



GLOBAL  
CENTRE FOR  
PLURALISM

CENTRE  
MONDIAL DU  
PLURALISME

GLOBAL  
PLURALISM AWARD

## 2021 Award Submission Guidelines



**Cover Image:** 2019 Global Pluralism Award Winner,  
Deborah Ahenkorah; ©Connie Tsang

## 2021 Award Submission Guidelines

**The Global Pluralism Award** (“the Award”) celebrates and supports efforts and achievements that advance pluralism. The Award is given every two years to individuals, organizations, government bodies and private sector actors, from any country, that demonstrate exceptional and sustained achievement in building more inclusive societies in which human diversity is protected and valued.

The Award is a program of the Global Centre for Pluralism (“the Centre”). Founded in Ottawa, Canada by His Highness the Aga Khan in partnership with the Government of Canada, the Centre is an independent, not-for-profit organization that serves as a global platform for comparative analysis, education and dialogue about the choices and actions that advance and sustain pluralism.

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## The Award

Three Award winners will share a total prize pool of CAD \$150,000. The monetary prize will be equally divided among the three Award winners (CAD \$50,000 each).<sup>1</sup>

In late 2021, each of the three Award winners and up to seven honourable mention recipients, or their delegates, will be invited to the Award ceremony.

In addition to the financial Award, the Centre will work with Award winners to develop a program of in-kind support and engagement in 2022. This may include communications support, opportunities to engage in the research and educational activities of the Centre, residency/internships at the Centre, inclusion in the Centre's pluralism education and training initiatives, etc.

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<sup>1</sup> See Terms and Conditions



**Above:** *The Award sculpture designed by the late Karl Schlamming*  
Photo: ©Patrick Doyle



## Eligibility Criteria

**Candidates from any country are eligible, including:**

- Individuals (e.g., artists, journalists, academics, policy-makers, filmmakers, etc.);
- Civil society organizations (e.g., professional associations, faith-based organizations, labour unions, non-profit research or educational institutions, local community groups, non-governmental organizations, foundations, think tanks, etc);
- Social enterprises;
- Corporations (public or private);
- Educational, research and policy institutions (public or private);
- Local/municipal, regional or federal/national branches or agencies of government.

**Candidates must meet the following requirements:**

- Candidates must be living. The Award cannot be given posthumously.
- Candidates for the 2021 Award must not have submitted an application consecutively in both of the last two Award cycles (2017 and 2019 Award).
- Candidates must not have previously received the Global Pluralism Award or an honourable mention.
- Candidates must not be an agency, employee or institutional project of any of the Centre's founding partners, namely the Government of Canada and the Aga Khan Development Network. Partner or grantee organizations of the aforementioned, however, are eligible to apply.
- Candidates must not be members of the Jury, the Centre's Board or staff, a Centre's Director emeritus, former juror or a consultant receiving remuneration from the Centre at the time of nomination. Close relations and organizations owned or operated by members of the Jury, the Centre's Board members, Centre's Director Emeriti, former jurors and staff are also ineligible.
- Candidates for the Award must not have been found guilty of committing violent crimes, terrorism, or other criminal activities; or have publicly held extremist views.

## Selection Criteria

An independent international Jury of experts will evaluate submissions using the following criteria:



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### Relevance to pluralism

Candidates need to demonstrate an exceptional and sustained contribution to pluralism. The Centre defines pluralism as an ethic of respect for human differences. Pluralism is a positive response to diversity, grounded in mutual recognition and respect. Pluralism results from the daily decisions taken by state institutions, civil society organizations and individuals to recognize and value human differences. Belonging is the goal of pluralism. In pluralist societies, choices are made to ensure the full participation of all people in political, economic and socio-cultural life. Every person becomes a valued member of society—regardless of gender, sexual orientation, nationality, ability, racial, ethnic, religious or cultural differences.

Inclusive societies are promoted by a wide range of actors from multiple disciplines including, but not limited to, legal reform, human rights, democracy promotion, social cohesion, education, ethnic relations, conflict resolution, peacebuilding, migration and integration, media, arts and culture, etc.

