An association dedicated to the influence of African and Afro-descendant writers

## PRESS KIT

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## **PRESENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

**The CENE literary is a** non-profit association founded on <sup>1</sup> July 2015 by Mrs Flore Agnès NDA ZOA MEILTZ and registered in the commercial register of the Canton of Vaud under number CHE-256.373.796.

The headquarters of The CENE literary is in Ecublens, Switzerland. The project was born in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

Any interested person can become a member of the CENE literary. The membership fee is set at CHF 50 (annual) for residents of European Union member countries, Canada, the United States of America, Japan and Australia, and CHF 10 (annual) for residents of other countries.

**Financing our activities: The CENE literary** is financed by its founder, but it is entitled to appeal to the generosity of the public in the form of donations, legacies and sponsorships.



## ROLE OF THE COMMUNION: A PROJECT WITH 3 OBJECTIVES

The CENE Literary has set itself 3 objectives in its statutes:

**1. Promote the reading of the** works of African and Afro-descendant writers engaged in a political, economic, philosophical, historical or societal cause.

2. Work to promote the media and popularize their struggles and news.



**3.** Provide financial and legal **support for the** work of African writers and Afrodescendants who request it.

## **CONCRETE ACTIONS**

They are:

- > A literary prize: the LES AFRIQUES Prize
- > A literary residency
- > Financial assistance
- > Literary cafés
- > The active promotion of books through different communication networks



#### **AFRICAN PRICES**

## Presentation

Since 2016, the AFRICA AWARD has been awarded each year to an African or Afrodescendant writer who has written a fiction highlighting a human, societal, ideological, political, cultural, economic or historical cause related to Africa or its diaspora.

The AFRICA AWARDS also aims to give additional visibility to African and Afro-descendant authors living in Africa or in the Diaspora (Americas, Europe, Caribbean, Asia, Pacific, etc.).

#### Endowment

The AFRICA PRICE is:

- > an amount of CHF 6000.00.
- > a work of art worth CHF 3000.

> full payment of the travel and accommodation expenses of the winner at the time of the award ceremony.

> the purchase of 100 copies of the winning book.



#### **Conditions of participation**

Participation in the PRIZE is open to published authors (according to points 3.1 and 4.2 of its regulations), on behalf of a publisher, for one book per author and per session, written or translated into French and published in the year preceding that in which the results were announced.

The content of the proposed works must meet the following substantive criteria:

- Emphasis on reflection, even polemical, on a historical, political, economic, philosophical or social subject concerning an African or diasporic cause and respecting the African tradition of humanism and the struggle for freedom and self-assertion.
- Enhancement and consolidation of African or Afro-descendant cultures.
- Contribution of an innovative and original element in the approach of the subject treated.
- Particular emphasis will be placed on the role of specific actors such as women, young people, the elderly and migrants.



#### Pre-selection process: the Reading Committee

Books intended for competition are submitted to a Reading Committee composed of about ten people (writers, bloggers, experienced readers) selected each year by the organizer, including a president. The members of the committee represent, as far as possible, the values conveyed by La CENE Literary.

#### Winner: the jury

The five books chosen by the members of the Reading Committee are submitted to a jury composed of six people (writers, critics, columnists or bloggers, experienced readers) including a president. They represent, as far as possible, the values conveyed by La CENE Literary and position themselves as figures of commitment in literature. The Jury decides on the winner.

#### Annual calendar of the Prize

The deadline for submitting the application for pre-selection is 31 December preceding the year of the announcement of the results, by electronic means. The result is announced in June.

The presentation of the Les Afriques PRIZE is organised as part of a cultural event. It takes place in the presence of the Organiser, the winning author, readers, partners, media and other invited guests. It takes place in June.



Kei MILLER (Jamaica) PRIZE winner for Africa 2018

## THE LITERARY RESIDENCE

#### Presentation

Since 2018, La CENE Literary has been offering a literary creation residency: **the Résidence Les Afriques**. It hosts writers in Yaoundé, Cameroon, for a period of two to five months.

#### **Conditions of eligibility**

The applicant author should preferably reside in Africa and submit an application package that will include:

- a. A summary of his background and biography
- b. An identity document
- c. A letter of motivation indicating the nature of the literary project and the interest in carrying it out in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

#### **Selection process**

A commission of experts chaired by Mrs. Flore Agnès NDA ZOA MEILTZ decides on the cases.

#### Endowment

The beneficiary of the residence receives:

- a. an allowance of 1,500 euros gross per month;
- b. the payment of travel expenses to Cameroon;
- c. the provision of an individual vehicle and a driver in Cameroon;
- d. breakfast, lunch and dinner are provided by the residence's cook.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

#### Presentation

The CENE literary intends to encourage literary projects by granting financial aid of a variable amount.

#### **Conditions of participation**

Requests for financial assistance are sent to the association with a complete file containing the following elements:

- A letter of motivation
- The detailed description of the cultural project
- The list of the main persons in charge of the project accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae for each of them
- A description of the projects previously carried out
- The provisional budget
- The detailed financing plan

## LITERARY READINGS

In order to encourage exchanges between readers and writers or simply to debate freely about a work, the CENE regularly organizes literary meetings. Thus, in this context, the CENE takes care of:

- to invite writers in the presence of a panel of readers and an audience,
- to organize radio discussions around the work of one or more writers.

In order to carry out these meetings successfully, the CENE literary covers all the financial and logistical costs related to the travel of the artists and the entertainment of the cafés. She also purchases about thirty copies of the books presented by the guest writer.



# THE MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE ASSOCIATION AND THE PROMOTION OF BOOKS

**CENE** is present on the Internet and on social networks, which allow it to give a very wide visibility to the authors whose works it promotes.

#### ⇒ The CENE website: <u>www.cene.lacenelitteraire.com</u>

Our site is designed as an "interactive platform" on which everyone can interact with the members of the editorial staff and contribute to enriching the site's content.

The proposed themes are varied:

- Future literary prizes, residencies and financial support, including the call for nominations for the "CENE Prize for Literary Engagement".
- Appointments proposed by the Association.
- Radio chronicles in partnership with Radio Africa N°1
- Reading notes submitted by members of the association or any other interested person.
- The current events of the book and the CENE literary



#### ⇒ On social networks:

We have developed a strong and extremely active community on the main social networks, such as :

- > Facebook (20,502 subscribers): https://www.facebook.com/lacenelitteraire/
- > Instagram (385 subscribers) : https://www.instagram.com/lacenelitteraire/?hl=en
- > Twitter (185 subscribers): https://twitter.com/lacenelitterair
- > A YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjjAbgOQRX5Dpc9dTNVI75w

#### **CONTACT**

- E-mail: info@lacenelitteraire.com
- Phone: 0041786944864869
- Contact: Mrs. Flore Agnès NDA ZOA MEILTZ