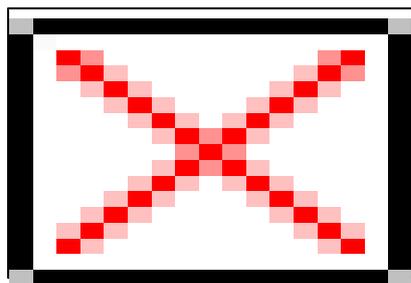




# Refugee Story wins Klaus Flugge Prize for consecutive year

Kate Milner has won the 2018 [Klaus Flugge Prize](#) [1] for the most exciting and promising newcomer to children's picture book illustration. She won for her book [My Name is Not Refugee](#) [2] (Barrington Stoke), which follows a young boy as he and his mother set out from their home to find somewhere safe to live.



Judge, Children's Laureate Lauren Child says: 'The questions **My Name is Not Refugee** asks us to consider help us to think ourselves into someone else's shoes. And the illustrations do just what they should, allowing the reader time to contemplate the predicament of the storybook child, a chance to imagine and to empathize.'

The **Klaus Flugge Prize** was founded to honour publisher [Klaus Flugge](#) [3], a supremely influential figure in picture books. Flugge set up Andersen Press in 1976 and has discovered and nurtured many of today's most distinguished illustrators including **David McKee**, **Tony Ross**, **Satoshi Kitamura** and **Susan Varley**.

Chair of the judges, **Julia Eccleshare** said: 'The 2017 **Klaus Flugge Prize** was awarded to Francesca Sanna for her book [The Journey](#) [4], so for the second year running the prize has gone to a book which describes the refugee experience. Klaus Flugge has always championed picture books for children that challenge them to think about the world and how it works, from [The Conquerors](#) [5] by David McKee to **An Anty-War Story** by Tony Ross, and it's fitting that the prize in his name once again demonstrates that picture books can cover the most important and most topical subjects.'

Although Kate studied illustration at St Martin's College as a young woman she spent most of her career as a librarian, developing a passion for children's books in the process.

Cuts to the library service resulted in her losing her job, and that prompted her to apply to do an MA in children's book

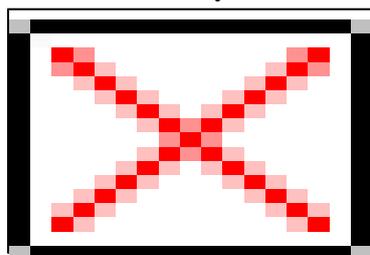


illustration at Anglia Ruskin University. She created the story that was to become **My Name is Not Refugee** as part of her degree show, and with it won Student Illustrator of the Year in the **V&A Illustration Awards**.

Working at the library provided important inspiration. Kate explains: 'I have always made images and thought up stories, but it was a job at the local library that changed everything for me: I fell in love with children's books. Part of my job was to read to groups of pre-school children at Rhyme Time, which was an excellent way of discovering which

books kept their attention, indeed which books kept my attention.'

Victoria Semykina was awarded Highly Commended for her illustrations for **The Real Boat** (Templar). Lauren Child said: 'Here is illustration that is not only exquisitely decorative but also uses the page to great effect. There are many original viewpoints, crops and changes of scale and these beautifully carry the reader across the storybook seas.'

**Kate Milner** received her award at a ceremony in London on Wednesday 12th September 2017 and was presented with a cheque for £5,000 by **Lauren Child**.

Alongside Lauren Child, the judges were **Goldy Broad**, **Charlotte Colwill**, of **Foyles** bookshop and **2017 Klaus Flugge Prize** winner **Francesca Sanna**. Julia Eccleshare, director of the Children's Programme at the Hay Festival, is Chair of the Judges.

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**Links:**

- [1] <https://www.klausfluggeprize.co.uk/>
- [2] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/225/childrens-books/reviews/my-name-is-not-refugee>
- [3] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/216/childrens-books/articles/andersen-press-forty-years-young>
- [4] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/222/childrens-books/reviews/the-journey>
- [5] <http://w.booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/146/childrens-books/reviews/the-conquerors>