

Dr. Yosef Wosk

The continuation of the Alcuin Awards from year to year would be impossible without the generous assistance of Dr. Yosef Wosk and the Wosk family. With their financial help, the Society is able to translate and print the awards catalogue, ensure the judges represent regions and expertise from across Canada, exhibit the awarded books to the public in Canada and Europe, and make other enhancements to the programme. Dr. Wosk, with his ongoing financial support, enthusiasm, guidance, and advice, has helped the Society to broaden the scope and importance of the Awards from the relatively small undertakings they once were to the internationally recognized national competition they are today. We are enormously grateful to Dr. Wosk and his family for their continued support.

Le retour des prix Alcuin d'année en année serait impossible sans l'aide généreuse du Dr Yosef Wosk et de sa famille. Grâce à leur aide financière, la Société Alcuin est en mesure de traduire et d'imprimer le catalogue des prix d'excellence, de s'assurer que les juges représentent l'expertise et les régions de partout au Canada, d'exposer les livres gagnants au public canadien et européen, en plus de bonifier continuellement son programme. Avec son soutien financier continu, son enthousiasme, sa sagesse et ses conseils, Dr Wosk a aidé la Société Alcuin à élargir la portée et l'importance de ses prix qui furent d'abord relativement modestes et qui sont maintenant reconnus internationalement. Nous sommes extrêmement reconnaissants au Dr Wosk et à sa famille de leur appui continu.

Geoffrey Spencer conceived the idea of the Alcuin Society, which he founded in Vancouver in 1965, along with Basil Stuart-Stubbs, C.M., Bill Duthie, Sam Black, Bill McConnell, Dale Smith and Sam Fogel. The initial aim of the Society was to promote a wider appreciation of fine books among book lovers around the world. Today, it is the only non-profit organization in Canada dedicated to the entire range of interests related to books and reading. *Amphora*, the Society's journal published three times per year, covers topics that include authorship, publishing, book design and production, the history of the book, libraries, ephemera, bookselling, and book buying and collecting, as well as the book arts of typography, type design, printing, binding, papermaking, marbling, calligraphy and illustration.

The name "Alcuin" honours the memory of Alcuin of York (c. 735 to 804 CE), Abbot of St. Martin at Tours, a man who cared deeply about books and literacy. As Charlemagne's "Minister of Culture," and a respected teacher, Alcuin encouraged the study and preservation of ancient texts, helped establish numerous schools and libraries, and contributed to the development of the lowercase alphabet.

To further its aims, the Alcuin Society engages in a wide range of educational activities—lectures, workshops, exhibitions and field visits, many in collaboration with educational institutions such as the Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing at Simon Fraser University, the University of British Columbia, the Emily Carr University of Art + Design and the University of Victoria. The Alcuin Society Annual Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada is the only national competition of its kind that recognizes and celebrates the art of book design in Canada. Winners of this award represent the nation at the international exhibitions and competition at the Frankfurt and Leipzig Book Fairs held annually in Germany. The Society offers the Robert R. Reid Award and Medal to recognize lifetime achievement in, or extraordinary contributions to, the Book Arts in Canada.

Geoffrey Spencer a conçu l'idée de la Société Alcuin qu'il a fondée à Vancouver, en 1965 avec Basil Stuart-Stubbs (C.M.), Bill Duthie, Sam Black, Bill McConnell,