To learn about the 2017 and 2019 Award winners and honourable mentions, please visit our website at: [award.pluralism.ca](https://award.pluralism.ca).



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## Impact

When measuring impact, the Award Jury will focus on the direct results of an individual's or organization's activities. The candidate's actions, initiative or approach must demonstrate:

- A clear, logical connection to pluralism outcomes.
- Progress to improve the inclusion of diverse individuals or groups in the economy, society, culture, politics, health services, education sector, and so on.
- A high likelihood of long-term sustainability.



©Wapikoni

## Authenticity

Candidates must demonstrate that, through their activities, they have committed in an exceptional and sustained way to the inclusion of diverse individuals in the economy, society, culture, politics, health services, education sector, and so on.

- If applying as an institution, candidates must have adopted equality and diversity policies and practices as reflected in their human resource policies, composition of their staff, membership and activities.
- If applying as individuals, candidates must have defended and supported pluralism principles in their professional and personal lives.

## Timeline

### 2020

### 2021

#### June 30, 2020

**Submission process closes**  
Submissions will be accepted until 5:00 pm Eastern Time.

#### July–December 2020

**Submission processing and initial screening**  
The Centre's Secretariat processes and screens the submissions received. Some candidates may be required to provide additional documentation.

#### February 2021

**Jury meeting**  
An independent international Jury of experts reviews submissions and selects a shortlist. Unsuccessful candidates are notified.

#### March–May 2021

**Site visits to shortlisted candidates**  
As part of the due diligence process, the Centre may visit some of the shortlisted candidates in person. The scope, date and length of the visit will be agreed with candidates beforehand.

#### June 2021

**Final Jury decision**  
Award winners and honourable mention recipients are selected and notified.

#### September 2021

**Public announcement of Award winners**  
Awareness-raising and in-country press conferences follow.

#### Late 2021

**Award ceremony**  
The Award is presented.

## Submission Process

### Submission by NOMINATOR



### Submission by CANDIDATE



**Submissions are accepted from nominators or from candidates directly.**

Consideration by the Jury will not depend on the type of submission.

The Centre regrets that only submissions in English and French are accepted, as these are the only common languages among members of the Jury.

The submission process opens on March 3rd, 2020 and closes on June 30th, 2020 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time.

**All submissions must be completed and submitted online at:**

[award.pluralism.ca](https://award.pluralism.ca)

#### STEP 1:

The nominator provides basic information about themselves and the candidate. One nominator can nominate multiple candidates.

#### STEP 2:

The Centre notifies the candidate of their nomination. The candidate completes the “**Candidate Form**”.

#### STEP 3:

The candidate is responsible for submitting the completed form before the deadline of June 30th, 2020 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time.

#### STEP 4:

Both nominator and candidate receive a confirmation email.

#### STEP 1:

The candidate creates an online profile and completes the “**Candidate Form**”.

#### STEP 2:

The candidate is responsible for submitting the completed form before the deadline of June 30th, 2020 at 5:00 pm Eastern Time.

#### STEP 3:

The candidate receives a confirmation email.



## Terms & Conditions

All personal data provided to the Global Centre for Pluralism (the Centre) will be kept confidential. By completing a submission, candidates agree to the publication of his/her name, the name of the participating organization, its address and other submitted materials on the Centre's and the Award's websites and any media now existing or subsequently developed, for any Centre's purpose. Candidates grant the Centre the right to disseminate the products of the Award grant through awareness-building and educational activities in Canada and globally.

Three Award winners and up to seven honourable mention recipients will be invited to attend our Award ceremony in late 2021. All costs, including economy airfare, accommodation and daily allowance will be covered for each of the three Award winners and honourable mention recipients or their delegate.

Award winners will receive a CAD \$50,000 cash prize. In order to receive the cash award, Award winners must be willing and able to enter into a contractual agreement with the Centre, in line with Canada Revenue Agency policies governing charities and the Income Tax Act. Award funds must be used for charitable activities. Further documentation, including a budget and proof of legal status in the country of residency/operation may be required.

The Centre reserves the right to not select any candidates, or to cancel the Award for any reason at any time. The Centre accepts no liability for cancelling the Award or for anyone's failure to receive actual notification of cancellation.