

**November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**The Foundation Hans Manneby's Memorial Fund**

Teresa Morales is an anthropologist by profession at the National Institute of Anthropology and History, Oaxaca, Mexico. In 1985 you and your husband Cuauhtémoc Camarena began to work in communities in the State of Oaxaca to start up local community museums to strengthen and preserve the knowledge of their own histories and memories, histories never told in official text books. After some years a network of community museums within the State of Oaxaca - the Union of Community Museums of Oaxaca - was building up and the networking grew all over Mexico and to Central America and later to North America. We have been impressed by your ideas on the role of local museums in today's globalized world.

For this year we received 17 applications and 11 nominations for the prize. The Hans Manneby's Memorial Fund has set up five criteria of which at least one has to be met in order for an application or nomination to be considered. Your work with community museums and your visions and goals meet all five qualities these criteria ask for:

1. Seek to root museums in contemporary society by operating in close contact with the world around and a keen awareness of people's needs.

*Community participation and engagement are keywords in your work and each museum is the platform for actions responding to the communities' needs.*

2. Inspire, gather and disseminate experiences from international and national collaboration.

*As for national and international networking, to share and learn, you have started at the local level and the museums have become vehicles for international and global connections.*

3. Maintain a broad perspective of learning and develop the museums' interdisciplinary methodology.  
*The broad perspective of learning is obvious in that - on top of the historical and cultural knowledge that is gained - also skills in decision making, creating consensus, self-governance and leadership come out of the project process.*
4. Show flexibility and quality in developing museums operation.  
*The variety of expressions the museums in the Mexican network have chosen is evidently a result of the community driven strategy.*
5. Contribute to the development of Staff and activities with a sense of commitment and enthusiasm, showing a richness of ideas and a non-conventional approach. *The system of engaging trained facilitators and continually training them shows an impressive strategy for development of the whole staff.*