



De Vier Windstreken

Jury Report Pixi-book illustration contest

*Brave Hare decides it's time to teach Scared Lion how to be courageous.
He asks Lion to come with him and do three heroic deeds.
But is Hare as brave as he seems?*

Between September 6th and November 1st 2021, everyone could join the third edition of the Pixi-book contest by De Vier Windstreken. We asked for one spread and two freestanding illustrations for a story written by Gerard Delft: *Scared Lion & Brave Hare*.

The jury of the Pixi-Award consisted of the world-famous author and illustrator Hans de Beer (maker of the books about The Little Polar Bear), publisher Bob Markus, Inge Roos (owner of children's book shop *In de Wolken* in Voorburg), Annemarie Hennekes (youth librarian at the Centrale Bibliotheek Den Haag), Truusje Vrooland-Löb (author and children's books reviewer) and Koen Aelterman (winner of the Pixi-Award 2020).

What were the judges looking for?

With a good illustration...

- the illustrator clearly masters the chosen technique
- there is consistency with the other illustrations (the same style)
- the characters fit the story
- the images add something to the written text
- the ambiance of the story is made visible
- the illustrations are surprising and memorable

The winner of the Pixi-Award 2021: Donna Kroese

The judges wrote about Donna's submission: "Her illustrations are radiating warmth; they look cozy. Her use of colours is calm, and the balance of the artwork and compositions are outstanding. Both Lion and Hare are true characters with good expressions."

We congratulate Donna for winning the Pixi-Award 2021! She will complete the entire Pixi-book about Hare and Lion, which will be in stores this summer. Also, she wins 100 copies of her Pixi-book and € 500.

Honourable Mention

The judges also gave two illustrators an honourable mention.

Ana Stretcu: Her comic-like figures tell the story with strong mimicry. She adds little surprising details that the attentive reader will appreciate. Her use of colour is excellent.

Sterre van der Tak: she is a very talented illustrator who puts a lot of time and love into her work. You can almost feel the textures of the coats. She has a very authentic illustration style.

Note: we have added a brief comment from the judges for all the other nominees as an appendix.

We hope the illustration contest will boost the winner's creativity and that of the other nominees and lead to new motivation and great projects in the future. We thank all the contestants for joining the competition; we have enjoyed seeing all the results very much.

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Appendix: jury statements

Annouk Goselink: she has a very in-your-face use of colours, but the colour shades stay subtle. She uses original perspectives and is able to give her characters different expressions. A lot of children will love this style.

Shari Bresciani: Her fresh and happy composition catches your eye. The judges are very curious to see what she could do without using a computer for her illustrations.

Maria-Anne Defesche: What a unique submission! The judges are intrigued by the surprising details and think she created a whole new world with toy-like creatures.

Dinie van der Velde: A lovely combination of techniques that makes you look twice. It's very brave (and worked out well) to use unusual colours, like green for a hare.

Charlotte Segers: Such a lively spread! You can imagine all the animals jumping from the page. Using words in the background is very original. The judges are curious to see more character designs by Charlotte.

Ysbrand Drost: There is so much fun and joy in these illustrations. The consistency of the characters throughout the different illustrations is very well done. Children will like this style a lot. The judges are curious to see what he could do without using a computer for his illustrations.

Roxanne Josefus: Warm illustrations that catch your eye. She has captured the character of the lion exceptionally well; what a sweet and lovable animal he is. The judges think she could bring her illustrations to the next level by using the principle: less is more.