

IICLO REPORT

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Looking for "Connection"

Miyakawa Takeo, Chief Director

The waves of the coronavirus have hit us many times, and they have not yet subsided. Even though the days of anxiety and inconvenience are already long gone, I hope that everyone is still in good health.

The International Institute for Children's Literature, Osaka (IICLO) has been distributing a YouTube version of "Adventures in the Sea of Books" as a new initiative in response to the Corona Disaster. This is an introduction to new picture books, fiction for children, YA books,



and science books for children. We also have a program called "New Children's Books: Recommended Points", for the adults who select the books for children. Both have fortunately been well received.

A series of online lectures, "Five Lessons in Children's Literature: Useful for Classrooms" is now available. There are many works of children's literature that are used as teaching materials in Japanese

primary school textbooks. The 60-minute lectures combine analysis of the children's stories by Miyazawa Kenji and Aman Kimiko with a reading guide developed from the lectures. The final session of the course is an interview of Aman Kimiko, author of many stories such as "Shiroi no Boshi (White Hat)," "Nanae wo Mite Chodai" (Check My Name)," and "Chii-chan no Kageokuri (Chii-chan's Shadow Play)" which are included in the Japanese text books. Ms. Aman previously served as a trustee of our foundation for a long time.

Because our foundation may have had a weak connection with the education field in the past, this online course is an attempt to create new "connections" with teachers and school librarians who read children's literature with children in the classroom. This online course and the introduction of new books on YouTube are our ways of exploring new ways to **connect** with others.

The year before last, on the 10th anniversary of the IICLO's relocation, we published a report on the foundation's current activities in a special issue of our e-newsletter including details of the

difficulties of our economic situation. As a result, we received donations in excess of our goal.

The world has been in a critical situation since Russia launched its military invasion of Ukraine

in February, 2020. Pioneering the future of children's books and children's culture is the only way to create the future of the world. We sincerely ask for your continued support and cooperation.

18th International Brothers Grimm Award Presented to Professor Zhu Ziqiang

The International Brothers Grimm Award is presented by the International Institute for Children's Literature, Osaka, the Kinran-kai Foundation and Osaka Prefectural Otemae Senior High School Alumni Kinran-kai every other year to an individual who has contributed significantly to the international progress of the research of children's literature. The 18th award in 2021 was presented to Professor Zhu Ziqiang, Professor of Ocean University in China and an award presentation ceremony and a commemorative lecture were held, this time online in due to the global Coronavirus pandemics. The commemorative lecture is available for free on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFrmSeXxuhw&feature=youtu.be>

Date: January 29th, 2021

Place: Osaka Prefectural Central Library

Recipient: Professor Zhu Ziqiang (China)

Lecture: Trends in the Writing and Research of Chinese Children's Literature in the 21st Century

Subtitles: Asano Noriko (Assistant professor of Osaka Seikei College)

<Reason for the award>

For more than three decades, during a long and distinguished career, Professor Zhu has been steadily developing an international approach to the research and the teaching of children's literature in China, all the while introducing Chinese children's literature to the world through primary texts and pedagogical research.

After graduating from Northeast Normal

University in 1982, Professor Zhu began his teaching career at his alma mater. As a visiting scholar, he spent a year each at Tokyo Gakugei University (1987),



the International Institute for Children's Literature, Osaka (1990) and Osaka Kyoiku University (1997) doing research which resulted in the publication of *The Study of Japanese Children's Literature* (Shandong Arts Press, 2007), and at the same time, translating some Japanese children's books into Chinese, and introducing various research theories regarding children's literature to Chinese academia.

In 1999, Prof. Zhu received his doctorate for his dissertation "Chinese Children's Literature and China's Modernization" at Northeast Normal University. In 2015, he published *Collections of Zhu Ziqiang's Academic Essays* (ten volumes in total, 21st Century Publishing Group), which includes essays and articles on theoretical approaches to the of research of children's literature, the history of Chinese children's literature, modern Chinese children's literature, picture books, Chinese education, and reading promotion. His research and scholarly practice have focused on the concept of "child oriented" writing for children and in scholarly

approaches to that literature, as an alternative to the authoritarian Confucian models prevalent in China.

