Fondazione Internazionale Balzan - “Premio”

As Chairman of the General Prize Committee, and on behalf of my Colleagues on the Committee, I have the honour of inviting you to submit the names of candidates you deem to be the most deserving of an award from the

2009 BALZAN PRIZES

There will be four Balzan Prizes of one million Swiss francs each in 2009. Half the Prize sum will be awarded to the Prize winner in recognition of his/her work, while the other half will be earmarked by the Prize winner for research projects (including instrumentation and dissemination) which should preferably involve young researchers or research groups. His/her proposal will be subject to the approval of the General Prize Committee. If requested by the Prize winner, one or more members of the General Prize Committee will advise him/her in the implementation of the proposal.

The General Prize Committee has decided to award the 2009 Balzan Prizes in the following subjects:

HISTORY OF SCIENCE
LITERATURE SINCE 1500
COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCES
SCIENCE OF NEW MATERIALS

Careful consideration will be given to all nominations. The nominations will be treated confidentially.

December 2008

Sergio Romano*
Chairman; Ambassador and historian

ENRIC BANDA
Research Professor of Geophysics at the Institute of Earth Sciences in Barcelona, Spanish Council for Scientific Research (CSIC); former Secretary General of the European Science Foundation in Strasbourg; President of Euroscience, Strasbourg

GIOVANNI BUSINO
Professor Emeritus at the University of Lausanne; Chief Editor of the “Revue européenne des sciences sociales”; Foreign Fellow of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome

NICOLA CARBIO
Professor of Physics at the University La Sapienza, Rome; Fellow of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome; President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences

HÉLÈNE CARRÈRE D’ENCAUSSE *
Permanent Secretary of the Académie française; Professor Emeritus of the University of Paris

MANNFRED EISEN *
1967 Nobel Prize for Chemistry

BENGT GUSTAFSSON **
Professor of Theoretical Astrophysics at the University of Uppsala; member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters; formerly Counsellor of the government of Sweden and member of the Swedish Science Research Council

JOHN RICHARD KRESS
Principal of Jesus College, Oxford; formerly Chairman of the UK Food Standards Agency; formerly Chief Executive of the Natural Environment Research Council, Swindon; formerly Royal Society Research Professor, University of Oxford; Fellow of the Royal Society, London

NICOLE LE DOUARIN
Member of the Institut de France, Honorary Permanent Secretary of the Académie des Sciences; Honorary Professor at the Collège de France

PER OLOF LINDBLAD *
Professor Emeritus of Astronomy at the Stockholm University; Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences

PAOLO MATHIAE
Professor of Archaeology and History of Art at the Ancient Near East at the University La Sapienza, Rome; Fellow of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome

M.E.H. NICOLETTE MDJ
Professor of Modern History and Professor of Central European Studies at the University of Leiden; Member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

GOTTFRIED SCHOLZ
Professor Emeritus of Music Analysis at the University of Music and Performing Arts, Vienna; Fellow of the Sudetendeutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften und Künste, Munich

DMITRY G. SHVIDKOVSKY
Rector of the Moscow Institute of Architecture; Vice-President of the Russian Academy of Fine Arts; Fellow of the Russian Academy of Architecture

QUENTIN SKINNER **
Barber Beaufort Professor of the Humanities, Queen Mary, University of London; Fellow of the British Academy and of Christ’s College Cambridge; Foreign Fellow of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome

WERNER STAUFFER
Professor Emeritus of Internal Medicine at the University of Basle; former President of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences, Basle

KARLHEINZ STEELE
Professor Emeritus of Romance Literature at the University of Constance; Member of the Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften; Corresponding Fellow of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, Paris

KEITH THOMAS *
Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford; formerly President of the British Academy and of Corpus Christi College, Oxford

JACQUES TITI *
Member of the Institut de France (Académie des Sciences); Honorary Professor at the Collège de France, Chair of Group Theory

MARC VAN MONTAGU
Professor Emeritus of Molecular Genetics at Ghent University; Chairman of the Institute of Plant Biotechnology for Developing Countries (IPBO), Ghent

SALVATORE VECCHIO
Professor of Political Philosophy and Vice-Chairman of the Institute for Advanced Study (IUSIS) of Pavia

LUIGI VILDAHBER
Former President of the European Court of Human Rights; Professor Emeritus of International, Constitutional and Comparative Law at the University of Basle

* in office until 31 December 2008
** in office after 1 January 2009
prot. n° 9183

December 2008

Sir / Madam,

Following the letter from the Chairman of the Balzan Foundation’s General Prize Committee, Ambassador Sergio Romano, we should be grateful if you would kindly forward supporting statements for each candidate you deem worthy of an award. In order to be valid, the nominations must be supported by the following documents:

- a statement of reasons for the nomination, including the mention of particularly important publications;
- a bibliography (including the above-mentioned publications, citing publisher and publication year, and adding translations of original titles should there be works translated into other languages) for candidates in the humanities;
- a detailed list of 10 to 20 of their most important publications (with full bibliographical citation) for candidates in the sciences;
- a curriculum vitae specifying present position, main academic activities, date and place of birth, nationality, residence and address;
- a recent photograph with indication of copyright if applicable.

Personal applications will not be considered.

Nominations must reach the General Prize Committee by March 15, 2009.

All of the above documentation should be addressed to the

General Prize Committee
Attention: Secretariat of the
International Balzan Foundation – “Prize”
P.tta U. Giordano, 4
I-20122 Milano, Italia

Best regards,

International Balzan Foundation – “Prize”

(Suzanne Werder)
Secretary General