***Appeltjes van Oranje 2020*** **Criteria**

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Theme

**Buddies for each other**

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***Note! For the Caribbean, registration is possible from September 2nd to October 6th; for the Netherlands, from September 16th to October 20th, 2019***

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**1.The Oranje Fonds**

The Oranje Fonds supports people and organizations that ensure that no one is left behind and that all can participate in our community. Our focus is on those who are actively working on these issues and those who are taking action on behalf of others. The Oranje Fonds’s patrons are King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima.

**2.Appeltjes van Oranje—General Information**

Appeltjes van Oranje is the yearly award presented by the Oranje Fonds, honoring three organizations active within the Fund’s area of operation to achieve a more inclusive and livable community. The initiatives we are looking for are the kind that generate enduring connections between groups of people and contribute to a more inclusive community. The initiative should be unique, creative and successful, and at least active for one year.

An Appeltje van Oranje serves, first and foremost, as a recognition of the winning organization’s work and efforts. Simultaneously it should inspire others, and the three award winners will be asked to act as “ambassadors,” helping other organizations to set up similar initiatives. The award consists of a bronze “Appeltje van Oranje” statuette designed and produced by Princess Beatrix, as well as a money prize of € 15,000 that may be freely spent in accordance with the winning initiative’s goal. Each year, Queen Máxima hands out the awards at Paleis Noordeinde. Every five years, the awards are handed out by King Willem-Alexander.

**3.The theme for the Appeltjes van Oranje 2020 is ‘Buddies for each other’.** This time, the prizes are intended for initiatives in which ‘buddies’ have a key role. Buddies who help one another move forward and stay together for an extended period, even when things get hard, so that if one of them falls, the other can help them back up again. Buddies who both benefit greatly from the connection. Buddies who enrich each other’s lives.

There are many ways to do so; for people who suffer an illness or loneliness, for people who went through hardship and have a hard time moving on in life, or for people who need personal guidance to learn our language or to realize their potential.

The Oranje Fonds likes to emphasize said diversity and wishes to show its appreciation for the best initiatives by awarding them a prize. We are looking for the driving forces behind successful social projects, whose buddy approach, innovative strength and drive make them into people with an exceptional story to tell about their contribution to a more socially responsible society. Who is best at pairing up buddies, for them to both enjoy the partnership to the extent that even on the long term they can still mean a lot to the other?

**4. Examples of possible candidates**

* Buddies for members of families that live in poverty. A teenager gets a mentor who helps them to appreciate the prospect of studying or getting a job. An adult volunteer is paired up with the parents and puts in motion a positive development for support and guidance when it comes to raising children.
* A buddy project for single teenage mothers that enables them to become more self-reliant, so that they can take responsibility for their own lives.
* A buddy project with new citizens of the Netherlands and volunteers who because of their own (migrant) background understand both Dutch and immigrant culture and speak both languages. This is how we make sure more people find their place within our society.
* Buddies for young people who seem to fall through the cracks of society, because it’s hard for them to interact socially, for instance, or because they’re from a broken home. Together with their buddy, they’ll discover how they can be seen for who they are, with the virtues they possess.

**5. Criteria Regarding the Initiative**

Each organization may only nominate its own initiatives. If you know of any initiatives conducted by other organizations, please let them know that they can submit their nomination as well!

To qualify for an Appeltje van Oranje 2020, initiatives need to meet the following criteria. At the time of registration, the initiative:

* offers a solution to an evident social problem;
* has a one-on-one approach for the solution of that problem, that has proven to be successful. It’s considered a plus if that approach includes innovative elements;
* is a solution that is aimed at resolving differences between people, and that benefits both parties;
* helps people to permanently participate more in society;
* motivates people to make an effort to help others;
* has proven itself over the past few years;
* counts on demonstrable (local) support;
* is managed by an organization;
* has been active since before September 1st, 2018;
* is active within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

**6. Criteria Regarding Methods**

* A distinctive approach especially suited to the (local) context
* A clear vision and successful approach to the use of volunteers
* Transferable, and serving as a model for the concept.

**7. Criteria Regarding the Organization**

To nominate an initiative for an Appeltje van Oranje, an organization:

* Must be a foundation, association or cooperation with an independent board
* Must be active since before September 1st, 2017
* Must not be in financial distress and should be able to continue without the award money
* May only nominate an initiative that hasn’t previously been awarded an Appeltje van Oranje
* May register again even if it has participated in the selection process for an Appeltje van Oranje in the past, as long as it meets the current criteria.

**8. Selection Process**

In May of 2020, the three social initiatives, awarded the coveted Appeltje van Oranje at Paleis Noordeinde in The Hague, will have undergone the following selection process:

* The initial selection by the Oranje Fonds, based on the registration form and official documents. This selection phase will focus on the above-mentioned criteria as well as on the initiative’s nationwide reach, innovative nature, how it serves as a model to others, its effectiveness and its ability to motivate.
* A 10-day poll held from January 6th to 15th, 2020, to gain public votes*.*
* A national final round on Thursday, January 23rd, 2020, in which the organizations will present their successful initiatives to other selected candidates and to the jury.
* Organizations in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom will present their initiatives to a professional jury in Curaçao on November 17th, 2019.
* The Board of the Oranje Fonds will select 3 winners from a group of 10 nominees.

**8. Registration**

Caribbean September 2nd to October 6th, 2019

Netherlands September 16th to October 20th, 2019

[www.oranjefonds.nl/appeltjes](http://www.oranjefonds.nl/appeltjes).

Organizations in the Netherlands can register at Mijn Oranje Fonds. Organizations in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands can fill out the special form available on the website and mail it to [appeltjesvanoranje@oranjefonds.nl](file:///C:\Users\amari\AppData\Local\Temp\SDLTempFileManager\rgpmq4rc.ync\appeltjesvanoranje@oranjefonds.nl).

Of course, you can also let others know that they can submit their initiative for an Appeltje van Oranje. As a matter of fact, please do! However, they will have to submit a registration for themselves.

**Any Questions?**

Please contact our communications advisor Isabelle Luykenaar at +31 30 2339 312 or at [appeltjesvanoranje@oranjefonds.nl](file:///C:\Users\amari\AppData\Local\Temp\SDLTempFileManager\rgpmq4rc.ync\appeltjesvanoranje@oranjefonds.nl).