In addition, Professor Zhu has both organized and participated in several international conferences and helped introduce research on Chinese children's literature to global scholars. He has also mentored many students and invited scholars from other countries to work with him and his students in China.

His work as a professor at Ocean University, the director of the Institute of Children's Literature of Ocean University of China and vice chairperson of the Chinese Literature Society has made him a

leader in the field of children's literature research in China. This impressive list of achievements makes him a worthy recipient of the 18th International Grimm Award.

<Outline of the Commemorative Lecture>

Summarizing the three branches of the history of Chinese children's literature with the keyword "differentiation," he discussed the differentiation from fairy tales to fantasy novels, from juvenile literature to picture books, and from popular children's literature, and at the same time spoke about the need for a new approach to how Chinese children's literature was born.

Beyond Words: Storytelling with Pictures, Online Talk

Due to the difficulty of inviting lecturers from overseas created by the Coronavirus pandemic, we conducted an international lecture online, connecting three different countries. The lecture was held without an audience on the day of the lecture, edited and given subtitles, and then made public.

Date: December 16th, 2021

Distributing Period: March 26th to June 12th, 2022

Lecturers:

David Wiesner (Illustrator, the U.S.A.)

Shaun Tan (Illustrator, Australia)

Moderator: Doi Yasuko (IICLO, Japan)

Subtitles: Matsushita Hiroko (Part time Lecturer at Kansai University)

Participants: 276

<Outline of the Talk>

In the first part, David talked about the exhibition he had organized at the Eric Carle Museum, "Speechless: The Art of Wordless Picture Books," while showing images. The exhibition included Shaun's *Arrival*, and Shaun gave his impressions of the exhibition and of picture books without words.

In the second part, the lecturers talked about their own and each other's works.

Although this was the first time for the two lecturers to talk at length, it was clear that they have much in common as artists and picture book writers.



This project was supported by the following companies: Suntory Holdings Limited., Fujitsu Japan Ltd., and Musashi I-Techno Ltd.

* Copies of the report of the lectures are available for 1100 yen.

The Diverse World of Cinderella Stories

"Cinderella" is a folktale that has spread throughout the world, and there are various Cinderella stories depending on the region and the re-teller. A lecture was held to consider what constitutes "Cinderella" and what messages can be read from the story.

At the same time, the IICLO cooperated in the planning of an exhibition at the entrance of the Osaka Prefectural Central Library of precious "Cinderella" books donated by Professor. Okiko Miyake (special advisor to the Foundation and professor emeritus at Baika Women's University) to the International Library of Children's Literature, Osaka Prefectural Central Library.

Date: December 18th, 2021

Place: Osaka Prefectural Central Library

Lecturer: Yokokawa Sumiko (Researcher of

children's literature, lecturer of Doshisha Women's College)

Participants: 50



* Co-sponsor: International Library of Children's Literature, Osaka Prefectural Central Library

* Subsidized project of Kodomo Yume Fund

* Copies of the report of the lectures are available for 880 yen.

Five Lessons in Children's Literature: Useful for Classrooms

IICLO has planned a series of five lectures on reading children's literature works in Japanese textbooks, with the IICLO staff members serving as lecturers.

The lectures will include a reading guide (by Doi Yasuko) for each lecture.

Distributing Period: November 30th, 2021 to March 31st, 2023

1. Rereading Miyazawa Kenji's "The Restaurant with Many Orders" by Miyakawa Takeo

2. Rereading of Miyazawa Kenji's "Snow Crossing" by Endo Jun

3. Rereading Aman Kimiko's "White Hat" and "Check My Name" by Miyakawa Takeo

4. Rereading Aman Kimiko's "Chii-chan's Shadow Play" by Doi Yasuko

5. Interview with Aman Kimiko



Children's Books Published in 2020

Online lecture that introduces approximately 300 children's books published in 2020 by theme, genre, and age, and discusses current trends in children's books.

