



De Vier Windstreken

Jury Report Pixi-book illustration contest

The animals at Farmer Jones' farm are not happy. The farmer only pays attention to his granddaughter and he seems to forget about his animals. But then the donkey comes up with a plan to change this situation...

Between April 3rd and May 20th 2024, anyone and everyone could join the fifth edition of the Pixi-Award, the illustration contest by De Vier Windstreken. We asked for one spread and two freestanding illustrations for a story written by Monique Berndes: *A Cry for Attention*.

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, Yvon van Oel (owner of children's book shop *Alice in Wonderland* in The Hague, and children's book illustrator), Yolanda Meijer (librarian at Bibliotheek Leidschenveen), Truusje Vrooland-Löb (author and children's books reviewer) and Fleur Duivenvoorden (winner of the Pixi-Award 2023).

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 2024: Friederike Steil

The judges wrote about Friederike's submission: "Friederike has a classic, hand drawn style with attention to detail, enjoyable use of colours and dynamic, lively animals. With their convincing mobility, the animals tell their own story. The illustrations show well thought-out compositions."

We congratulate Friederike for winning the Pixi-Award 2024! She will complete the entire Pixi-book about the upset farm animals. She also wins 100 copies of her Pixi-book and € 500.

Honourable Mention

The judges also gave two illustrators an honourable mention.

Gül Sari: Gül's illustrations are funny, colorful and there is so much to see. She uses unique colors, and clear compositions.

Bing Hao: Bing's illustrations are lovely to look at. She creates calm images with a cute grandpa, in

which you can feel the emotions.

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

Michiel van der Most van Spijk: Michiel creates strong animals with clear facial expressions. His use of dark colors creates a. exciting sphere. He understands how to tell a story in pictures.

Ameli Solomko: she stands out because of her use of materials. She uses beautiful colors and has given the story a whole new, more serious interpretation.