

## Nomination

I am writing to nominate the World Food Prize Foundation of Des Moines for the 2006 Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize.

I believe the World Food Prize Foundation, its Founder and the World Food Prize Laureates deserve this recognition for twenty years of inspiring Nobel-like breakthrough achievements in increasing food in the world, reducing hunger, and elevating the economic status of women, as well as for the Foundation's cutting-edge symposia and innovative international youth programs, which provides one of the most exceptional opportunities in America for high school age young women to become directly involved in science and the issues central to relieving humanitarian crises.

The World Food Prize Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, which has been legally established for more than five years. It has not received any funding from the Conrad Hilton Foundation. I have direct knowledge about the organization's achievements from serving as the Honorary Chair for its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 2001, as well as from attending many World Food Prize events.

### Background

The World Food Prize was the inspiration of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate acclaimed as the "Father of the Green Revolution" for his extraordinary achievements in dramatically raising crop yields in Mexico in the 1950s and in India and Pakistan as those two countries faced pandemic famine in the 1960s.

When the Nobel Committee advised Dr. Borlaug that it could not accede to his suggestion that a new Nobel Prize be established for food and agriculture, Dr. Borlaug established the World Food Prize in 1986 to serve the same purpose as the Nobel Prize in encouraging breakthrough achievements in relieving human suffering. When the original sponsor dropped out in 1990, John Ruan of Des Moines stepped forward to endow the Prize and ensure its survival. Both Dr. Borlaug and John Ruan were born in 1914 in small towns in Iowa, making them 76 years old when they began their partnership.

### Extraordinary Contributions Toward Alleviating Human Suffering

It is said that Dr. Borlaug and the World Food Prize Laureates probably represent more life-saving achievement than any other organization in history.

Norman Borlaug is credited with saving as many as a billion lives through his agricultural innovations, which spread throughout the Middle East (in wheat) and Southeast Asia (in rice). It was written in the *Atlantic Monthly* that he "has saved more lives than any other human being who has ever lived."

Without doubt, the past 50 years constitute the single greatest period in history in terms of increased food production and reduction of human hunger and malnutrition. While many, many

individuals and organizations helped produce this great achievement, the 24 World Food Prize Laureates are comparable to an “All-Star Team,” those individuals who have led the way in this historic endeavor, surpassing almost any other, to alleviate human suffering.

From the development of hybrid rice to the provision of urgently needed emergency food deliveries, from promoting low-cost nutritional supplements for infants to effecting dramatic change in agricultural policy, the World Food Prize Laureates have together saved hundreds of millions of people from hunger, malnutrition, and death.

Over the past 19 years, Laureates have come from a variety of places around the world, including Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Denmark, India, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the United Nations, and they have an amazing record of humanitarian achievement:

- Muhammad Yunus of Bangladesh (1994) worked in remote villages to establish microcredit facilities that provide opportunities for large numbers of women to enhance their economic and social standing, and for families to enjoy better access to food and improved nutrition;
- Catherine Bertini of the United Nations was honored in 2003 for her innovation in delivering humanitarian food aid through women to better ensure that such aid reaches those in most need, as well as for making the UN World Food Programme the single most effective program anywhere around the globe in bringing urgently needed food to desperately hungry people, no matter how remote or dangerous the location;
- Monty Jones of Sierra Leone received “The Prize” in 2004 for developing New Rice for Africa (NERICA), granting him the highest award ever accorded a scientist from south of the Sahara and making him an inspiration to young African scientists;
- Evangelina Villegas of Mexico (2000) developed breakthrough Quality Protein Maize to counter severe malnutrition and kwashiorkor in West Africa – the first female Laureate, Dr. Villegas has given and continues to give great encouragement to young women to embark on careers in science;
- Pedro Sanchez’s 2002 receiving of “The Prize” for his innovative agroforestry achievements in East Africa represents the highest scientific honor ever conferred upon a native of Cuba;
- Modadugu Gupta of India (2005) was honored for bringing aquaculture – the farming of fish – to over one million “poorest of the poor” families in Laos and Cambodia, and for involving hundreds of thousands of women in fish farming in Bangladesh.

