



# II Nordic-Baltic Literature Forum 'Who cares who reads?



**Urve Tiidus**Minister of Culture of Estonia



**Berth Sundström**Director of the Nordic Council of Ministers' Office in Estonia



**Triin Soone**Director of the Estonian Children´s Literature Centre

Photo: Teet Malsroos



# Jaanika Palm

Estonian Children´s Literature Centre, Literature Researcher, Estonia Since 2010 an average of 600 Estonian-language children's books have been published each year, almost 90 of which have been original first print-runs. This makes for a diverse and colourful collection in which common features are hard to distinguish beyond the year of publication. Estonian authors love writing for little kids. Anthologies of short fantasy stories by such authors as Aino Pervik, Piret Raud and Kristiina Kass are frequently published. Realistic children's literature, meanwhile, is constantly pushing the envelope in terms of what subjects to broach with younger readers and how to go about it. Noteworthy authors in this regard include Kadri Hinrikus and Anti Saar.

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#### Seita Vuorela

Writer & Photographer & Creative Writing Teacher; Winner of the Nordic Council´s Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2013, Finland Vuorela's novels for young adults have been translated into many languages, including French, Italian, English and German. In 2011 her novel *Viima* (The School of Possibilities) received France's Pépite Award for best young adult fiction. In 2013 Vuorela's *Karikko* (Reef) received the new Tulenkantaja ('Firebearer') Award, aimed at identifying the work of Finnish literature published during the previous year that has the best chance of succeeding abroad. Photo: WSOY



#### Jani Ikonen

Illustrator, Winner of the Nordic Council´s Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2013, Finland

Photo: Magnus Froderberg/norden.org



Áslaug Jónsdóttir

Children's Book Author & Illustrator, Iceland

Children's book author and illustrator Áslaug Jónsdóttir talks about her work: ideas, influences and working methods. She will talk about writing picturebooks for young readers, among them the series of children's books she writes in partnership with coauthors from Sweden and the Faroe Islands. Jónsdóttir has received numerous awards – she is a two-time winner of The Icelandic Illustrator's Award. She was nominated to the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize in 2013 and is one of the authors of the Nordic Library Week in 2014.



#### Johanna Lindbäck

Children's Book Author, The Swedish Reading Ambassador 2013-2015, Sweden Johanna Lindbäck will describe the challenges for a Swedish reading ambassador, and explain what the position demands.

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#### **Helin Puksand**

Tallinn University, Institute of Educational Sciences, Lecturer of School Pedagogy, Estonia

The results of PISA 2009 showed that 15-year-old students in Estonia prefer reading newspapers and magazines. At the same time, a survey of 9th and 11th grade students in the country has revealed that teenagers nevertheless still read quite a lot of literature – both at school and in their free time. Preferences when it comes to books are wide-ranging: school kids tend to like books that are funny, engaging and rich in fantasy and adventure, although they also enjoy those with a deeper and more philosophical bent to them.



# Anne Liv Tønnessen

Stavanger Library and Cultural Centre, Programme Director, Norway I will present the new library departement of Stavanger, how it works out and the opinion of users of this library. I also want to present the children literature promotion of Stavanger Library with some of the successful projects.



#### Veronika Mudėnaitė

Children´s and Youth´s Day Centre, Psychologist, Lithuania Bibliotherapy is not simply a reading, but the combination of reading with method of reflecting on reading. The use of written materials like books, stories or poems can provide a safe medium for children and adolescents to explore, identify, communicate and cope with feelings, discuss different concepts and attitudes, gain new understanding, develop alternative problem solving skills and encourage to engage in additional activities like creative writing.



#### **Arno Jundze**

Writer & Literary Critic & Journalist at the Latvian State TV, Latvia Arno Jundze is a well–known TV personality in Latvia and has been programme leader for "100 g of culture" on Latvian TV for several years. This year Jundze appeared as an expert in discussions on reading and best–beloved books in Latvia at the new TV programme "The Big read".

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# Lotte Lykke Simonsen

Publishing House Lindhardt & Ringhof/Carlsen, Information Coordinator & Librarian,

The libraries face a challenge: they have to find a more definite role in relation to children; more visibility, more focus and more dissemination of children's literature; "academic happiness" is a very important thing in the world of work; enthusiasm & spontaneity - in the libraries we must return to core services and have the courage to throw us into the "lifeblood projects".



# Anneli Kengsepp

Tallinn Central Library, Department of Children and Youth Literature, Head Librarian, Estonia

Photo: Kertu Sillaste



#### Maarja Tali

Susi's Owner & NGO Red Dog, Founder Member, Estonia Reading lessons have been provided at Tallinn Central Library since October 2013, giving children the chance to practise reading out loud to Susi the dog. We will talk about how the launch of the initiative at the library has gone, what the experience is like for Susi's handler and how the kids and their parents have taken to this particular methodology. Susi will also greet the listeners.

PARTNERS























