

The Dutch Thriller Festival

The Dutch Thriller Festival is an annual festival that offers an attractive program for young and old focused on exciting stories. The main event is the Book Festival with a writing contest for professional authors of the thriller genre, and a Student Writing Contest. In addition, a broad co-operation is created with cultural and educational institutions organizing numerous activities, each related in some way or another to the theme of the exciting book.

In regard to the Book Festival, a professional jury spends almost a full year reading and judging the registered titles and authors. The highlight of the festival is the award ceremony of the so-called Bats (Vleermuizen) in each of the following categories.

MAX Bronze Bat

The MAX Bronze Bat is the prize for the best thriller debut of the year.

MAX Silver Bat

The MAX Silver Bat is the prize for the best thriller of the year.

MAX Golden Bat

The MAX Golden Bat is awarded to the author who was best appreciated by the jury that year for his or her complete work.

MAX Junior Bat

The MAX Junior Bat is awarded by the jury to the best exciting children's book written for children between the ages of 10 and 12. This prize will be awarded for the first time in 2023.

