Contributions for children’s and youth literature

The Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia promotes the translation of high-quality Swiss children’s and youth literature by providing generous funding support. At the request of publisher’s, Pro Helvetia may assume the costs of having Swiss books written children or adolescents translated. From now on, publishers can also apply for a contribution towards the acquisition costs of book licences.

Support from Pro Helvetia

- Pro Helvetia assumes 100% of the translation costs. These are arranged in line with customary local rates.
- In addition, Pro Helvetia assumes 50% of the advance payment; at most, however, CHF 2,000 per licence. Pro Helvetia does not pay any other royalties.

Conditions

This form of promotion is conducted exclusively for high-quality books aimed at children and adolescents written by Swiss authors. As a rule, the participation of a Swiss illustrator alone does not suffice for support. Bestseller titles are generally not considered for promotion. There is no automatic entitlement to support.

Applications

The licensed publisher must submit an application online via www.myprohelvetia.ch by a licensed publisher at the latest eight weeks before the beginning of publishing. The application should include the typescript of the translation as well as the signed licence and translation contracts. Pro Helvetia reserves the right to have the translation assessed by an expert.

Payment modalities

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Illustration: Kathrin Schärer
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When Rip planted Mouses and Rosie invented Leopards

A mouse that isn’t a leopard’s breakfast, but his girlfriend? Rip and Rosie think that’s a good thing. In their second book, they experience big and small surprises. They think about art, ketchup, longing, jumping trees and other everyday things. Jokes and seriousness are as close as the mouse is to the leopard. At the same time, we learn that Rosie is musical.

News from the Dream-Team about their Dream-Team
A complete artwork to read and watch
A friendship that brings us closer together

Kathrin Schärer, born in Basel in 1969. She is one of the most successful Swiss illustrators. While she sometimes illustrates her own stories, she is best known for her longstanding and very successful collaboration with Lorenz Pauli. Kathrin Schärer has been nominated for the prestigious Hans Christian Andersen Award 2012 for her complete work and for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award 2014.

Lorenz Pauli, born in 1967, was a former kindergarten teacher. Then days grew too short for work, and now he laughs when sitting at his keyboard and when telling stories on stage. Lorenz Pauli won many awards for his books, among them the Swiss children’s book prize for Rigo & Rosa in 2017 (illustrations: Kathrin Schärer). Lorenz Pauli lives in Berne.
The rabbit is surprised by the darkness. Fortunately, he finds a light in the middle of the forest!
The light crackles, it can be shaped, kneaded and carried along. Now the little rabbit no longer needs to be afraid – but other animals also want a piece of the precious light. The rabbit shares the light with those, whom he was warned about. Thereby, he not only breaks down prejudices, but also learns about the beauty of the forest at night as the light fades.

→ A walk through the forest at night
→ Don’t be afraid of the dark! It’s just a different experience!
→ Fascinating ambiance in a warm-hearted story

Raphaël Kolly was born in 1994 and grew up in a village in the foothills of the Alps in Fribourg. Since 2018 he lives and works in Lucerne, where he studied illustration at the Hochschule Design & Kunst and graduated with a Bachelor. A Light in the Woods is his first picture book.
And then the Fox Came

A fox approaches the farm. He sneaks from the barn to the stable. The farm animals sense his presence. They cackle and chatter, they meow and moo. But the fox goes on, over to the house. The farmer opens the door and welcomes him. The friendship between farmer and fox is special – and we realize what the farmer means when he says that »not all foxes are the same« / »a fox is not just a fox«.

→ Impressive painting to a rich story
→ Heinz Janisch is nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award 2022.

Heinz Janisch (1960) lives in Burgenland and Vienna. He has received the Grand Prize of the German Academy for Children’s and Youth Literature, the Austrian State Prize for Children’s Poetry, the Bologna Ragazzi Award, and many other awards.

