



Andreja Erdlen: Journal, festival, or award? Why not all three!

*The journal *Otrok in knjiga* (Child and Book) is the only specialised journal in Slovenia dedicated to children's and YA literature, literary education, and book-related media. Its purpose is to inform and establish youth literature as a subject that deserves equal and systematic study within the framework of literary science.*

*The *Okoli besede* (Eye of the Word) festival annually attracts authors as well as literary experts and literary intermediaries. Regular events at the festival include a round table discussion on a selected topic, prepared by the *Otrok in knjiga* journal. The festival highlight is the presentation of the *Večernica Award* for best Slovene literary work for children and young adults published in the previous year. The emphasis on promotion, exchange of experiences and research finding, strengthens the position of youth literature in the professional and broader public.*

Andreja Erdlen graduated in comparative literature and obtained a PhD in literary studies at the University in Ljubljana. As an experienced librarian, she has provided reference services and implemented activities aimed at promoting youth literature among children and young adults. She has contributed to several journals, collections of papers, and conferences with her articles. Since last year, she has been the editor of the *Otrok in knjiga* journal and head of the Centre for Reading Literacy Promotion at the Maribor Public Library.



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