ICDN CULTURAL DIPLOMACY MEDAL

1. Description

The Cultural Diplomacy Medal is the flagship distinction awarded by the International Cultural Diplomacy Network (ICDN). It aims to honor the excellence, exceptional commitment, and significant impact of individuals and organizations who, through their life's path, creations, or actions, foster dialogue between peoples, coexistence, tolerance, and peace through cultural diplomacy. The Medal was created to recognize these bridge-builders and to raise public awareness of their concrete contribution to bringing cultures closer together.

2. Objectives

- **Honor excellence:** Recognize major and lasting contributions in the field of cultural diplomacy.
- **Stimulate cultural outreach:** Highlight inspiring initiatives that strengthen mutual understanding and intercultural cooperation.
- **Build the next generation:** Create a network of exceptional ambassadors committed to supporting the ICDN in inspiring the next generation of cultural diplomats.

3. Profile of Eligible Candidates

The distinction is open to a wide range of actors whose exemplary actions have a direct impact on cultural diplomacy:

- **Individuals, institutions, businesses, or organizations:** Artists, creators, cultural managers, former diplomats, researchers, philanthropists, museums, foundations, festivals, publishing houses, or civil society organizations.
- **Scope of outreach:** Eligible achievements may stand out through major international influence or through local impact of exceptional scope and exemplariness.

4. Ineligibility

To guarantee the independence, neutrality, and prestige of the distinction:

- **Active politicians:** Any holder of an active elective political office is ineligible during their term of office. Former elected officials and former diplomats remain eligible.
- **ICDN governing bodies:** Members of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board, as well as honorary presidents, are ineligible for the duration of their mandate.

5. Award Criteria and Procedures

- **Annual quota:** A maximum of 10 medals will be awarded per calendar year to preserve the high value of this distinction.
- **Ban on self-nomination:** No spontaneous applications or self-nominations will be accepted.
- **Nomination file:** Each nomination must be submitted by a third party and must include 2 letters of support attesting to the candidate's or organization's impact and significant contribution.

6. Nomination Period

- **Key dates:** The nomination submission period runs from November 2 to January 31 of each year.
- **Submission procedures:** Files must be submitted directly online via the ICDN website: www.icdn-ridc.org.

7. Selection Process and Jury

- **Jury composition:** The evaluation and selection of applications are entrusted to a jury composed of 3 independent members.
- **Confidentiality:** To ensure the integrity, impartiality, and serenity of the deliberations, the identity of the jury members remains undisclosed.
- **Evaluation criteria:** The jury evaluates each application based on four criteria: lasting impact, outreach, innovation, and contribution to dialogue between peoples.

8. Official Award Ceremony

- **Date and setting:** The official medal presentation ceremony will be held on June 10 of each year, as part of the International Day for Dialogue Among Civilizations.
- **Location:** The event will be organized by the ICDN in the Senators' Chamber, within the precincts of the Senate of Canada in Ottawa.

9. Recipient Commitment

By accepting the Cultural Diplomacy Medal, each recipient formally agrees to:

- Act as an ambassador for the ICDN.
- Collaborate (subject to availability) with the ICDN to build the next generation in cultural diplomacy (via an inspiring interview, seminar, conference with the ICDN, or any other proposed collaboration).