Kai Würbs (1970) studied illustration in Hamburg. Since 2016 he has been illustrating children’s and youth books as well as gift books and fiction. He lives with his family in Hamburg. »And then the Fox came« is his first picture book.
Mother-daughter relationships are always special – especially beautiful or especially difficult. Doesn’t every mother have a very precise idea of her daughter? And, of course, you can never live up to that idea. Thanks to Theresa Langer’s brilliant idea and Nikolaus Heidelbach’s profound drawings, a touching book has been created. You can look at it with your children and develop a game about your own strengths and weaknesses. A great gift for every daughter or mother. Because what is more beautiful than to show/say: I think of you.

→ A picture book about the not always easy mother-daughter relationship
→ A gift for every daughter and every mother (not only for Mother’s Day)

My Mom Thinks of Me

Rosa Langer (Text) / Nikolaus Heidelbach (Illustrations)

Nikolaus Heidelbach has written, drawn and illustrated many books. So far Kampa has published: Lest doch!, an animal-friendly ABC with quotes about reading, the anthology Nichts als Weihnachten im Kopf, the children’s book Weg war das Ihmchen! (with Jan Philipp Reemtsma), his Corona diary Alles gut? and the Wimmelbuch Wo ist Vincent?.

Rosa Langer was born in 1998 and grew up in Cologne. In 2018 she moved to Kassel for her art studies. As a filmmaker, she deals with topics such as family and the pressure of expectations. Her debut children’s book Meine Mama denkt an mich (My Mom Thinks of Me) was based on her film of the same name.
Winters in Graubünden can be long, and so marmots sleep for up to nine months. Little Linard, a marmot boy, is anything but sleepy, in fact he is far too curious for that. And on an adventurous journey Linard is amazed, when he meets a steam-breathing monster, even a lion and other wild animals. But there is no place like his home in Oberengadin: whether in autumn, when the larches shine golden, or in snow-white winter. In any case, the Marmot boy has experienced so much in the end that he has more than deserved a long winter.

Robbie and Tilly are not really happy about the idea of moving to the countryside with their parents and their little sister Maja. But they don’t yet know what awaits them in the Engadine. Their parents have bought a huge 400-year-old farmhouse, but it is not in the best condition. Everywhere is garbage and dirt and old furniture... Chaos! The parents groan and get to work. But for the siblings the house is the absolute treasure chest, and amateur detective Robbie immediately takes up the investigation: Why did someone drill into this monstrosity of a safe? What is it about the children’s drawings and hand towels monogrammed with C.A.? What about the empty coffee bags lying around the attic? It’s a mystery! But Tilly and Robbie find something else even stranger: Whenever they tell people where they now live, they react dismissively and gruffly, as if there were a curse on their Engadine house. And they soon believe it themselves, because the atmosphere between their parents is getting worse every day. Then one day the siblings catch two other children in the big barn in the garden, and that’s when the story really goes off...

→ Countryside adventure!
→ A 400-year-old Engadine house can keep many surprises.
→ The greatest treasure is family

Tim Krohn was born in North Rhine-Westphalia in 1965. From the age of two he grew up in Switzerland. He now lives with his wife and children in Santa Maria Val Müstair. He is a freelance writer.
Full of anticipation the cuckoo returns to his forest in spring. He has so much to tell his friends!
Is the mouse in? No ...
But maybe the salamander? Or is at least the deer to be found somewhere?
Nobody anywhere, none at all.
Disappointed, the cuckoo flies home. He opens the door... Tadaaaa! - The Friends surprise him with a welcome party. Together they celebrate until well into the night.
The cuckoo not only tells his friends about his adventures abroad, but also how it was to return home.

⇒ An amusing story with a surprising twist and fold out page
⇒ Shared joy of reuniting
⇒ Strong crayon drawings by an award-winning illustrator

Daniel Fehr, born in 1980, studied German philology at Princeton University after learning to create pictures at Hochschule der Künste, Zurich, and at the School of Visual Arts, New York. Daniel Fehr now lives in Winterthur. When not writing, he develops games for children as well as adults. He published over twenty picture books.