Distributing Period: July 31st, 2021 to December 15th, 2021

Place: Osaka Prefectural Central Library

Lecturer: Doi Yasuko (IICLO)

Participants: 219



The 60th Convention of Japan Society for Children's Literature

As the secretariat of the Executive Committee of the 60th Convention of the Japan Society for Children's Literature, we conducted this convention. There were lectures, round tables and 19 research presentations.

Date: November 20th and 21st, 2021

Place: Osaka Prefectural Central Library

Participants: 165 (47 on-site, 118 online)

Lecture: It's Time to Re-read Girls' Novels: From *Little Women* to *Pippi Longstocking*.

Lecturer: Saito Minako (Literary critic)



The Winner of the 38th Nissan Children's Storybook and Picture Book Grand Prix

The 38th Nissan Children's Storybook and Picture Book Grand Prix, a storybook and picture book contest for new authors, was held and 38 works were chosen.

*There were 2,110 entries ; 1,763 volumes in the Storybook Category and 347 volumes in the

Picture Book Category

☆In the Storybook Category

* Grand Prix *

Kibako no Cho (A butterfly in a wooden box) by Yabuguchi Marina

☆In the Picture Book Category

Grand Prix

Mikan Kyodai no Tanken (Satsuma brothers' Adventure) by Hosokawa Reiko.

An award ceremony was held online in cooperation with Nissan Motor Corporation on March 5th, 2022. A special lecture was given and is available for free on YouTube.

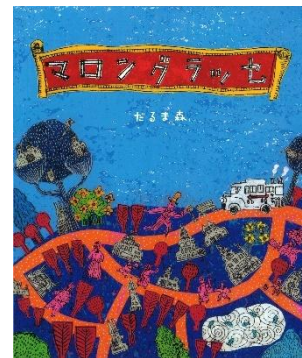
Special Lecture: "How to Grow Seeds of Stories

Lecturer: Tomiyasu Yoko (children's writer)

Distributing period: March 19th, 2022 – March 2023

Content: Specific advice on creating children's stories or picture book and applying for the Grand Prix.

*The books by the winners of the 37th Grand Prix both in the Storybook Category and the Picture Book Category were published by BL Publishing in December, 2021.



In the Storybook Category

Nagamichi-kun ga Wakaranai (I cannot understand Nagamichi-kun)

by Kazui Yoshiharu

illustrated by Okuno Kanako.

In the Picture Book Category

Marron Glacé by Darumamori.

IICLO Bulletin No. 35

IICLO advertised for articles on children's literature for *IICLO Bulletin* No.35 and three out of four articles were accepted.

<Contents>

Kanazawa Otogi Club: The Emergence of the Local Children's Culture Movement in the Early 20th Century. by Asaoka Yasuou

IWAYA Sazanami's Idea for an Institution for Children's Culture. by Meguro Tsuyoshi

Pre-History of Children's Cultural Projects Organized by Morinaga & Co., Ltd.: by Looking at the Relationship between Sazanami and the Mitsukoshi Kimono Store. by Sakai Masayo.

Reexamination of the Nijineko Series by MIYAHARA Koichiro: Focusing on his Kuyozuka Period with MORI Senzo and KURATA Chikatada. By Kamiya Mariko

The Character of a Magazine Called Yonen Sekai (Young Children's World) II (Hakubunkan):

through a Comparison with Ryoyu (Good Friend). by Doi Yasuko

A Study of JOBK's "Child's Hour": 1928~1931. by Hatakeyama Choko

【Report】

Acceptance of MATSUI Tadashi's View of Picture Books in Chinese Children's Literature Theory: focusing on the Transition of the Definition and Classification of "Picture Books". By Liu Juan

【Lecture for the International Grimm Award】

Trends in the Writing and Research of Chinese Children's Literature in the 21st Century. by Zhu Ziqiang

Translated from the Chinese original version. by Asano Noriko

Lectures and Activities for Reading Promotion

1. Dispatch IICLO Staff for Lectures

IICLO dispatched our staff to give 21 lectures to librarians, school librarians, teachers, volunteers for children's book activities, parents and people who are interested in children's books, giving advice on book selection and reading promotion, running a course on conveying the pleasure of books and participating in reading clubs etc.

