

404

Press Office
Press release

Chemnitz, 14 July 2020

The City of Chemnitz awards International Stefan Heym Sponsorships Applications accepted until 31 December 2020

The City of Chemnitz is awarding International Stefan Heym Sponsorships to projects and initiatives that have a particular focus on Stefan Heym's life, work and legacy. The application phase ends on 31 December 2020. The sponsorships with a total value of 20,000 euros are awarded in addition to the City of Chemnitz International Stefan Heym Prize.

The prize money is awarded proportionally to projects and initiatives in the fields of science, art, culture and research or that continue Stefan Heym's legacy, for journalistic and documentary work, as scholarships or funding for school and university-level projects.

Mayor Barbara Ludwig says: "Stefan Heym is a son and honorary citizen of our city. The sponsorships have proved to be an excellent way to pass the memory of Stefan Heym on to the next generation. The prizewinners of the first sponsorships in 2017 have had their own personal experiences, and some have gathered lasting impressions which will remain with them for a long time to come. This has motivated us to award the sponsorships again to further raise their profile. I'm excited to see what we learn about Stefan Heym or from his life and legacy this time."

Regula Venske, author and President of the PEN Centre Germany, explains: "It is remarkable how the City of Chemnitz honours the legacy of its famous son Stefan Heym – we only wish that other cities would follow this example and grant their own famous literary figures the same honour. Together with the International Stefan Heym Prize, the Stefan Heym Sponsorships send out an important signal: young people are encouraged to take a critical look at literature and literary, philosophical or socio-political issues in school projects; they are able to work on personal

historical research projects and go on research trips. It's all about remembering his life and works in a productive debate in the here and now rather than merely worshipping his work in a museum. As a member of the Award Committee, I'm already excited to see what interesting projects will be proposed this time."

Applications are open to individuals, initiatives, institutions, public and private bodies, and associations. The sponsored projects should be completed before the next Stefan Heym Prize is awarded in around three years time. A description of the project (no more than two A4 pages), a cost and funding plan, a plan for PR activities relating to the project and a schedule must be submitted along with the application.

The application form can be downloaded from www.stefan-heyms-preis.de and is also available from the City of Chemnitz Mayor's Office.

Sponsorship recipients will be chosen by the International Stefan Heym Prize Award Committee. The Committee patron is Inge Heym.

The International Stefan Heym Sponsorships were awarded for the first time in 2017. Five projects were awarded prize money totalling 14,600 euros.

The 2017 prizewinners were:

- Stefan Heym competition for young literature
The Karl Schmidt-Rottluff Grammar School Friends' Association (4,000 euros)
- Stefan Heym and the 800-year celebration in Karl-Marx-Stadt in 1965. A journey through time.
Dr Jürgen Nitsche, historian (3,000 euros)
- Visit to the Cambridge archives
International Stefan Heym Society (2,600 euros)
- "Heym-liche Welt" ("secret world", which includes a play on words involving Heym's name) - preparatory academic seminar
Theresia Gerhardinger Grammar School in Munich (2,500 euros)
- "WHAT DOES 'HOME' MEAN TO YOU?"
Verein Kunstzone Schwarzenberg-Aue e. V. (2,500 euros)

The City of Chemnitz International Stefan Heym Prize

The City of Chemnitz International Stefan Heym Prize worth 20,000 euros is awarded in remembrance of Stefan Heym to individuals with the courage to criticise our times and who, like Stefan Heym, have produced outstanding literary and/or journalistic works that will stand the test of time. Previous prizewinners are Amos Oz (2008), Bora Ćosić (2011), Christoph Hein (2013) and Joanna Bator (2017).

The City of Chemnitz International Stefan Heym Prize will be awarded jointly to the Croatian novelist and journalist Slavenka Drakulić and the Swedish author and journalist Richard Swartz in April 2021. More information can be found in Press Release PM 749/2019.

For more information, see www.stefan-heyms-preis.de