Luigi Olivadoti, born in 1983 in Grabs SG, grew up in Liechtenstein, studied communication design in Zurich and visual communication at the the Lucerne School of Art and Design. He lives and works as a freelance illustrator in Zürich. In 2020 Luigi Olivadoti was nominated for the Swiss Design Award and took second place at the UNO 75th Anniversary International Art contest.
Emil wants to build a hut, but he can’t decide where. Therefore Aunt Zach takes him to her shed, shows him planks and clutter, the old tractor and a rusty hanger. But the old lady has even more to offer: She knows to weld and she can do carpentry. Together they work for days until the house on wheels is ready. Children and adults admire what they achieve. And the next day Aunt Zach moves the house to where Emil wants it to be.

→ About »do-it-yourself« and the dream of a tiny house
→ An old woman beyond stereotypes
→ Young and old working together
→ Unusual plans, most detailed painted and colourful scenes.

Wolf Gruber, born in 1990, started to draw as a small child because he was influenced by Bill Wattersson and Janosch. He studied communication design in Augsburg and lives and works as a freelance illustrator in his atelier »Markise« or in his own house on wheels in Oettingen i. Bayern. He’s the winner of the art award by the city of Senden.
Mr. Bert and his dachshund Alfonso are overlooked by everyone. But as a thief gets active in the small town, suspicion falls on the two. They engage in a wild chase with the police until – thanks to Mr. Bert’s detective skills and Alfonso’s lust for sausages – they catch the real thief.

→ A fast-paced thriller for early-readers
→ Search for clues/traces in text and pictures
→ Even those who are small and unnoticed will make it big!

Laura D’Arcangelo
Mr. Bert and Alfonso
Chasing a Thief

Laura D’Arcangelo, born in 1995, studied illustration fiction at the Lucerne School of Art and Design. Since then she’s working as a freelance illustrator and picturebook illustrator. Since 2019, Laura D’Arcangelo is project director of Bolo Klub that supports young picturebook illustrators in Switzerland. »Mr. Bert and his dachshund« was part of The Unpublished Picturebook Showcase by dPictus and has been selected for the Bologna illustrator’s exhibition in 2021.
Their cawing is famous, their gloomyness too. But if you look closely, you see shimmering feathers - and in warmer areas ravens anyway show bright colors. Inspite of prejudices: Raven mothers are caring, couples are faithful. No animal has a larger brain in relation to its body. And when these intelligent birds build nests out of wire hangers, use cars as nutcrackers or snow-covered roofs as slides, it is clear that ravens learn by playing – just like children.

→ The book represents the common types of raven and crows in Europe and North-America.
→ Topics and texts developed in cooperation with scientists from the Swiss Ornithological Institute in Sempach.
→ Never has a children’s book covered these birds and their behaviour more carefully.

Xenia Joss, born in 1995, studied illustration nonfiction at the Lucerne School of Art and Design and has been living there ever since. She works as a freelance illustrator. Today Xenia Joss is studying for her Master’s degree in Art Teaching. Her whole life she has been fascinated by picturebooks and non-fiction picturebooks. »Raven – black and colourful« is her first picture book.
Gone is the Ihmchen!

Gone is the Ihmchen! Kurtpeter is desperate. Together with Beinelars, he goes in search of it. At Inge Rölling’s house, they find only a Matz, who sings slippery sailor songs, and little Linse, who learns Etruscan and is very clever in general. And there is someone else living in the house: God. But there is not much to do with him. He never goes out. So how is he supposed to know where the Ihmchen is? He doesn’t know anything. Linse joins the boys. On their way, they meet an oversized crocodile and, finally, the cook from hell and her son, Bad Urs, who is celebrating his birthday and wants something really tasty: Ihmchen in stinky pudding. Will things turn out well?

Jan Philipp Reemtsma, born in 1952, Prof. Dr. phil., founder and director of the Hamburger Stiftung zur Förderung von Wissenschaft und Kultur and the Arno Schmidt Foundation. Founder until 2015 and director of the Institut für Sozialforschung in Hamburg.

Nikolaus Heidelbach has written, drawn and illustrated many books. So far Kampa has published: »Lest doch!«, an animal-friendly ABC with quotes about reading, the anthology »Nichts als Weihnachten im Kopf«, the Corona diary »Alles gut?« and the Wimmelbook »Wo ist Vincent?«.
Where is Vincent?

Vincent, a little octopus, lives in the ocean. The ocean is full of animals. Vincent has to hide from some of them. Can you find him?