2. Study Meetings with School Librarians

Twelve meetings were held with 26 school librarians in Osaka. The themes are book selection and reading promotion.

3. Judging and Committee Member Duties

(1) Serving as a judge for the 17th Osaka

Children's Book Band contest (Organized by Osaka reading promotion committee and Asahi Newspaper)

(2) Serving as a judge for the "The composition of experiences that expand the Kokoro-no-wa "circle of the heart" (Kokoro-no-wa) 2021 contest (Osaka prefecture welfare department)

(3) Serving as a judge for the 40th competition for poems and book reports connected with human rights. (Organized by Osaka prefecture, Education Council of Osaka prefecture, and Committee for Human rights in Osaka)

(4) Serving on the book selecting committee of Smile With Picture books Project by the Osaka Izumi Co-operative Society

Events for Children

Storytelling sessions and workshops

(1) Event exhibiting old Kamishibai

We held an event with a performance of Gaito-Kamishibai.

Date: November 6th, 2021

Place: Osaka Prefectural Central Library

Performers: Shiozaki Otogi Kamishibai Museum staff

Host: Osaka Prefectural Central Library and IICLO

Supporter: Shiozaki Otogi Kamishibai Museum

(2) Story-telling session and workshop at an art museum

• Picture book reading session at the National Museum of Art, Osaka

(3) Participation in planning of IICLO projects by Ohanashi Poppo and Puppet Play Circle Palette
Volunteer groups belonging to IICLO participated in the planning of various projects to connect children with books.

Mail Magazine

IICLO issues a mail magazine around the 20th of each month. Subscription is free, and we hope you will subscribe. As of July 21st 2021, there were 3,553 subscribers. The contents are as follows.

<Contents>

1. Information from IICLO

2. Column

(1) Talk on a recently published children's book:
IICLO professional staff talk about a new book with specialists in children's literature.

(2) Essays on children's literature:

An essay written by the chief director and the IICLO professional staff on children's literature, for example on the work of Miyazawa Kenji

(3) A Treasury of Words in Children's Books:

Impressive words and phrases in children's books

are introduced.

(4) Places to go! :

Reports on exhibitions, films and lectures related to children's literature and culture 3. Information about events on children's literature and culture in Japan: introducing events by other groups

3. Information about events on children's literature and culture in Japan: introducing events by other groups

4. Present: A book chosen by lottery is introduced in "Talk"

YouTube "IICLO Channel"

IICLO opened YouTube channel in April, 2020

(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgPj7D2ReQ0J03zhMMLfuIA>).

Made for children, one or two children's book introductions are uploaded in a program called "Adventures in the Sea of Books" every Friday. For adults, a book review is uploaded every month.



Research Projects

A Study of the History of Children's Literature and Culture in the Meiji and Taisho Periods through the Unpublished Materials of Iwaya Sazanami

The IICLO is conducting a joint project with researchers from outside the institute to study children's literature during the Meiji and Taisho Periods.

