**THE SYLVIA MICHEL PRIZE**

The Sylvia Michel Prize promotes and supports projects preparing women for leadership positions in Reformed churches worldwide. The prize of USD5000 is awarded normally every two years by the PanKS (women president and vicepresident of Churches 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, Justice and Partnership.

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 PanKS and the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (now the World Communion of Reformed Churches).

**Applications for the Sylvia Michel Prize 2022 for women's leadership projects can now be submitted.**

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 application form (below) must be completed and submitted with a budget of the project and official endorsement by the church.

**The deadline for receiving entries is January 31, 2022.**

Contact for information:

Claudia Bandixen

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**THE SYLVIA MICHEL-PRIZE**

**APPLICATION FORM**

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

Name:

First name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email address:

A brief description of the candidate's performance.

Please enclose a detailed curriculum vitae on a separate paper.

**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
* Results or accomplishments achieved
* Costs and expenses involved

**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.**

**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.**

**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:

**7. After receiving the award, the winner should submit a report on the use of the funds.**

Date and Place: Signature:

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**Please send your completed nomination by mail or electronically no later than End of January 31, 2022 to:**

Evangelisch-reformierte Kirche Schweiz

SMP / Bettina Beer

Sulgenauweg 26

Postfach

CH-3001 Bern

Switzerland

E-Mail: [bettina.beer-aebi@evref.ch](mailto:bettina.beer-aebi@evref.ch)