

UNESCO education prizes

Since 1967 prizes and distinctions are awarded by international juries nominated by UNESCO to honour institutions, organizations or individuals having made particularly commendable and successful contributions to the fight against illiteracy, education for peace and human rights, educational research and innovation, the preparation of instructional materials and physical education and sport.

LITERACY

The following three prizes are awarded on 8 September every year in celebration of International Literacy Day.

- The International Reading Association Literacy Award, since 1979
 - established by the International Reading Association (IRA), an NGO whose Headquarters is in the United States of America,
 - \$15,000 annually.
- The Noma Prize, since 1980
 - named after the late Mr Soichi Noma, Japanese publisher and former President of Kodansha Limited, Tokyo Publishing House,
 - \$15,000 annually.
- The King Sejong Literacy Prize, since 1989
 - established by the Republic of Korea, in honour of King Sejong who, in 1443, invented a simplified phonetic alphabet which facilitated the spread of knowledge,
 - \$30,000 annually.

The following three prizes are no longer awarded.

- The Mohammed Reza Pahlavi Prize for Literacy, 1967-1978
 - created by the Government of Iran,
 - named after the Royal Host of the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy, Tehran, Iran, 1965.
- The Nadezhda K. Krupskaya Prize for Literacy, 1969-1991
 - created by the Government of the USSR,
 - named after the companion of Lenin, symbol of her country's struggle against illiteracy during the major literacy campaign conducted after the October Revolution.
- The Iraq Literacy Prize, 1980-1991
 - founded in 1980 by the Government of Iraq.

EDUCATION FOR PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- UNESCO Prize for the Teaching of Human Rights, since 1978
 - created by the Executive Board on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights,
 - honours an institution, an organization or an individual in recognition of outstanding work in developing human rights,
 - \$10,000 annually.
- UNESCO Prize for Children's and Young People's Literature in the service of Tolerance, from 1997
 - established in 1995 by the Santamaría/Ediciones Foundation in Spain,
 - two prizes, in recognition of the production of books for children, and books for adolescents, will be awarded for the first time in 1997 during the Bologna Children's Book Festival in Italy,
 - \$8,000 each biennially.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

- The Comenius Medal, since 1993
 - created jointly by the Czech Republic and UNESCO,
 - on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the birth of Jean Amos Comenius, 1592-1670, Czech humanist, writer and educator, author of the *Didactica Magna* (The Great Didactics) and *Orbis pictus*,
 - honours outstanding activities in the field of educational research and innovation of ten educators, groups of educators or educational institutions.

TEACHING MATERIALS

- The Kalinga Prize, since 1950
 - created by the late Mr Bojoyanand Patnaik, founder and President of the Kalinga Foundation Trust, India,
 - honours work in the popularization of science,
 - £1,000 annually.

- The Nessim Habib Prize, since 1962
 - a legacy from the late Mr Nessim Habib, 1887 (Turkey) 1960 (Switzerland)
 - honours the production of teaching materials, especially school textbooks, in developing countries,
 - amount varies according to interest earned by the legacy, biennially.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT

- The Pierre de Coubertin Fair Play Trophies, since 1963
 - awarded by the International Fair Play Committee, an NGO set up by the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSPE) and the International Association of Sports Journalists (IASJ),
 - in memory of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, 1863-1937, founder of the modern Olympic Games,
 - honours athletes and teams for exceptional sporting gestures,
 - awarded annually by the Director-General of UNESCO.

- Official UNESCO Award in Recognition of Distinguished Services to Physical Education and Sports for All, since 1985
 - created by the Executive Board,
 - awarded
 - 1) to an institution or body,
 - 2) to an individual having made an outstanding contribution to the development of sport for all in the spirit of the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport,
 - honorary diplomas awarded biennially.



1983 – Pierre de Coubertin International Fair Play Trophies awarded by the Director-General of UNESCO, in the presence of Jean Borotra, to Ismet Karababa, goal keeper with a Turkish football team, and Alexandre Medved, Soviet wrestler.