

1928 – The Association of Czech Bibliophiles organized the first competition for a beautiful book (1928-1940);

1959 – The Czech Book Culture Committee continued with a competition of this sort (1959-1963);

1965 – The Competition was formed to be a national event arranged by centres of the Czech and Slovak book cultures and organized by the MCL (issue of catalogue, exhibition boasting the awarded books). The co-organizers: Czech - the Ministry of Culture and the MCL; Slovak - the 'Slovenské ústredie knižnej kultúry' (the Slovak Book Culture Centre) and the 'Matica slovenská' until 1992. Both institutions would take turns in organizational duties and the jury chairmanship;

1968 – The MCL first presented the Arno Sáňka Award (a famous collector and bibliophile; 1892-1966) for students of secondary or tertiary visual arts schools;

1993 – The Most Beautiful Czech Books competition started in changed political, economical and cultural circumstances. It has undergone quite an intricate development (changes of statute and rules of procedure; a new system of judging categories; new criteria for selected groups; sorts and number of awards, and more). The Competition organizers are the Ministry of Culture CR and the MCL.

1995 – The 'Svaz polygrafických podnikatelů' became a co-organizer who gave a prize to printing companies for the good-quality polygraphy production. The awards ceremony and exhibition in 1995-1996 took place in the exhibition area 'Výstaviště' in Prague 7 (Holešovice) within the book fair 'Book World Prague'.

1997 – The circumstance that marked a turn in the Competition objective was its organizers' decision to bestow the MC CR awards directly on publishers who shouldered the responsibility for the contents and the formal level of their published production. Seven book categories newly emerged that year. Prizes annually go to books, which take first place in each of the categories, on World Book and Copyright Day which means that on April 23rd.

1998 – The organizers joined by TypoDesignClub, a registered association (formerly a voluntary union) that began to present an award for excellent graphic layout.

1999 - The organizers joined by the Association of Czech Graphic Artists HOLLAR Prague that began to present an award for the best set of illustrations.

2003 – The Government introduced Regulations No.5/2003 of 16 December 2002 on prizes in the culture awarded by the Ministry of Culture. The prize for the most beautiful book is given to appraise a non-periodical publication as a technical and functional object first issued in such polygraphy and visual forms (§17, Article 1).

2006- The Government introduced Regulations No.98/2006 of 8 March 2006 on prizes in the culture awarded by the Ministry of Culture that limited competition categories to six, the first place prize worth CZK 50,000 and a diploma in each category.

2009 – The organizers joined by the Czech Bibliophiles Association that began to give the Vojtěch Preissig Award.

2014 – The Museum of Czech Literature initiated the exhibition project entitled ZPRÁVA O KNIZE (THE BOOK REPORT) to mark the 50th anniversary of the competition held in the Star Summer Palace. The exhibition project has its own Web pages www.bookreport.cz.