

Children have a right to culture, say laureates

"Children need art and stories and poems and music as much as they need love and food and fresh air and play," according to Philip Pullman, 2005 recipient of the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA). Pullman is one of the 11 laureates featured in an exhibition marking ALMA's 10th anniversary, staged at the world's biggest book fair for children's and young adult literature in Bologna, Italy last month.

The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) is 10 years old this year. For a decade now, the award has promoted interest in children's and young adult literature around the world. The anniversary celebrations started at the Bologna Children's Book Fair, where a number of ALMA laureates took part in various seminars.

"This was be the first time so many award recipients have all been present in the one place," says Helen Sigeland, director of ALMA, adding that the program was designed to stimulate dialogue between the laureates and the public. Their

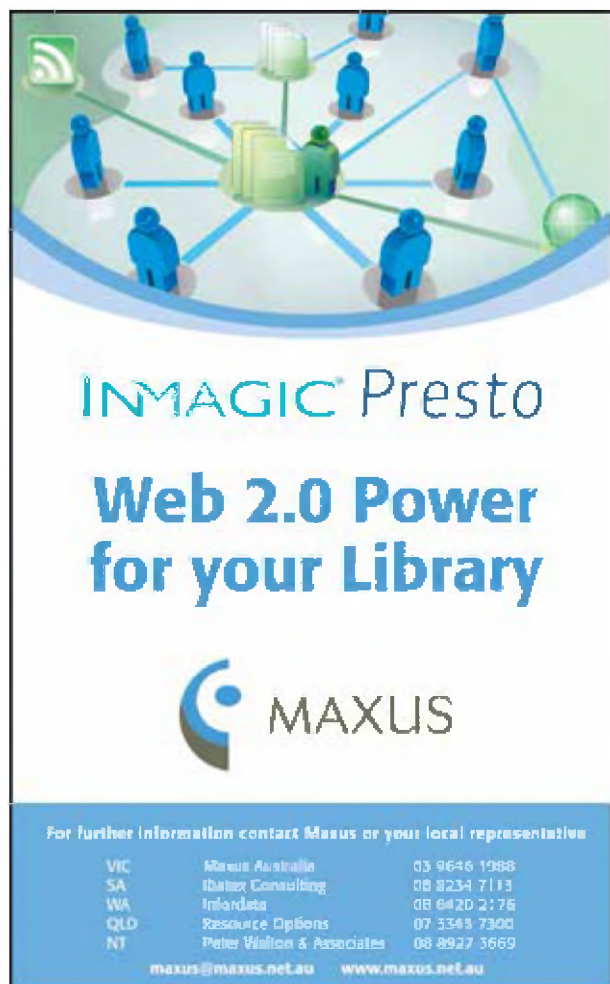
presence at the fair also included an exhibition and commemorative booklet designed to promote interest in children's and young adult literature in an international context.

Australian author Sonya Hartnett was one of the laureates visiting Bologna to mark the award's 10th anniversary, where she participated in discussions focusing on the importance of children having access to good books with fellow author and laureate Katherine Paterson.

"A quality book for young people should leave them a different and slightly better person than the one they were when they began reading the book," says Hartnett.

The laureates taking part in the Bologna event included Kitty Crowther, illustrator (Belgium, 2010), the Tamer Institute for Community Education, promoter of reading (Palestinian territories, 2009), Sonya Hartnett, author (Australia, 2008), Banco del Libro, promoter of reading (Venezuela, 2007), Katherine Paterson, author (USA, 2006), Ryôji Arai, illustrator (Japan, 2005) and Lygia Bojunga, author (Brazil, 2004).

The announcement of the 2012 recipients was scheduled for after this issue of *INCITE* went to press, but will be available on their website astridlindgrenmemorialaward.wordpress.com.



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Call for applications for first Kay Poustie Fellowship

After months of preparation and fundraising the State Library Western Australia has called for applications for the inaugural Kay Poustie Fellowship.

Conrad Crisafulli, the Acting Chair of the State Library of WA Foundation, said the scholarship recognises Kay's immense contribution to the library profession throughout her career and her belief in an international perspective for the profession.

The scholarship takes the form of an International Study Grant and will enable a WA-based librarian to travel overseas to learn more about innovative library practices and to bring that knowledge back to Western Australia.

Applications close on April 10, 2012. Further information can be found at www.statelibraryfoundation.org/our-projects. The successful recipient will be announced at an event during Library and Information Week in May 2012.

Fundraising for this scholarship is an ongoing project and the State Library of WA Foundation is continuing to seek financial support through its *In Memoriam* campaign. (For more information, visit www.statelibraryfoundation.org/donate-here and select "In Memoriam").