



Call for Applications - SozialMarie 2008

The *SozialMarie* prize will be awarded for the fourth time this year; it is an award for innovative social projects that wants to stay innovative itself. Beyond financial recognition the prize wants to put the award winning projects into public limelight. The invitation for submission and, even more, the choice of the winning projects and also the award ceremony do not happen according to political criteria. Nevertheless, they doubtlessly will emit political signals. Political, as well as scientific discourse about social innovation is to be stimulated.

Research projects dealing with *SozialMarie* under various aspects as well as additional events are to keep our prize alive. The “SozialMarie Cafés” organised in Innsbruck, Vienna and Graz in the autumn of 2007 were meant to get as clear a picture as possible of the need of support of submitting organisations and projects – so that innovative social projects can also be undertaken in future.

Invited to submit are ...

... all those who have through their projects achieved excellence in the social field. The projects must already have been tried and tested, and they must still be running.

We expect submission of projects from:

- civil society (socioeconomic initiatives, NGOs, NPOs, associations);
- public administration;
- private enterprises.

Submission of projects from Austria and bordering countries will be considered. For practical reasons, projects from outside Austria should not be more than 300km (as the crow flies) away from Vienna.

Submission Methods, Time Limit and Formalities

Submission is possible from 3rd of December 2007 onwards. All relevant documents for participation must reach the contact address by 15th of February 2008 at the very latest. Please submit the project itself and not the project institution.

The documents will first of all be reviewed to ensure that the criteria are satisfied. Open questions may be addressed at this stage by telephone or e-mail. Out of at most 35 pre-selected projects, the jury will then choose the 15 award winning projects. Out of these, six or seven projects will be visited on site. After this, the jury will in a final round choose the three top prizes.

For the first time in 2008 the list of all nominated projects will be published on our homepage.

Precondition for participation is an entry form completed in German or English that will arrive at Unruhe Private Foundation in time.

Criteria

In the evaluation and ranking of submitted projects the jury will award high marks according to the following criteria:

1. Innovation in Project Idea - Novelty

- Does the project embody a new social approach or offer new solutions?
- Is the project about new ways of looking at a social problem?
- Does the project take care of target groups that have previously been neglected?

2. Innovation in Accessing Target Groups - Involvement

- What is the concrete and enduring use of the project for the target group?
- Does the project further the potential of the target group?
- Does the project contribute to society's esteem for the target group?

3. Innovation in the Realisation of the Project - Effectiveness

- Does project realisation happen in an inventive, resourceful and creative way?
- Does the project change with changing needs?
- Is there cooperation between different disciplines / competencies / professional groups?

4. Innovation in Public Perception – Serving as an Example

- Is the project integrated into local and regional environments?
- Does the project foster dialogue / cooperation with other institutions / organisations?
- Have other organisations, media, sponsors, politicians been made curious?
- Have new paths been taken in dealing with the “Outside world”?

The criteria 1. Project Idea, 2. Target Group and 3. Realisation will have twice the weight of criterion 4. Innovation in Public Perception in the jury's decisions.

Members of the Jury

Univ.Doiz. Dr. Josef Hochgerner (Zentrum für Soziale Innovation), Helene Pumm (Erste Bank der österreichischen Sparkassen AG), OMR DSA Sepp Schmidt (Fonds Soziales Wien), DSA Marlies Sutterlüty (Fachhochschule Campus Wien) and Barbara van Melle (Freelance Journalist)

Coordination: Mag^a Petra Radeschnig.

Award ceremony

The official award ceremony will take place on 1 May 2008 in Radio Kulturhaus, Argentinierstraße 30a, 1040 Wien. Fifteen prizes will be awarded, the first endowed with €15,000, the second with €10,000 and the third with €5,000. There will be twelve further prizes of €1,000 each.

The Foundation

“Unruhe Privatstiftung” (Unruhe Private Foundation) awards the *SozialMarie* prize annually. The prize was first awarded on 1 May 2005. Unruhe Private Foundation was established according to Austrian private foundation law in the year 2000. Its aim is the promotion of science, the arts and of social innovation.

Contact

Entry forms can be downloaded online at: <http://sozialmarie.org/documents.php>

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