



2016

UNESCO International Literacy Prizes



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Since 1967, **UNESCO International Literacy Prizes** have rewarded excellence and innovation in the field of literacy. Over 470 projects and programmes undertaken by governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals around the world have been recognized. Through these prestigious Prizes, UNESCO seeks to support effective literacy practices and encourage the promotion of dynamic literate societies.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Every year, interested institutions, organizations and individuals are invited to apply for the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes through UNESCO Member States or International Non-Governmental Organisations maintaining official relations with UNESCO which solicit and submit nominations to UNESCO.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- Institutions, organizations and individuals promoting literacy through effective and innovative projects or programmes.
- Eligible programmes or projects should have a proven record of innovative work in the field of literacy for at least three years.
- The programmes/projects which have been awarded the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes in the past five years are not eligible.

APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS – TWO STAGES

In the first stage, an applicant is encouraged to contact the Government of the Member State, via the National Commission for UNESCO*, or an International Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) maintaining official relations with UNESCO** and working on the themes covered by the Prizes, to submit a completed submission form in English or French.

In the second stage, a Government, through its National Commission, and/or an International

NGO which receives one or more submission forms, will send up to **three** nominations for the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy, and up to **two** nominations for the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize to the Director-General of UNESCO through the Secretariat of the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes. The Government and/or the International NGO which received the submission form(s) will also inform the successful applicants of their endorsement.

SELECTION PROCESS

All eligible files submitted to UNESCO will be examined by an International Jury, composed of distinguished experts appointed by UNESCO's Director-General, which meets in Paris once a year. On the basis of its recommendations, the Director-General of UNESCO makes a final decision about Prizewinners. The Prizes are awarded each year at an official ceremony held for the purpose, on the occasion of the International Literacy Day (8 September).

UNESCO INTERNATIONAL LITERACY PRIZES SECRETARIAT

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Education Sector
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Learn more:

<http://en.unesco.org/themes/literacy/prizes>

* The list of the National Commissions for UNESCO is available at:
http://www.unesco.org/ncp/index.php?l=c=E&module=national_commissions&showall=1

** The list of International Non-Governmental Organizations maintaining official relations with UNESCO is available at:
<http://ngo-db.unesco.org/s/or/en>

HOW TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS:

- Kindly complete the submission form in English or French. The applicant can attach relevant supporting materials (e.g. reports, publications) of less than 100 pages in total. The form can be downloaded from the UNESCO website (<http://en.unesco.org/themes/literacy/prizes>). Alternatively, candidates can refer to the submission form enclosed with this guide.
- Please submit the completed form and supporting materials, if any, to an appropriate Government of a Member State via the National Commission for UNESCO* or to an International NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO** no later than **27 June 2016**.
- The applicants will be contacted about the result by the entity to which the form was submitted to. In case of a successful nomination, the applicant is invited to send any additional materials related to the programme (e.g. learning and teaching materials, photos, videos) directly to the Secretariat of the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes.
- In case the applicants have any difficulties reaching an appropriate entity to submit the form to or if they do not hear back from the entity to which the form was submitted, they should contact the Secretariat of the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes for further guidance.

INFORMATION FOR GOVERNMENTS (NATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR UNESCO) AND INTERNATIONAL NGOS:

- Kindly receive the submission forms from applicants and nominate up to three submissions for the UNESCO Confucius Prize for Literacy, and up to two submissions for the UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize.
- Please issue written recommendations for each of the files nominated. The written recommendation shall include, in English or French, *inter alia*: 1) a description of the nominee's background and achievements; 2) a summary of the work or the results of the work, publications and other supporting documents of major importance, submitted for consideration; and 3) a succinct evaluation of the nominee's contribution to the Prize's objectives.
- Kindly inform the applicants of the results and send each of the successful applicants a copy of the recommendation letters.
- Please submit either electronically (literacyprizes@unesco.org) or via regular mail the final nominations along with their written recommendations, including supporting materials, to the Secretariat of the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes for its transmission to the Director-General of UNESCO by **4 July 2016**.

All nominations should be sent to the Secretariat of the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes. Please note that self-nomination will not be taken into consideration, and that any submission form missing a written recommendation issued by a Government of a Member State, through the National Commission for UNESCO, or an International NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO, will not be accepted by the Secretariat of the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes.

DEADLINES FOR RECEPTION OF APPLICATIONS:

For candidates: **27 JUNE 2016**

For Governments of the Member States or International NGOs
maintaining official relations with UNESCO: **4 JULY 2016**



UNESCO International Literacy Prizes

The UNESCO International Literacy Prizes are:

With the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea

- **UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize (2 awards)**
Supporting the development and use of mother-tongue literacy education and training

*With the support of the Government of
the People's Republic of China*

- **UNESCO-Confucius Prize for Literacy (3 awards)**
*Supporting literacy serving rural adults and out-of-school youth,
particularly women and girls*

2016 will mark the 50th anniversary of International Literacy Day (8 September), during which the UNESCO International Literacy Prizes will be awarded. Every year, the Prizes are organized around a specific theme. This year's focus is on: **'Innovation in Literacy'**.

Candidatures should take into account this year's theme, 'Innovation in Literacy', while also considering the specificity of each Prize.

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Promoting excellence and innovation for a literate world