD) in 2014. ICBD is observed annually on 2nd April, the anniversary of the birth of Hans Christian Andersen, and is celebrated all over the world. Our motto is *Imagine Nations Through Stories* and we want children, parents, teachers, librarians, writers, publishers and policy-makers across the world to get involved in making 2 April 2014 the best International Children's Book Day ever!

Ireland's current Laureate na nÓg Niamh Sharkey has designed a fabulous poster to celebrate this International Children's Book Day, honouring the idea that stories play an important role in how children understand the world and those around them. Award-winning author and former Laureate na nÓg Siobhan Parkinson has written a message to the children of the world, expounding on the importance of imagination in the creative life of the writer and reader, and how children play an essential role in bringing stories to life. We have included copies of both in this pack, which have been delivered via the kind sponsorship of TNT Express Ireland. If you would like a digital version of the poster or message, please email secretary@ibbyireland.ie and we will be happy to send you on high quality PDF to use to promote ICBD 2014.

In the coming months we will be announcing exciting events and activities that iBbY Ireland are running to celebrate the day, but we ask everyone who has a stake in children's books around the world to get involved too. If you have ideas or suggestions, or would like to work on a joint project to celebrate the day, please contact us through our email above, tweet us @iBbYIreland, or get in touch through our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ibbyireland.

Yours Sincerely,

Grainne Clear
President of iBbY Ireland