

Non-profit organisation EX LIBRIS AD PERSONAM HLOHOVEC

● Children create "wonders" from their contest works.

● Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia Mrs Radmila Hrustanovi handed over awards to children from Serbia.

● Welcome to Hlohovec. October 6, 2011.



● The jury chairman Ví azoslav Chrenko during the workshop. (Photo in the middle.)

● Bojenka Kerina from Bulgaria and her great joy of 2 place in her category.



● Visitors of the exhibition Wonders of My Country.



announces
14th international art contest
in creation of book plates
for children aged from 6 to 15

EX LIBRIS HLOHOVEC

dedicated to the 900th anniversary of the first recorded mention

of the town Hlohovec in 1113

Theme: **Flowers**

With the financial support of: International Visegrad Fund, Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, The Selfgoverning Region of Trnava, Town Hlohovec, Slovak Commission for UNESCO, Zentiva, a.s.

The photos are from 13th year of the contest „Wonders of My Country“.



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14th international art contest in creation of book plates for children aged from 6 to 15

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Theme: „**FLOWERS**“

THE CONTEST CONDITIONS

- Categories:**
1. Ex libris designs - elementary schools from 12 to 15
 2. Original ex libris - elementary schools from 12 to 15
 3. Original ex libris - art schools from 12 to 15
 4. Ex libris designs and original ex libris for children from all types of school aged from 6 to 11

The conditions for participation:

1. Create the final version of the draft in a black and white combination by Indian ink, so that it will be clear what graphic techniques it is proposed to. Drawings created by a pencil, pastel or shade drawings do not meet this requirement. Mässon plates are successful at creation of designs.
2. Use any of the graphic techniques like lino-engraving, lino-cut, wood-cut, wood-engraving, plastic-engraving, a dry needle, etching, engraving, imprint from cardboard, imprint from a template, etc. for your original ex libris in one or more colours.
3. The size of the contest works is not allowed to exceed 13 x 9 cm, and they must be placed in the middle of a white drawing paper of the size 21 x 15 cm (A5).
The proposal can be created directly on white drawing paper, or you can cut it out from another background and glue it to the required drawing paper. It is necessary to print the original ex libris directly, another version cannot be assessed!
4. All contest works must include the text and picture parts. It is the designation of EX LIBRIS, EXLIBRIS, FROM BOOKS, BOOK, the name and surname of the owner or institution. You can use your name with an abbreviation (Jozef SOKOL, J.SOKOL). The professional jury will not assess works with initials (e.g. A.K., J.S., etc.), or nicknames - MIMI, FERI.
5. The picture part must have a direct relation to the topic of the contest. Go through the methodical instructions very carefully and follow them.
6. Each contestant is not allowed to send more than 2 contest works!
7. All contest works have to contain the full name of the author, his/her age, address of school or the sender at the back of the paper. It would be suitable to write also the author's gender. Bulk shipments must be accompanied by a list of contestants with all the required information. We also ask for the name of the ex libris, so that we could check if you comply with the topic.
8. Use the Slovak language in your correspondence with organisers of the contest, foreign participants are required to communicate in English.
9. Registered contest works will remain in the possession of the organisers with the right to exhibit them and use them for promotional and other purposes. The participants accept the conditions of the contest by sending their application. It is only possible to send the works to the contest EX LIBRIS HLOHOVEC that were not part of another contest or exhibition!
10. The deadline for sending the contest works is **January 31, 2013** to the address: EX LIBRIS AD PERSONAM HLOHOVEC, Námestie sv. Michala 3, 920 01 Hlohovec, Slovakia.
Please do not leave sending your contest works to last days, you will thus complicate the work of organisers.
11. The jury reserves the right not to award a prize if the contest works in a given category do not reach a satisfactory level. The best works of the 13th year of the contest will be exhibited at a separate exhibition, they will be included in travelling exhibitions or published. The works that do not comply with the specified criteria will be excluded from the assessment.
12. The ceremonial announcement of the results of the contest, awarding and other activities will be held on **October 4, 2013 in Hlohovec** as a part of celebrations of the 900th anniversary of the first recorded mention of the town Hlohovec.
The organisers will inform the participants about the details in a separate invitation. The results of the contest will be published in the official bulletin, on www.elap-hlohovec.sk and in mass media.

METHODICAL SHEET

Dear contestants, we welcome your decision to take part in the fourteenth year of our competition, and as in previous years, we offer you some advice how to avoid making mistakes in creating your contest works and achieve better results.