- Research meetings: 4
- Four articles were printed in IICLO Bulletin No. 35
- Research members: Asaoka Yasuo, professor of Shirayuri University, Kagawa Masanobu, curator of Hyogo Prefectural Museum of History, Kakimoto Mayo, lecturer of assistant professor of Kyoto Kacho Women's College, Kim Sungyeon,

The president of Kurushima Takehiko Memorial Hall, Nakagawa Rieko, lecturer of Toyooka College, Sakai Masayo, professor of Aichi Shukutoku University, Matsumoto Ikuko, curator of Kariya City Art Museum, Meguro Tsuyoshi, assistant professor of Kobe University, Miyakawa Takeo, chief director of IICLO, Endo Jun, IICLO special researcher/ associate professor of Mukogawa Women's University, Doi Yasuko, IICLO senior researcher

* The project applied for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and was selected for funding through 2020-23.

Comprehensive Study of Furuta Taruhi and children's culture-based on a database of

Furuta's books and materials

Miyakawa Takeo (IICLO chief director)
participated in this research project.

* The project applied for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and was selected for funding through 2020-23.

Geopolitics of Anglo-American Literature in East Asia in the Early Cold War

Washitani Hana (IICLO special researcher)
participated in this research project.

* The project applied for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and was selected for funding through 2020-24.

Women Film Pioneers in Japan

Washitani Hana (IICLO special researcher)
participated in this research project.

* The project applied for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and was selected for funding through 2020-25.

Publications and Websites

Hon Navi Kids, Book Research System

“Hon Navi Kids (Book Navigation for Kids)” is a system where children play online, choosing words and feelings to find the books they like.

IICLO independently drew up the keywords and the outlines of stories. In 2021 we added 1478 titles. This project is being conducted in collaboration with Fujitsu Japan Limited.

Picture Book Making Workshops for Kids

The Adventure of Book Sea

The Adventure of Finding Secrets of Manga

IICLO maintains internet system called “Picture Book Making Workshops for Kids”, “Adventures in the Sea of Books”, and “The Adventure of Finding the Secrets of Manga” for our internet system supported by Justice Co.

Recommended Children's Books for Shinken Seminar's Internet Library

IICLO was asked by Benesse Corporation to select recommended books for an internet library.

"45 English Picture Books for Elementary School Students to Enjoy"

We selected books and wrote introductions for published by the Itochu Foundation.

Materials issued by IICLO

- *Report on Lecture: Surprised and Enjoying Devised Picture Books Beginning from its British History by Miyake Okiko.* 1,430 yen
- *Reports on Forum: Children's Books: Present and Future.* 880yen
- *Report on Lecture: Czech Children's Books: Now and in the Past by Kimura Yuko.* 880yen
- *Reports on Serial Lectures: History of British Children's Literature with Visual Images by Miyake Okiko.* 1,540yen
- *Reports on Lectures: Children's Reading Culture from View Point of Kamishibi' by Asaoka Yasuou.* 880yen
- *Reports on an International Lecture: Let's Talk about Park Jong-chae's Work.* 1,000 yen
- *Reports on Lecture: Children's Literature for Young Children by Miyake Okiko.* 1,100yen
- *Reports on an Lecture: The Way to Illustrate "Fantasy": The World of Aman Kimiko & Tomiyasu Yoko.* 1,320 yen
- *IICLO Bulletin No. 1-35*
1,100 yen – 2,090 yen

In Appreciation of Book Donations

We have received many donations of Children's books and materials about them from publishers, authors, researchers, and small magazine circles. These materials were taken over by Osaka Prefectural Central Library International Institute for Children's Literature, Osaka for preservation in perpetuity and are open to the public.

The number of donations of this year

Books	4,109
Magazines	4,380
Others	1,030
Total	9,519 items

Our thanks go to:

北京蒲蒲蘭 (China)

Lastenkirjainstituutti (Finland)

Internationale Jugendbibliothek (Germany)

Kęstutis Urba (Lithuania)

Schweizerisches Institut für Kinder-und Jugendmedien (Switzerland)

高 明美 (Taiwan)

高雄市立圖書館 國際繪本部 (Taiwan)

Rey E.de la Cruz (U.S.A)

The International Institute for Children's Literature, Osaka, 2022

All Japanese names in the News appear in the traditional order, surname followed by given name.