



Non-profit organisation EX LIBRIS AD PERSONAM HLOHOVEC

announces

12th international art contest in creation of book plates for children aged from 6 to 15

# EX LIBRIS HLOHOVEC

Theme: " OLYMPIC GAMES "

## CONTEST CONDITIONS:

Categories: 1. Ex libris design - 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 design and original ex libris for children from all types of schools aged from 6 to 11.

### NOTICE - CHANGE!

After regulation of categories last year organizers decided to make other changes in the contest. From 12th year contest will be organized in two years period as a BIENNIAL. Pay attention, please, to the contest dates.

### The contest conditions:

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 has been 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 (lino-engraving, lino-cut, wood-cut, wood-engraving, plastic-engraving, paper-engraving, imprint from a drawing paper, dry needle, 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 evaluated!
4. All the contest works have to contain the text and picture parts. It is the word EX LIBRIS, EXLIBRIS, FROM BOOKS, BOOK, the name and surname of the owner or institution. You can use an initial (Jozef SOKOL, J.SOKOL). No other initials (J.S.), other variants of your name or nickname, e.g. Babena, Žuža or Ferino, are permitted.
5. The picture part must have a direct relation to the theme of the contest.
6. Each contestant cannot 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 author at the back of the paper. It would be suitable to write also the author's gender. In case of collection of works, it is necessary to enclose a list of contestants with all the required data. 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 will use the English language. The contest organiser welcome your proposals of topics for next years of the international art contest EX LIBRIS HLOHOVEC.
9. The delivered 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 that were not part of another contest or exhibition!
10. The deadline for sending the contest works is January 31, 2009, the address is 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 12th 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.
12. The ceremonial announcement of the results of the contest, awarding and other activities will be held on October 2, 2009 in Hlohovec.  
The organisers will inform the participants on the details in a separate invitation. The results of the contest will be published in an official bulletin, on [www.elap-hlohovec.sk](http://www.elap-hlohovec.sk) and in mass media.

## METHODICAL SHEET

Dear contestants, we welcome your decision to take part in the twelve year of our contest, and as in previous years, we are giving you some advice how to avoid mistakes at creating contest works and achieve the best results.

A good ex libris is based on a well-performed design that represents a creative connection of picture and text parts. How to proceed in the creation of the design? The picture part is based on the selected theme, and that is why you should look for the signs that are specific to 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 write the word EXLIBRIS, EX LIBRIS or its variations FROM BOOKS, BOOK, LIBRARY in your own language on a contest work. The text parts should be connected to the picture part in an artful way so that they create an ex libris composition. You should look for such art elements that will depict it and freshen it up. Selection of a type of writing is very important, it should be legible, reasonably big and placed in the space. You should select the surface type of writing, and should not underestimate its role. Connection of the picture and text in an artistic way is typical for ex libris.

The text and picture parts form together a format /size/ of a book plate. The size of an ex libris is not allowed to exceed the size 13 x 9 cm. We recommend that you should create designs, and also original works, in a smaller size. It is more suitable for using in practice.

Place the design on a drawing paper A5 (21 x 15 cm). Draw diagonals by a pencil and determine the middle of the surface. Draw a rectangle round the middle with the size not larger than 13 x 9 cm /a maximum size of your future work/. Start your composition of the picture and text parts from the middle. After finishing your proposal, decide if it will be with a frame or you will keep the outlines created by the composition. The composition can have different shapes square, rectangular, circle, oval, triangular or polygonal.

The contest design has to be worked out by Indian ink using a pen or a brush in such a form that will predetermine your decision what graphic techniques you want to use for your proposal. You can choose from lino-engraving, lino-cut, wood-cut, wood-engraving, paper-engraving, by dry needle or plastic-engraving. Mässon plate is also successful at creation of designs.

Creation of a design that cannot be technically realised in practice is a very common mistake. 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.

We have chosen the topic „OLYMPIC GAMES“ for the 12th year of the international contest EX LIBRIS HLOHOVEC because it is announced in the year of the Olympiad. You have a great opportunity to express beauty of the human body, joy of victory, and also grief of loss. Sport includes power, tension, and mainly movement. Olympiads represent a long history and Olympic towns, sports fields, medals and Olympic symbols the flame and the rings representing five continents. A lot of modern Olympiads have their mascots, a lot of posters have been issued. They are all possibilities for you.

Athletics is a well-known Olympic sport that includes runs, jumps and throws. A lot of competitions take place in the swimming pool where you can see swimmers, divers, who compete in dives, water ballet and poloists. Gymnastics, sport and artistic, collective sports like football, handball, volleyball, basketball and field hockey are the subject of our interest during the Olympiad. In water, you can see rowers, canoeists, yachtsmen and contestants in water slalom, we know contests in shooting and archery, and cyclists have their disciplines on roads and tracks. Matches in weightlifting, boxing, wrestling and judo have been part of Olympiads for a long time. The programme of Olympiads is changed and modernised, at present it also includes tennis, badminton and table tennis. A horse is the only animal that takes part in Olympic competitions, in riding disciplines. Riding is also included in modern pentathlon, fencing is a traditional discipline.

It would be fantastic, if you showed motions in your works, but there are also disciplines where a contestant is without a motion for a long time.

A shooter aims at the target without any movement, gymnasts have endurance in their exercises where they stand like sculptures, and a weightlifter becomes stiff after lifting up the barbell. You can use these peculiarities in your works. Sports on snow are more satisfactory for graphical techniques. You can use motifs from classical skiing and ski jumping, from biathlon, alpine skiing, hockey, sledging and bob sledging, figure skating and speed skating in your works. If you admire performance of a sportsman or a sportswoman, you can write in his/her name on your exlibris and devote it to him/her. Utilise your experiences from sports broadcasts, you may like the opening or closing ceremony.

We could not mention all disciplines of the Olympic Games, but libraries are full of books on these sports events. Read them, and you will learn a lot of interesting and useful things. We are looking forward to your works and the meeting of the best in Hlohovec.

*Organisational Committee of the contest*