



DESIGN-A-COVER Competition 2018



www.obrien.ie

www.childrensbooksireland.ie

2018 Design-a-Cover Competition

Once again, Children's Book Ireland has joined with The O'Brien Press to give YOU the opportunity to have your artwork featured on the cover of a professionally published book. We are looking for YOUR help in re-jacketing Eoin Colfer's classic *Benny and Omar*, first published in 1998. With a new edition set to be launched in Spring 2019, this hilarious adventure story about the power of friendship story needs a striking new look that will help it appeal to young readers today, as well as giving a strong sense of the what the book is about.

So if you think you're up to the challenge of creating a new cover and not afraid of seeing your art on library and bookshop shelves, here's what you must do:

1. Track down the original version of *Benny and Omar* and read it carefully. (If you can't find a copy of the book itself, you can find some more information about it here www.obrien.ie/benny-and-omar)
2. Ask your local library or teacher for a copy of the entry form. (Alternatively one can be downloaded from www.obrien.ie/childrens/cbi-design-a-cover / www.childrensbooksireland.ie)
3. Use the space provided on the form to lay out your design (see below for some top design tips!) and fill in your details.
4. Post your completed entry form in to the following address: **Design-a-Cover, The O'Brien Press,
12 Terenure Road East, Rathgar, Dublin 6**
5. Make sure that your entry arrives before the closing date **November 30th 2018**



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Top Design Tips

So, you think you have what it takes to design a book cover? Here's some useful advice from the design team in The O'Brien Press to get you started ...

A book cover's job is to make the reader want to read the story inside: that might sound obvious, but keep this in mind as you design the cover!

Before you begin, ask yourself these questions:

- What is the book about? What is the central idea of the story?
- Who do you think the book's main audience is?
- What is the book's main appeal: is it character, place, friendship, scariness, humour or something else? Think about: character descriptions, key events and objects, when is it set? Does your cover make this clear?

Some additional points to remember!

- The title of the book – **Benny and Omar** – and the author's name – **Eoin Colfer** – are very important and they need to be clear and readable. Think about how big they should be and where they should go.
- Book covers often appear very small, particularly digitally: ensure that your design is clear and will work well on screen.
- Make sure to do your cover art in portrait (upright) format – use the competition entry form (available www.obrien.ie/childrens/cbi-design-a-cover / www.childrensbooksireland.ie) to make sure your design is the right size and shape.
- Most important of all – be creative and have fun!

Prizes and Entry Details

The winning entry will be chosen by the CBI and The O'Brien Press judging panel and, for the first time ever, the author and former Laureate na nÓg, Eoin Colfer! The winning design will be used as the basis for the cover design of a new edition of *Benny and Omar* to be published in Spring 2019. The overall winner will also receive a special selection of The O'Brien Press books. The winner's class will also receive a class set of the book.

Five runners-up will also have the chance to see their artwork featured in the book and will also receive a selection of fantastic titles from The O'Brien Press.

This competition is open to residents of ROI and Northern Ireland only. All entrants must be aged 15-years or under. Only one entry per person.

The closing date for entries is Friday November 30th 2018.