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Munich (Germany), 17 September 2026

INTERNATIONAL AWARD



**THE ERIC CARLE MUSEUM
OF PICTURE BOOK ART**

On September 17, 2026, the International Youth Library Foundation (IYL) was honored with a “Carle Honor 2026” in the “Bridge” category.

“The Carle Honors” are annual awards presented by [The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art](#) to recognize individuals and organizations for their creative vision, dedication, and significant impact on children’s picture books and literacy. Established in 2006 on behalf of Eric Carle, these internationally renowned awards honour pioneers in five categories: Artist, Angel (Patron), Bridge (Mediator), Mentor and Inspiration. The winners are selected by a committee chaired by American children's book historian, author and critic Leonard S. Marcus, the founder of the awards. The category ,Bridge’ honors individuals or organizations who have found inspired ways to bring the art of the picture book to larger audiences through work in other fields.

Dr. Christiane Raabe, director of the International Youth Library (IYL), personally accepted the award at the annual “The Carle Honors Benefit Gala” on September 17, 2026, in New York City, USA. You can view highlights from the award ceremony throughout the day on these channels ([@int_jugendbibliothek](#) and [@carlemuseum](#)), as well as selected photos in the [press section of our website](#).

Jury Statement: „*The International Youth Library (IYL) in Munich, Germany, is the world’s largest library for international children’s and youth literature. Founded in 1949 by Jella Lepman, it has*

The International Youth Library Foundation is supported by:

Funded by:



Federal Ministry
for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens,
Women and Youth

**Bavarian State Ministry of
Science and the Arts**



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grown to become an internationally recognized literature center. The work of the IYL is guided by the conviction that children's and young adult books are an essential part of the cultural life of a society and a country, and as such must be preserved, documented, and shared. To bring this mission to life, the IYL runs an annual program of exhibitions, author readings, workshops, panel discussions, and an international literature festival, and offers a fellowship program for foreign researchers that is unique worldwide."

Previous winners in the category 'Bridge' are the Bologna Children's Book Fair (2018) and Takeshi Matsumoto (2019), founder of the 'Chihiro Art Museum' in Japan.

You can find the full press release from the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art [here](#).

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions
or require further information.

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