



## Fair stages

### Monday 13th April

- 10:30 Illustrators' Café **Official opening of the Bologna Children's Book Fair with Guest of Honour Norway 2026**
- 12:00 Illustrators' Café & Norway Café (Hall 30/A12-B9) **Official opening of "What if" - the Norwegian Guest of Honour Illustration Exhibition and Norway Café**
- 13:20 Bologna BookPlus Theatre **Guest of Honour Forum. What's in it for us?**  
Margit Walsø (director of NORLA), Grzegorz Jankowicz (director of the Polish Book Institute), Evy Tillman (Oslo Literary Agency), Ewa Bolińska-Gostkowska (Znak Publishing)  
*Moderation: Jacks Thomas*
- 14:10 Bologna BookPlus Theatre **Graphic novels for adults**  
Håkon Strand (Strand Publishing), Szymon Holcman (Kultura gniewu)  
*Moderation: Ed Nawotka*
- 14:00-14:30 Illustrators' Café **Guided tour of the Norwegian Guest of Honour Exhibition with Øyvind Torseter**

### Tuesday 14th April

- 09:30-10:20 Illustrators' Café **The visual world - masterclass with Øyvind Torseter and Stian Hole.**  
Content in writing and illustration  
*Moderator: Eva Valvo*
- 09:40-10:20 Content Café **Norwegian comics - the fun and the furious**  
Nora Dåsnes, Kjersti Synneva Moen, Håkon Strand, Tonje Tornes
- 10:00-10:50 Translators' Café **From a small country to the big world - how and why literature travels**  
Author and illustrator Kristin Roskifte, author Jostein Gaarder, translator and university lecturer Andrea Romanzi  
*Moderator: Margit Walsø*
- 10:30-11:20 Illustrators' Café **How to inspire children to read - transforming research into action.** Insights on how to inspire and strengthen reading engagement from early childhood through the school years  
Professor Trude Hoel, Associate Professors Katarzyna Tunkiel and Bente Rigmor Walgermo, editor Lisa Nagel, Siri Risdal, Rogaland County Library, Benjamin Jakobsen, Member of Parliament and the Standing Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs  
*Moderator: Professor Per Henning Uppstad*  
*Hosted by NORLA and the Norwegian Reading Centre*
- 11:30-12:20 Illustrators' Café **The First to Fall: Children's books as the canaries of free expression**  
Trine Skei Grande, Anna Fiske, Alexander Løken, Andrea Romanzi  
*Moderator: Ragnfrid Trohaug*
- 12:00-12:30 Illustrators' Café **Guided tour of the Norwegian Guest of Honour Exhibition with Nora Dåsnes**
- 15:30-16:20 Content Café **Creating the world's best readers**  
We are witnessing a decline in reading motivation and literacy among children and young people. To address this, Norway has launched a national reading strategy and a major reading initiative and appointed a reading commission with the ambition of making children in Norway among the world's strongest readers. What will determine success?  
Marit Borkenhagen (Norwegian Festival of Literature), Trine Skei Grande (Norwegian Publishers' Association), author Maja Lunde, Bente Estil (member of Parliament / chair of the Standing Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs).  
*Moderator: Siri Risdal*  
*Hosted by NORLA and The Norwegian Festival of Literature*
- 15:30-16:30 Translators' Café **Translation Slam**  
Panel discussion with translators Eva Valvo and Andrea Romanzi, who have made two separate versions of Nobel laureate Jon Fosse's book *My oh my*.  
Translators Laura Cangemi and Giovanna Paterniti discuss the different versions with the panel and the audience

### Wednesday 15th April

- 11:00-11:50 Translators' Café **AI - The death of the translator?**  
Francesca Novajra, Kaja Bakkejord, Della Pasarelli  
*Moderator: Jan Chr. Næss*  
*Hosted by NORLA and The Norwegian Association of Literary Translators*
- 13:30-15:00 Translators' Café **Table T**  
Giovanna Paterniti, Laura Cangemi, Roberta Scarabelli, Loredana Serratore, Alba Mantovani discuss challenges and joy in translation from Norwegian and other Nordic languages into Italian
- 14:00-14:30 Illustrators' Café **Guided tour of the Norwegian Guest of Honour Exhibition with Øyvind Torseter**
- 15:00-15:45 Illustrators' Survival Corner **Making sense of the world through picture books. A visual conversation**  
Authors and illustrators Kristin Roskifte and Stian Hole

### Thursday 16th April

- 10:00-11:00 Translators' Café **In altre parole - in other words.** Young and anonymous translators have contributed to the competition of the best translation of Bjørn F. Rørвик and Per Dybvig's *Spottiytis*. The winner will be announced and published on BCBF's web page.
- 14:00-14:30 Illustrators' Café **Guided tour of the Norwegian Guest of Honour Exhibition with Øyvind Torseter**