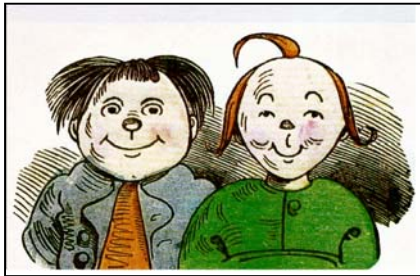


## Max and Moritz Award

My name is Ralf Schulze and I am a listener of Chris' podcast from Germany. Therefore I found it appropriate to supply him with a short segment on the German „Max and Moritz Medal“, which is the most prominent German award for comic books and their creators. In the past the Max and Moritz Medal has also been awarded to American publications and artists. Have a look at the back cover of your Liberty Meadows collections and you will find this award listed amongst Frank Cho's other awards for the series.

### Where does the award get its name from?



Max and Moritz are the two most famous characters of the German author and illustrator Wilhelm Busch. Not related to any former or current president. Wilhelm Busch was born 1832 in Germany and died 1908. He is considered to be amongst one of the forefathers of the modern comic book, because of his

illustrated stories and poems. These were aimed both at a younger and an adult audience.

His two most famous characters are Max and Moritz. Two pranksters, whose stories have been well known by generations of children in Germany up to today. They were supposedly the inspiration for the Katzenjammer Kids. So, all in all, that's why, the award was named after Max and Moritz.

### The Award itself

The Max and Moritz award is awarded every other year at a comic book convention in Germany, called the Comic Salon Erlangen. Erlangen being the city, in which the convention is being held. This convention has had many famous guests from the European comic book scene. Amongst them also Don Rosa and Britain's Don Lawrence. The Max and Moritz medal was first awarded in 1982. Besides the medal the winner also receives a sum of money. From the beginning there have been different categories, like best comic strip, best German publication and so on.

## List of Award Winners

But now, onto the list of award winners, which might interest the listeners of the Collected Comics Library.

1990

Best Comic-Strip: Calvin & Hobbes by Bill Waterson

Best German Publication: the German edition of Watchmen by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons

Special Jury Award: Maus – A Survivor's Tale by Art Spiegelmann

1992

Best Comic-Strip: B.C. by Johnny Hart

1993

Best Comic-Strip: The Far Side by Gary Larson

Life-time achievement award: Carl Barks

1994

Life-time achievement award: Will Eisner

1996

Best Comic-Strip: Mutts by Patrick McDonnell

1998

Best Comic-Strip. Dilbert by Scott Adams

Best German publication: in a series with a title, that translates as „Children's Illustrated Classics“ the German edition of Will Eisner's „Moby Dick“ adaptation

Best international comic book author: Neil Gaiman

Life-time achievement award: Robert Crumb

2000

Best international comic book author: Alan Moore

Life-time achievement award: Moebius

2002

Best Comic-Strip: Liberty Meadows by Frank Cho

2006

Best Comic-Strip: Donnesbury by Garry Trudeau

The next awards are due next year. It is nice to have a German award for comic books, which does get some coverage by the media in Germany. The organizers take the art form seriously and I think, they made some pretty good choices in, whom to give an award to.

So, I hope you found this segment interesting. Keep listening to the Collected Comics Library. I will.

This is Ralf Schulze signing off. Back to Chris.

#### URLs

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Max\\_and\\_Moritz](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Max_and_Moritz)

<http://www.comic-salon.de/>

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