→ A submarine hidden object book

Nikolaus Heidelbach has written, drawn and illustrated many books. So far Kampa has published: »Lest doch!«, an animal-friendly ABC with quotes about reading, the anthology »Nichts als Weihnachten im Kopf«, the children’s book »Weg war das Ihmchen!« (with Jan Philipp Reemtsma), his Corona diary »Alles gut?«.
This is the first children's book by the author of most successful picture books.

Ben has to stay at Gustav's place during his holiday, and neither of them is happy about the situation. The only thing connecting them is an injured mouse they are both looking after. But behind the mystery of the odd mouse, there is another, bigger mystery: something is moving in Ben’s suitcase! The two nine-year-old boys are faced with a challenge. They become friends only very tentatively. Because of the mouse and another strange creature, they need to work together.

Lorenz Pauli’s text hovers between reality and imagination. This enables him to weave a story about missions going wrong and incipient friendship, about boys’ pranks and mythical beasts.

→ Top picture book author
→ Lorenz Pauli’s first children’s book
→ Everyday life suddenly tilts into the fabulous.
→ Thrilling and exhilarating!
→ Stunning black & white illustrations by Adam Vogt

Lorenz Pauli, born in 1967, was a former kindergarten teacher. Then days grew too short for work, and now he laughs when sitting at his keyboard and when telling stories on stage. Lorenz Pauli won many awards for his books, among them the Swiss children’s book prize for Rigo & Rosa in 2017 (illustrations: Kathrin Schärer). Lorenz Pauli lives in Berne.

→ More from Lorenz Pauli: page 28, 34, 36, 40

Adam Vogt, born in 1992, grew up between brooks in Southern France, Piedmontese forests and the mountains of Liechtenstein. His passion for pictures and stories became his profession; now he draws comics, illustrates books or searches the underbrush for mushrooms and mysterious creatures.
**What’s Behind?**

A new boardbook by our most successful and bestselling illustrator.

It’s a spontaneous, everyday game: You hide an object behind your back, and your child is supposed to guess what it is. In the book, the artist turns this into an amusing chain reaction: Behind every animal, there’s another, hidden one. The playful moment develops into a simple story. The mouse has to guess – all the way to the end. And behind the mouse is – who? It’s YOU!

**Kathrin Schärer**, born in Basel in 1969. She is one of the most successful Swiss illustrators. While she sometimes illustrates her own stories, she is best known for her longstanding and very successful collaboration with Lorenz Pauli. Kathrin Schärer has been nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award 2012 for her complete work and for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award 2014.

→ Join in, guess, laugh and learn the difference between large and small.
→ The game in the board book reflects the game in the children’s room.
→ The same format as ‘Only One More’

**World Rights available – Rights sold to:** Brazil

26 pages | board book | 15.3×19.8 cm | 1+ | 2020
Maurice’s pirate book has disappeared! But when he is sadly looking out into the night, he hears somebody calling. A ship comes floating down from the clouds, the crew waving him aboard. This adventure surpasses all his dreams: With Lizzie and her mates, Maurice sails away, over rooftops and through forests. In a lighthouse, they finally find the pirates’ hideout. This is where the treasure must be! But to get it, the children have to outsmart Captain Grimbeard and his pirates. When Lizzie divides up the treasure after her crew’s safe homecoming, Maurice gets his book back. He sits down on the roof, reading happily in the moonlight.

→ Fantastic scenes, pure magical realism
→ Unique in its atmospheric blend of children’s dreams and adventurous spirit
→ New edition of the 1988 bestseller
→ New layout and revised text

**Dieter Wiesmüller**, born in Rotenburg in 1950, studied graphics, painting and illustration in Hamburg. For many years, he created famous covers for books and magazines. He also wrote and illustrated his own picture books. From 1982 to 1992 he was a lecturer at Hamburger Fachhochschule. Dieter Wiesmüller lives in Hamburg as a freelance artist.
Children make figures to play with, from chestnuts, pine cones and nuts. We can only see the children’s hands at the very edges of the pictures. Mostly, though, we see the Woodlings, building huts and being helped by squirrels and mice.

