The Bologna Children’s Book Fair (BCBF) beckons talented illustrators from around the world to participate in its prestigious 2024 Illustrators Exhibition, a globally renowned platform dedicated to showcasing cutting-edge trends in illustrations tailored for children and young adults. This exceptional event, hosted annually, provides a unique opportunity for illustrators to gain international recognition, forge valuable connections with publishers, and elevate their careers within the vibrant realm of children’s literature.

At the heart of this illustrious event lies a mission to foster a harmonious convergence of creative minds, facilitating the union of illustrators and publishers while championing the artistry and craftsmanship that breathe life into children’s books. Since its inception in 1967, the Illustrators Exhibition has consistently remained at the forefront of artistic innovation, serving as a beacon for discovering emerging talents in the world of illustration. With a rich history steeped in celebrating the power of visual storytelling, this event continues to be a dynamic platform where illustrators can exhibit their work, exchange ideas, and gain invaluable exposure within the literary industry.

As the Bologna Children’s Book Fair gears up for its 61st edition, scheduled for April 8-11, 2024, in the charming Italian city of Bologna, illustrators of all backgrounds and nationalities are encouraged to seize this golden opportunity to showcase their artistry. Whether you are a seasoned professional or an aspiring newcomer, the Illustrators Exhibition welcomes you to submit your original, unpublished artwork or pieces created within the past two years. Don’t miss the chance to be part of this vibrant celebration of creativity, where imagination knows no bounds and the future of children’s literature is illuminated by the brilliance of visionary illustrators. Join us in Bologna for an unforgettable journey into the world of illustrated storytelling.

The entry fee for the Illustrators Exhibition is 22 EUR (+ VAT if due), except for students who possess a code provided by their art school/course, as they can participate for free.

Eligibility
Illustrators of any nationality born before December 31, 2006, creating artwork for children’s books can enter either directly or through schools/courses of art. Artwork can be unpublished or published after January 1, 2022.

Prize
The Bologna Children’s Book Fair – Fundación SM International Award for Illustration will be presented to the best illustrator under 35, including a 15,000 EUR prize and the opportunity to illustrate a children’s book for Grupo SM, Spain. Additional opportunities include the ARS IN FABULA Grant Award for those under 30 and the chance to design the trade show’s Visual Identity for the following year.