### Established Record of Achievement

While each Laureate made her or his achievement while serving in another organization, within the World Food Prize structure they are able to be recognized together for their combined historic attainment and to influence policies into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In 2000, eleven Laureates held a press conference to bring focus to the critical issues affecting developing countries. In 2001, they issued a common World Food Prize Declaration at the World Food Summit in Rome. In 2004, the Des Moines Declaration was signed by over two dozen Laureates and World Food Prize Council of Advisors members from 15 countries.

In addition, and perhaps of greater significance to the many hungry, poorly nourished, and disenfranchised people around the globe, the World Food Prize has granted the Laureates a platform from which to draw greater attention to their often overlooked work. The \$250,000 dollar award of the World Food Prize has similarly given them the means to support a variety of ongoing efforts to fight starvation, malnutrition, and poverty.

- 1987 Laureate M.S. Swaminathan of India used his award to create the Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai, India, where global experts and citizens of impoverished areas collaborate in areas such as biotechnology, coastal biodiversity, self-sustaining rural technology and Internet access, and community-based education. The Foundation was a leader in coordinating responses to the 2004 Tsunami and has since initiated dialogue on mitigating the impact of future natural disasters.
- Several Laureates, including John Niederhauser (1990) and Henry Beachell (1996) of the United States, established funds to support education and research in plant pathology, genetics, and improved agricultural practices in developing countries.
- 1995 Laureate Hans Herren of Switzerland formed BioVision, an organization that funds scientifically based sustainable development projects in sub-Saharan Africa.
- 1998 Laureate B.R. Barwale donated the money from his prize to the Mahyco Research Foundation's fight against the hunger and chronic illness that face many as India's population grows.
- Catherine Bertini gave her award money to the World Food Programme to support educational opportunities for girls and women in developing countries.
- Pedro Sanchez established a Tropical Agriculture Fund to support village-level projects as part of the global effort to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals.
- Muhammad Yunus, Monty Jones, and Modadugu Gupta all invested their monetary winnings in programs in Asia and Africa that enlist the world's poorest and least empowered citizens in improving education, food production and distribution, and finance in poverty-stricken areas.

In these and other ways, the World Food Prize continues to spread the Laureates' already remarkable achievements around the world, where the millions of men, women, and children most dramatically in need can be touched by the Laureates' humanitarian legacy.

### Innovation in Program Design

Each October, the World Food Prize is presented in Des Moines, Iowa, as part of a week-long series of events designed to be one of the most significant observances of United Nations World Food Day anywhere around the globe. In addition to the ceremony at which the World Food Prize is presented, an International Symposium is held on a cutting-edge topic in global food security, and an innovative youth program takes place. These programs are directed by the World Food Prize Foundation staff.

Under the guidance and direction of Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, President of the World Food Prize Foundation, in the last six years, the International Symposium has consistently addressed a variety of critical issues, helping to give them a sharper focus and greater attention than was currently being paid to them.

For example, in 2000, the Symposium focused on the role of biotechnology in feeding very poor developing countries. Up to that time, the international debate about biotechnology had focused almost exclusively on environmental issues of concern in Europe. The World Food Prize brought together Prof. Chen Zhiang-Liang, the head of the National Genetics Laboratory in China; Dr. Florence Wambugu and Dr. Usha Barwale, two leading women research scientists from Africa and India; Dr. Karl-Heinze Funke, the Minister of Agriculture of Germany; and Dr. Ingo Potrykus, the Swiss scientist working to perfect genetically enhanced golden rice. Ambassador Quinn organized a dialogue and debate on the potential for biotechnology to feed people and save lives in poor and developing countries.

A year later, the conference held in October 2001 focused on the potential for agroterrorism, which Ambassador Quinn had put on the agenda six months before the tragic events of 9/11. In addition, the Symposium was once again providing leadership by introducing the question of the impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa on food production, again a subject that had previously received scant attention until Ambassador Quinn proposed it for deeper consideration.

The Symposium has played a similarly leading role in subsequent years, focusing in 2002 on Global Water Insecurity (which brought Israeli, Palestinian, Egyptian, and Arab scientists together in Des Moines); Building Alliances Against Hunger (which in 2003 brought those concerned with hunger in America together with international development experts); and, in 2005, Confronting the Dual Global Challenge of Malnutrition and Obesity, which one US government health expert noted was the first time experts from those two fields were ever brought together for a common discussion of these two crucial problems in nutrition.

Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, special advisor to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, told Ambassador Quinn that a number of the ideas at the heart of the Millennium Development Goals received an early start in discussions at World Food Prize symposia. Moreover, two Laureates, Dr. Swaminathan and Dr. Sanchez, led the UN Hunger Task Force in identifying the most urgent needs, as well as the most promising approaches, in reducing by half world hunger and poverty by 2015 as part of attaining the Millennium Development Goals.

#### Innovative Youth Programs – Encouraging Young Women in Science

One of the most innovative programs of the World Food Prize is its Youth Institute and Borlaug-Ruan Internships. As part of the World Food Prize celebration each October, the organization brings approximately 100 high-school students and their teachers to the Symposium. They are given the opportunity to sit next to Laureates as they listen to presentations by global experts.

In conjunction with the Symposium, they have their own day-long session with Dr. Borlaug and all of the World Food Prize Laureates. During this time, each student presents a paper on the Symposium topic and receives personal feedback from Dr. Borlaug, the Laureates, and other experts who are serving on the “faculty.” In recent years, students attended not only from schools in Iowa but also from surrounding states, international schools in New York and Washington, and from Nigeria, Brazil, Canada, the Netherlands, Ukraine, Venezuela, and Mexico.

Following the Youth Institute, participating students are given the opportunity to compete for an eight-week summer internship at a leading agricultural research center in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Since its inception eight years ago, more than 75 high school students have worked side by side with renowned international researchers in Ethiopia, Kenya, India, Trinidad, Malaysia, Philippines, China, Thailand, Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Costa Rica, and Egypt. While the program is open to both males and females, young women have been the stars and have gone on to do remarkable things. Three young women interns are now studying at Harvard. Another was an Intel Science Search National Finalist. Several are on full scholarships in research programs at leading universities. Virtually all have a changed life focus with the goal that their future work will be part of addressing the greatest need of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, reducing hunger and human suffering. Dr. Borlaug says he sees these young students as his greatest legacy.

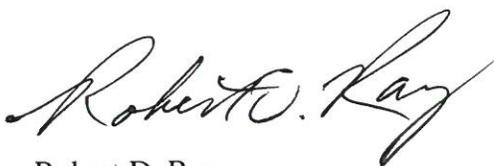
### Long-Term Impact

The World Food Prize Foundation carries out all these programs with a small (six full-time members) but exceptionally dedicated staff who demonstrate organizational capacity and administrative efficiency far beyond their numbers. Dr. Saul Arlosoroff, Chairman of the Israeli Water Engineers Association, said, "During the past 45 years, I have never participated in a symposium or conference that could match your organization and the quality of presentations." Dr. D.J. Chandler of the University of South Florida said, "The World Food Prize International Symposium was the single most influential event in my intellectual life."

Given the financial commitment of the John Ruan family and the John Ruan Trust, the World Food Prize will have a long-term impact through its continued recognition of breakthrough achievements and its inspiration of the next generation of scientists, particularly women and those native to developing countries, to achieve further Nobel-like accomplishments.

Taken together, the extraordinary achievements of Dr. Norman E. Borlaug and the World Food Prize Laureates are unrivaled in alleviating human suffering. The cutting-edge International Symposium topics and innovative youth programs continue to add to the World Food Prize's distinguished record.

In 2006, the tenth anniversary year of the Conrad Hilton Humanitarian Prize and the Twentieth Anniversary of the World Food Prize, it would be particularly appropriate to recognize the impact and accomplishments of the World Food Prize and its Founder and Laureates, those persons whose humanitarian contribution is that together, they have saved more lives than any other group in all history.



Robert D. Ray  
Governor of Iowa, 1969-1983

**NOMINATING GUIDELINES**  
**FOR THE**  
**2006 CONRAD N. HILTON HUMANITARIAN PRIZE**



*The Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize—now at \$1.5 million (U.S.)—is awarded annually to an organization making extraordinary contributions toward alleviating human suffering anywhere in the world.*

*Nominations are sought from throughout the international community and will close NOVEMBER 7, 2005. An independent international panel of jurors will make the final selection; the award recipient will be announced in the fall of 2006.*

## 2006 CONRAD N. HILTON HUMANITARIAN PRIZE

### **NOMINEE ELIGIBILITY**

- Nominees must be organizations, not individuals.
- Nominees must be established, non-governmental, publicly supported charitable organizations. U.S. Internal Revenue Service tax-exempt status—or the equivalent for international organizations—will determine eligibility. (International nominees will be contacted by the Foundation for appropriate documentation.)
- Nominees must be legally established for at least five years (established prior to 2001) in order to be considered.
- An organization that has received major funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation is ineligible for nomination.

