

# Nomination for Museum Horizon Prize 2014 of the Hans Manneby Memorial Fund

The Hans Manneby Memorial Fund has been created to promote museum development and to commemorate Manneby (1946-2008) former chair of Swedish ICOM, the International Council of Museums. His legacy can be summarized as "An empiricist's search for the comprehensive view".

## **The Work of Hans Manneby**

Hans Manneby was at the peak of a lengthy and eventful career in the museum field when his life was cut short. His death, at the early age of 62, meant that many of his plans had not been completed; notably his work on a comprehensive re-organization of the museums in the west of Sweden.

During the 1970s the system of County Museums was introduced which provided a platform for Hans Manneby's endeavours for many years. While he was still a student he alternated courses in archaeology, ethnology, sociology and history with various commissions in the cultural sphere. He received considerable inspiration and encouragement from the legendary Swedish archaeologist Carl-Axel Moberg while studying in Gothenburg.

In the years following graduation Hans Manneby held a number of posts in different parts of Sweden while also continuing to study. However, under the pressure of his professional duties in the museum field, in due course he abandoned his doctoral studies.

Hans Manneby combined visionary ideas with a pragmatic approach to change and development. To achieve clear results and give museums a prominent place in society was important to him. In what may well have been intended as the start of a more carefully considered policy declaration he wrote: "Theoretical and political statements about culture and reality have something in common. They often cease in mid-stride and remain hanging in the air. And so they seldom inspire or challenge us. Thus it is wiser for a hardened empiricist to seek his point of departure in what actually exists."

Hans Manneby certainly followed this advice with a large measure of curiosity about the overriding social contexts and perspectives, with faith in the important, international function of museums and with the mind-set of "never, ever giving up". Thus he still has something to say to everyone who wants to improve and develop museum operations.

The foundation has been approved by Swedish Authorities with the right to collect funds (*insamlingsfond* in Swedish) and is operating under the control and rules of Swedish Authorities.

## **Who can be nominated**

Anyone who has inspired or been inspired by international and national collaboration can be nominated. He/she must be working in or with the museum sector and can come from or live in any country in the world. A nominee must have worked and wish to work for museum development in the spirit of Hans Manneby: this can be summarized as "An empiricist's search for the comprehensive view". See more information under the section on "the foundation".

### **Criteria for the prize winner**

The purpose of the Prize is to celebrate efforts in innovative organizational and structural areas, forms of collaboration, methods of communication and non-conventional thinking. A prize winner should:

- seek to root museums in contemporary society by operating in close contacts with the world around and have a keen awareness of people's needs
- inspire, gather and disseminate experiences from international and national collaboration
- maintain a broad perspective on learning and develop the museums' interdisciplinary methodology
- show flexibility and quality in developing museum operations
- contribute to the development of staff and activities with a sense of commitment and enthusiasm, demonstrate richness of ideas and a non-conventional approach.

### **How to nominate**

- Elaborate on how the experience of your nominee relates to one or more of the Fund's criteria for the award
- indicate with specifics how you see your nominee fulfils the criteria above
- provide the name and email address, plus relevant websites of your nominee
- and send your nomination no later than 30th April 2014, email to **info@museumhorizon.se** or post to the Secretary of Hans Manneby Memorial Fund for Museum Development, see address below.

Email: **info@museumhorizon.se**

Address: **Hans Manneby Memorial Fund, c/o Elisabet Olofsson, Duvnäsgratan 1, 5th floor, SE-116 34 Stockholm, Sweden, Phone: + 46 70 49 52 913**

### **Presentation of the Prize**

The Prize 2014 will be presented on November 10, and the successful Prize recipient will be notified no later than August 1, 2014.

### **Previous Prize Winners**

2009, Paul Msemwa from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

2010, Teresa Morales, Unión de los Museos Comunitarios, Oaxaca, Mexico

2011, Elisabeth Cordova-LaO, Museo Sang Bata Sa Negros, the Philippines

2012, Stephen Inglis, Aanischaaukamikw Cree Cultural Institute, Oujé-Bougoumou, Canada

2013, Suad Amiry, Riwaq, Center for Architectural Conservation, Ramallah, Palestine

### **The Board**

President, Mr Bertil Falck, the Founder of Bok & Bibliotek, Gothenburg, Sweden

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