

The winners of Biennial of Animation Bratislava 2020

List of awards

Literary fund premium – The Websters
ECFA award – Sloth
UNICEF award – This side, other side
St. Vojtech prize – Daughter
Children's audience award – The Peculiar Crime of Oddball Mr. Jay
Viktor Kubal prize – The Kite

Prix Klingsor – Konstantin Bronzit
Albín Brunovský honorary medal – Katka Minichová, Géza M. Tóth

Honorary mention in category S – Reven og Nissen / Tomen and the Fox
Honorary mention in category M – 7kids
Honorary mention in category L – Grandma's pancakes
Honorary mention in category XL – Dream Report

The Biennial of Animation Bratislava 2020 has announced its winners. The international jury was enchanted by the film by the Slovak animator Martin Smatana.

The decision made by the international jury to place the film at the top of this year's Biennial of Animation, which was created under the hands of a Slovak animator, is a substantial satisfaction for the organizers after months of uncertainty and restrictions. Although they may have suspected it, as the co-producer of the Czech-Slovak animated film ŠARKAN (The Kite), Žilina-based Martin Smatana, is truly exceptional even in a global context.

Although the 15th International Film Festival of Animated Films for Children and Youth of the Bratislava Biennial of Animation had to face many limitations and change its appearance for this year, its competitive dimension has been preserved. Despite the fact the members of the international jury did not meet in Bratislava as they did in the years prior, they were able to evaluate the quality of submitted animated films from all around the world two weeks in advance during the final conference call where their final decision was made – the Viktor Kubal Award for Best Film has been awarded to Šarkan (The Kite), which sensitively raises the question of death through the story of a little boy and his grandfather. The certainty of this film being truly exceptional has been confirmed by its success to date – it already has 40 significant awards on its account, including the Children's Audience Award at the Annecy 2019 International Animated Film Festival, the Sun in a Net Slovak National Film Award and the semi-final nomination for the Student Oscar.

The international jury also awarded the UNICEF Award (Awarded to a film on the issues of protection of children's rights) to the Iranian film This side, the other side by Lida Fazli, and the Sv. Vojtech Prize (A prize for the best-animated film coming from the Visegrad Group countries.) to the Czech puppet film Daughter by director Daria Kashcheeva, a film that also appeared among the Oscar nominations for the best animated short film.

The ECFA (European Children's Film Association) International Jury awarded the ECFA Digital Paper Animation Award to the film Sloth by the German director Julia Ocker. This year, the outstanding Russian director Konstantin Bronzit won the PRIX KLINGSOR award, which is awarded for the lifetime achievement to a significant personality whose works perfectly connect artistic and film qualities and reach children's viewers. The children's jury recognized the Portuguese puppet film The Peculiar

Crime of Oddball Mr. Jay, directed by Bruno Caetano, about how a chain of unexpected events provoked a small crime in a city where nature was forbidden. The Albín Brunovský Honorary Medal was awarded to the Hungarian director Géza Tóth and the in memoriam was granted to Katarína Minichová, who dedicated her entire professional life to animated films. Katarína Kerekesová, the director of the immensely successful Webster spider family, won the Literary Fund Festival Award.

The winners of the eight prizes awarded at the festival were decided by an international jury composed of: Carlos Lascano (Argentina), Rebecca Akoun (FR), Volodymyr Diagilev (UA), Andrej Kolenčík (SK), Halka Marčeková (SK).

The awarded films, as well as all other competitive and non-competitive films, can be viewed until Saturday, October 10 (23:59) on a secured stream on the festivalbab.sk website.

The leading organizer of the festival this year was also the International House of Art for Children BIBIANA, a budgetary organization of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. The general partner of the event and the broadcaster of BAB films was the nationwide public television RTVS.