When strong Birch Bloke takes away a board from little Larch Cone, there’s trouble. But just like children, who quarrel and are friends again soon after, the Woodlings alternately clash and cooperate. And the louder the conflict the happier is everybody with the party afterwards.

→ Playing with natural objects
→ Making things with your own hands
→ The Woodlings act and react just like children.

Maria Stalder, born in 1986, studied illustration at the Hochschule Design & Kunst in Lucerne. She teaches arts and crafts at the Kollegium Stans as well as working for magazines and children’s publishers. Her favourite activity is creating illustrations for children’s books, but she also enjoys listening to stories or baking cakes.
A visual essay about Orang-Utans in Sumatra

The twins Ginting and Ganteng are growing up in an ape rehabilitation centre, but their mother used to live in the treetops of the jungle. Fire clearance drove her away, palm oil plantations have been edging out the forest. The young readers learn why the protection of the forests is necessary. The rehabilitation centre has been a stroke of luck, but it’s not the apes’ natural habitat. And so, this is also a story about the rescued animals being gradually released into the wild, until they’re ready to live in the jungle again.

Education is vital: There’s palm oil contained in many products, but palm oil plantations are encroaching upon orang-utan habitat.

Impressive pictures tell the story, often from the apes’ point of view.

An appendix of facts and figures adds background information about the effects of the palm oil industry and the crucial importance of the rainforest.

Regina Frey studied biology, then set up one of the first rehabilitation centres for orang-untans in Sumatra, on behalf of WWF International and the Frankfurt Zoological Society. In 1996, she was a co-founder of PanEco, a foundation and the protection of endangered species in Switzerland and Sumatra.

Petra Rappo, born in 1969, lives and works in Basel, as an illustrator, graphic designer and artist. Her picture book ‘Tree to Tree’ was listed as one of the Best German Book Design titles in 2016 and nominated for the Bratislava Biennial of Illustration. In 2019, she was one of the artists representing Switzerland, which was guest of honour at the Bologna Children’s Book Fair. Petra Rappo has been a freelance lecturer at the Basel School of Design since 2004.
Award winning titles

Children’s Book of the Month of May 2016 awarded by the Deutsche Akademie für Kinder- und Jugendliteratur e.V.
Swiss Children’s Media Award 2017
Leipzig’s Lesekompass / Die besten 7

Rip and Rosie
Lorenz Pauli / Kathrin Schärer

Death in the Apple Tree
Kathrin Schärer

The White Ravens 2015 and Picture Book of the Month of September 2015 awarded by the Deutsche Akademie für Kinder- und Jugendliteratur e.V.

Look after me!
Lorenz Pauli / Miriam Zedelius

The Best Foreign Picture Book Award 2015 JAPAN
Swiss Children’s Media Award 2011

Johanna in the Train
Kathrin Schärer

Die besten 7

The Lake
Lorenz Pauli / Sonja Bougaeva

100 outstanding picture books, dPictus, Klima-Umwelt-Naturbuch-Tipp
Ginting and Ganteng
Regina Frey / Petra Rappo

LesePeter Dezember 2012

Just all of us
Lorenz Pauli / Kathrin Schärer

Die besten 7 / Collection Austrian children’s book Award

The Second Ark
Heinz Janisch / Hannes Binder

Die besten 7 / Die besten 7 / The Red Elephant
Alwina and Nelli
Heribert Schumeyer

Die besten 7 / Collection Austrian children’s book Award

The battle of Karlawatsch
Heinz Janisch / Aljoscha Blau

Swiss Children’s Media Award 2017

The Lake
Lorenz Pauli / Sonja Bougaeva

Die besten 7

Johanna in the Train
Kathrin Schärer

German Children’s book Award 2005

Buildings Nests, Digging Caves
Anne Möller

The Best Foreign Picture Book Award 2015 JAPAN
Swiss Children’s Media Award 2011

Johanna in the Train
Kathrin Schärer

Die besten 7

The Lake
Lorenz Pauli / Sonja Bougaeva

Shortlist German-French children’s book Award

The battle of Karlawatsch
Heinz Janisch / Aljoscha Blau

→ more information in the backlist catalogue

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