

BACKGROUND

At \$1.5 million, the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize is the world's largest humanitarian award. Inaugurated in 1996, the annual award is presented to a nonprofit organization judged to have made exemplary and extraordinary contributions in alleviating human suffering. Following initial background and legal review, the Hilton Humanitarian Prize staff conducts an extensive evaluation of the candidates, which is then submitted to an independent, international jury that makes the final selection.

PAST RECIPIENTS

2008—BRAC
2007—Tostan
2006—Women for Women International
2005—Partners In Health
2004—Heifer International
2003—International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims/IRCT
2002—SOS Children's Villages/ SOS-Kinderdorf International
2001—St. Christopher's Hospice
2000—Casa Alianza
1999—African Medical and Research Foundation/AMREF
1998—Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières
1997—International Rescue Committee
1996—Operation Smile

JURORS

Princess Salimah Aga Khan, International Ambassador for SOS-Kinderdorf International
Catherine A. Bertini, Professor of Public Administration, Syracuse University; Former Executive Director, UN World Food Programme.
Gro Harlem Brundtland, M. P. H., Former Director General, World Health Organization; Former Prime Minister of Norway
Eric M. Hilton, Director, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
Olara A. Otunnu, President of LBL Foundation for Children; former UN Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict; former Ugandan Minister for Foreign Affairs
Professor Amartya Sen, Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics and Lamont University Professor at Harvard University

HUMANITARIAN SYMPOSIUM AND PRIZE CEREMONY

The Hilton Humanitarian Prize is presented in conjunction with an annual Hilton international humanitarian symposium attended by decision makers from governments and the humanitarian and human rights fields. The assembly is broadcast on the Internet and its proceedings are distributed to world leaders.

The 2008 Hilton Prize was presented in Geneva, Switzerland on October 20. The keynote speaker was celebrated artist **Quincy Jones, Music Industry Legend and Renowned Humanitarian.**

Previous keynote speakers have included: **Ban Ki-moon**, *United Nations Secretary-General*; **Václav Havel**, *former President of the Czech Republic*; **Paul Rusesabagina**, *founder of the Hotel Rwanda Rusesabagina Foundation*; **Dr. Lee Jong-wook**, *Director-General, World Health Organization*; **His Holiness the Dalai Lama**; **Dr. Oscar Arias**, *president of Costa Rica and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate*; *United Nations Secretary-General* **Kofi Annan**; *Her Majesty* **Queen Noor** *of Jordan*; *United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*, **Mary Robinson**; *former United States Presidents* **George H.W. Bush** and **Jimmy Carter**; and *United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees*, **Sadako Ogata.**

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