

JAPANESE BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

# Japanese Children's Books

2019



JBBY

Cover illustration by

**Koji Suzuki**

Born in Shizuoka in 1947. His works include original picture books, collections of drawings, manga, posters for films and dramatic products, stage designs, wall paintings and more. Many of his picture books have won prizes, including *Yama no disuko* (Disco on the Mountain; Kakusha; 1989) and *Domu gatari* (Dome Story; Tamagawa University Press; 2017) were selected for the IBBY Honour List.

# Japanese Children's Books



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# Japanese Children's Books

## ABOUT JBBY AND THIS CATALOG

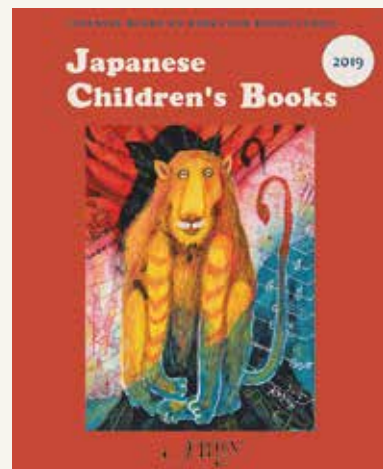
The Japanese Board on Books for Young People (JBBY) was founded in 1974 as the Japanese Section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY).

JBBY is dedicated to enhancing international understanding, and to providing information on children's books to people around the world. We promote IBBY's mission in a broad range of ways. Our international network allows us to take advantage of the prolific information generated by IBBY and to encourage mutual understanding. Our mission is to create a peaceful future for children through books.

JBBY hosts international book exhibitions in Japan that provide information about global titles to Japanese readers. In addition, we provide information on Japanese children's books to people around the world. We nominate titles for international recognition, as a means to deepen global understanding towards Japan.

**In this catalog, we describe recent Japanese books recommended by a JBBY book selection team in several categories: picture books, chapter books and novels, and nonfiction. In addition we introduce Japanese winners of and nominees for the Hans Christian Andersen Awards, and the selected books for the IBBY Honour List since 1990.**

We list these books by category and in order of target age, including cover images and synopses along with bibliographic information. We hope you will enjoy reading about these books. For further information, please contact us: [info@jbby.org](mailto:info@jbby.org)



Cover illustration © Koji Suzuki

Yumiko SAKUMA, JBBY President

## JBBY BOOK SELECTION TEAM

The JBBY Book Selection Team discussed and collaboratively chose the titles listed in this publication. The name in parentheses after each book description is the name of the committee member who wrote the description.



### YASUKO DOI

Director and senior researcher at the International Institute for Children's Literature (IICLO). Besides researching reading activities and the history of Japanese children's literature, Yasuko Doi plans projects such as training courses for teachers and librarians, and lectures and symposiums for children's book authors from Japan and overseas. Co-editor of *Kodomo no hon hyakumon hyakuto* (One Hundred Questions and Answers About Children's Books) in 2013. Jury for the 2018 Hans Christian Andersen Awards. Former JBBY board member.



### YUKIKO HIROMATSU

Picture book author, critic, and curator. Former chief curator of Chihiro Art Museum, Tokyo. Yukiko Hiromatsu's works include *Kyo no ehon ashita no ehon* (Picture Books of Today, Picture Books of Tomorrow), Series *Ima mukashi ehon* Vol. 1-11 (Picture Books of Old Tales for Now). She received the Japan Picture Book Award Translated Picture Book Award for *Hashire, Toto* (Run, Toto! by Eun Young Cho) in 2014. She has sat on the jury of many international competitions including the chair of 2017 Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava (BIB). JBBY board member.



### AKIRA NOGAMI

Served as managing editor of children's monthly magazines at Shogakukan; former president of Shogakukan Creative. Taught children's literature and culture at the Shirayuri University and the Tokyo Seitoku University. Akira Nogami's works include *Nihonjidobungaku no gendai e* (To the Modern Children's Literature of Japan), *Ekkyo suru jidobungaku* (Children's Literature Crossing Borders), and *Kodomo bunka no gendaishi* (Contemporary History of Children's Culture). Managing director of the Japan PEN Club. JBBY vice president.



### YUMIKO SAKUMA

Translator, editor, former professor at the Aoyama Gakuin Women's Junior College, and director of the Japan-Africa Children's Books Project (JACBOP). After working in publishing as an editor, Yumiko Sakuma began translating children's books. Her more than 200 translations include *Chronicles of Ancient Darkness* by Michelle Paver, *Dusk* by Uri Shulevitz, and *Of Thee I Sing* by Barack Obama. Her translation of *Last Summer with Maizon* by Jacqueline Woodson made the IBBY Honour List. JBBY president.



### TOMOKO SHIOTA

Chief librarian at the Miyoshi town library, Saitama prefecture. As a public librarian with long experience superintending children's services, she has worked diligently to research and promote children's literature by implementing read-alouds, book talks, Bookstart and other programming. She leads workshops in a range of locations for librarians and day-care workers, nurturing the next generation. She has authored *Yomikikase wakuwaku handobukku* (Read-Aloud Excitement! A Handbook) and co-authored *Ehon—kodomo no tame no 300 satsu* (Picture Books: 300 Titles for Children). JBBY board member.



## Japanese Children's Books 2019

JBBY's recommendations for young readers throughout the world

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