### **NOMINATOR QUALIFICATIONS**

- The Nominator should have direct knowledge of the nominated organization's work.
- The Nominator may not be an officer or employee—or any other individual receiving remuneration for their services from the nominated organization. Board members may nominate providing they receive no payment for their service.
- The Nominator may not be a family member of an officer or employee of the nominated organization.

### **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Since the Prize is not a grant, nomination material should emphasize the organization's accomplishments rather than future goals. Both historic and recent performance should be addressed. Following are suggested criteria to consider in describing your Nominee's work:

- **Extraordinary contributions toward alleviating human suffering**
- **Established record of achievement**
- **Innovation in program design**
- **Organizational capacity and administrative efficiency**
- **Demonstration of long-term impact**

## **NOMINATION PROCESS**

- 1) The enclosed **Identification Sheet** must be completed, signed by the nominator, and returned. If the identification sheet is submitted via e-mail, a copy must also be sent via facsimile or mail as the signature of the nominator must be on file.
- 2) A personal **Nominating Letter in English**, not to exceed five typed pages, should cite the reasons the Nominee deserves to be awarded the Hilton Humanitarian Prize. Please include or ask your nominating organization to send an annual report or brochure and the latest financial statement (in U.S. dollars). Please do not submit any additional materials such as videos, original photographs, or books, as they cannot be returned. All materials submitted must be in English.
- 3) Multiple nominations are not encouraged, although more than one person can sign a nomination letter. If more than one nomination is submitted for an organization, the first one received will be the nomination of record. All other nominations will be registered as letters of support; however, no more than three letters of support will be recorded.
- 4) Once the nomination has been received, the Hilton Foundation may require additional support material from the Nominee. The Foundation will contact the Nominee directly for this information.
- 5) Please note that any attempted contact with the Hilton Prize jurors about the nomination may disqualify a Nominee.
- 6) Questions about nomination requirements may be directed to the Prize department, via e-mail at [Prize@hiltonfoundation.org](mailto:Prize@hiltonfoundation.org), telephone 310-556-4694, or facsimile 310-556-8130.

### **NOMINATIONS WILL CLOSE NOVEMBER 7, 2005**

***All nominations must be received by the Prize office or postmarked by this date.***

Send the **Nominating Letter** and the **Identification Sheet** by mail, fax, or e-mail to:

Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize  
10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 1000  
Los Angeles, CA 90067-4011  
U.S.A.

Telephone: 310-556-4694  
Facsimile: 310-556-8130 or 310-556-2301  
E-mail: [Prize@HiltonFoundation.org](mailto:Prize@HiltonFoundation.org)

2006

Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize  
IDENTIFICATION SHEET

(Please type or print)

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominated Organization: THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE Foundation

Director of Nominated Organization: (circle one) Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. / Dr. / Other AMBASSADOR

Given/First Name: KENNETH Middle Initial: M Family/Last Name: QUINN

Title at Organization: (such as CEO, President, Executive Director) PRESIDENT

Address: 666 GRAND AVE., Suite 1700

DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

City: DES MOINES State/Province: IOWA

Postal Code: 50309 Country: USA

Telephone: 515-245-3783 Fax: 515-245-3785

E-mail address: WFP@WORLDFOODPRIZE.ORG Website address: WWW.WORLDFOODPRIZE.ORG

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Nominator: (circle one) Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. / Dr. / Other HONORABLE

Given/First Name: Robert Middle Initial: D Family/Last Name: RAY

Title: FORMER GOVERNOR OF IOWA

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: (please indicate home or business) 300 WALNUT STREET - business

Suite 1308

City: DES MOINES State/Province: IOWA

Postal Code: 50309 Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: 515-244-7115 Fax: 515-246-1587

E-mail address: RDRAYDM@AOL.COM

Relationship of Nominator to Nominated Organization: HONORARY CHAIR 15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
2001

How did you learn about the Prize: MAILED Brochure from Judy Miller

(Please refer to specific name of website, publication, media outlet, individual, etc.)

Signature of Nominator: Robert D. Ray