A good ex libris is based on a well-realised design that is a creative combination of picture and text parts. How to proceed in developing a design? In case of our competition, the picture part is based on the announced topic, and therefore look for such features that will characterise it. The text part is unambiguous. You know who the ex libris is created for (write his/her name and surname), and you also know that you have to mark your work by EXLIBRIS, EX LIBRIS, or its variations FROM BOOKS, BOOK, LIBRARY in your own language. Text parts should be artfully connected to the picture part, and together they should create ex libris composition. Look for such artistic features that will depict it and freshen it up. Selection of the font is very important. It should be legible, adequately sized and conveniently located on the surface. Choose rather flat fonts and do not underestimate its role! A good ex libris is typically just by the equivalent combination of the artistic topic and the font.

The text and picture features together determine the format /size/ of the bookplate. Its size must not exceed the dimension 13 x 9 cm, but we also recommend you to create designs and original works in a smaller size. It is more suitable for use in practice. Ex libris is mainly determined to be used in a book. Think of this fact and try to compact your work to the size designated by the organiser of the competition.

Start your work on a drawing paper A5 format (21 x 15 cm). Draw diagonals by a pencil and determine the middle of the area. Draw a rectangle of a maximum allowable size of your future work (13 x 9 cm) round the middle. Develop the composition of the picture and text parts from the middle. When you have completed your design, decide whether it will be with a frame, or you will keep the outlines created by the composition. The composition can have different shapes of a square, rectangle, circle, ellipse, triangle and polygon.

The contest design has to be drawn by Indian ink using a pen or a brush to such a form from which it will be clear in what graphic techniques you will implement your design. You may choose from lino-engraving, lino-cut, wood-cut, wood-engraving, paper-engraving, dry needle, plastic-engraving or etching. Mässon plate is also successful at creation of designs whose upper surface is dark, and we will get the resulting picture in a pale colour hidden in the bottom layer by scratching off the upper cover. A common mistake includes creating a design which is not technically feasible in practice. Remember that linear pen-and-ink drawing is suitable for a dry needle, combination of surfaces for lino-engraving, lino-cut, plastic-engraving and other similar techniques.

If you create your design by a white tempera or a white pastel on a dark piece of paper, you will see immediately which lines or places you will remove by a graver or knife. And do not only finish with the design, try to create a matrix according to it for printing the original ex libris. It should be the aim of your effort, mainly with students of art schools. Printing out the original at the graphic press is a great adventure when suddenly you see the result of your effort.

We have chosen the topic "FLOWERS" for 14th year of the international art competition EX LIBRIS HLOHOVEC. It is a great opportunity to express your imagination because each of you can depict this topic in a unique way. Flowers are extremely diverse. In works, we are expecting, there will be not a smell because you cannot depict it on the paper. However, you can depict colours and shapes. And flowers revel in colours. Shapes of flowers are the same sight for sore eyes. They change in front of our eyes during a single day. A plant is different in the shape of a bud, and it is different when fully bloomed. It opens its arms to attract insects for pollination. Some flowers are small, they are barely visible, but we also know enormous petals and huge tassels hanging in clusters. In connection with this topic, you can also create flowers that you see in your imagination and children's dreams.

Flowers surround us everywhere, they grow alongside roads, on meadows, in woods and also on hillsides near water. They grow in pots on windows, hang in colourful cascades from balconies, adorn parks, and somewhere large areas are grown for industrial use. Colourful carpets also bloom high in the mountains where they find a piece of land for their life. Other flowers delight your eyes in a colder climate, different plants grow in tropic areas. Many countries have flowers in their symbols, they worship their symbolism at various holidays. Therefore, look for flower themes typical for your country and bring the beauty of your flora closer to us! In searching, do not underestimate small flowers, notice their typical veining, different shapes, curving of leaves and also arrangement of the perianth. Do not forget for humble plants from meadows and woods, either, not everybody likes the beauty cultivated in a greenhouse. We cannot imagine any celebration without flowers, we give flowers to people celebrating their personal jubilee, and mainly to those who we love most.

In your hands, you have a topic that is extremely broad, and it can be processed in many ways. As always, a book will be your assistant, but this year, you can fall back on a live template. If you are good observers of nature, everything will only depend on your dutiful preparation and a good choice so that your resulting work grows into beauty. Feel free to talk about your ideas for bookplates with your parents and teachers. You will certainly find such ways of expressing the contest topic that will bring joy to you and also to the jury in assessing the works. We are looking forward to your works and meeting the best in Hlohovec very much. Moreover, the town hosting the international art competition in creating the bookplate for children aged from 6 to 15 EX LIBRIS HLOHOVEC will celebrate an important anniversary in 2013 - 900 years since the first written mention of Hlohovec. And you, dear competitors, will wreath a beautiful bouquet from your floral ex libris for its festival. We will be glad if some of your bookplates will be dedicated to our town.

Competition organising committee.