

# THE SYLVIA MICHEL PRIZE

Nominations are invited for the 2020 Sylvia Michel Prize for women’s leadership projects.

Overview

The Sylvia Michel Prize promotes and supports projects preparing women for leadership positions in Reformed churches worldwide. The prize of USD5000 is awarded every two years by the Reformed Cantonal Church of Argovia in Switzerland in cooperation with the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC). The jury consists of the women presidents of the Reformed Churches of Switzerland and WCRC’s Executive Secretary for Justice and Witness.

**The deadline for receiving entries is July 31, 2019.**

The prize was established to honour Sylvia Michel of the Reformed Church of Argovia who as first woman in Switzerland was to hold the position of president of a church. After completing her theological studies, Sylvia Michel was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in 1964. In 1980 she was elected as President of the Reformed Church of the Canton of Argovia and became the first woman in Europe to hold such a high-level position.

In thankful commemoration of her pioneer work and for the competence with which women sustain and lead churches, the Sylvia Michel Prize was launched in July 2007 by the Reformed Cantonal Church of Argovia in partnership with the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (now the World Communion of Reformed Churches).

**Eligibility**

Entries are accepted by the following:

* Women’s organisations within the church
* Women’s groups which work in partnership with men on advancing women and leadership
* Individuals including church workers (both lay and ordained)

The prize is awarded to a project already in progress which has one or several of the following goals:

* To promote education and awareness within and among churches on women’s equal rights and women’s capacity for leadership positions in the church
* To work for women’s equality leadership positions in Reformed churches worldwide
* To build capacity of women through training and mentorship
* To be engaged in action-oriented research on women and leadership in the church with the aim of advancing the situation of women in leadership
* To build partnership of women and men in church leadership

The entry form (below) must be completed and submitted with a budget for the project and official endorsement by the church.

**Contact information:**

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Gender Desk

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**THE SYLVIA MICHEL-PRIZE**

**ENTRY FORM**

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1. **For the nomination of a candidate for the Sylvia Michel Prize we require the following information:**

Name:

First name:

Middle name(s) if any

Address:

Telephone:

Email address:

A short description of the candidate’s accomplishments which would qualify her for the prize. On a separate sheet of paper please provide a detailed curriculum vitae and enumerate the candidate’s achievements which would make her eligible to be chosen for the prize.

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**2. In case a project is to be nominated for the Sylvia Michel Prize please provide the following information:**

Title of the project:

A short description of the project:

Person in charge of the project:

Address:

Telephone:

Email address:

On a separate sheet of paper please provide the following information:

A description of the project

The project’s aims and goals

The project’s organization and structure

How the project operates or functions

Results or accomplishments achieved

Costs and expenses involved

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**3. For consideration of a person or a project we also need to have information regarding the church affiliation of the candidate or the Church to which the project is connected, particularly the role or position of women in this church.**

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**4. In case the person or the project is nominated by a third party, we need the following information regarding the person who is setting up the nomination:**

Name:

First name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

**5. Has financial support from any ecumenical organizations been received during the past five years? If so, please indicate the donor and the amount.**

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**6. Please give the name of an official of your church or institution who can provide a reference:**

Name:

First name:

Official title or position:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Best method for contacting this official:

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**7. Should the prize be awarded, you will be expected to submit a report, substantiated by a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the funds and a financial statement listing all expenditures.**

Mail address:

Name:

Street and house number:

City:

Postal code:

Country:

Date: Signature:

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**Please send your completed nomination by mail or electronically no later than**

**July 31, 2019.**

address:

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