



RULES 12th ANNUAL AWARD - 2008

Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec – Merrill Lynch Economic and Financial Journalism Award

1. To be eligible for this prize, journalists must be working in the print, audiovisual or electronic media, their principal market being in Quebec.
2. Any journalist submitting his/her candidacy for the prize must complete and sign an entry form. Only one story (print, television or radio) that was published or aired between September 1, 2007 and August 31, 2008 must be submitted to the selection committee before November 14, 2008 in its original form (extract from print, television radio or Internet media).
3. The selection committee will award three prizes in any of the following three categories:
 - 3.1 **Long Feature Story:** Must be a text, series of texts or collection of texts totaling a *minimum of 2500 words* or audiovisual documents totaling *more than nine minutes* dealing with an economic or financial phenomenon, an industry, country, region or any other subject of an economic or financial nature.

Definition of a feature story: in order to produce the piece, the journalist undertook specific research, was on-site (country or region) and interviewed a number of people.

Exclusions: the following are not eligible: news items, profile of a business or an interview with only one person, when these documents (news item, profile or interview) were presented individually (i.e., not part of a feature story).
 - 3.2 **Short Feature Story:** Must consist of a maximum of three pieces totaling *1500 to 2499 words* or at least three audiovisual reports totaling a *maximum of nine minutes* dealing with an economic or financial phenomenon, an industry, country, region or any other subject of an economic or financial nature.

See paragraph 3.1 for definition of a feature story and exclusions.
 - 3.3 **Column, analysis, commentary, editorial:** As opposed to a feature, this includes stories that, without depending on interviews, provide an analytical, explanatory or commentary form, some economic or financial background on a phenomenon, event or decision of a business or government, etc., in such a way as to help readers or audience expand their knowledge and stimulate reflection. The candidate must submit three reports. These may have been presented in a digital medium (traditional electronic media or Internet).
4. The selection committee must aim to award a prize in each of the three categories described in article 3. However, it may decide not to award a prize in one or other of these categories if it deems the articles or stories to be of insufficient quality. In such a case, it may award more than one prize in the same category.
5. The selection committee must also aim to award at least one prize in the print media and at least one prize in the electronic media. However, it may decide not to award a prize in one or other of these groups if it deems the articles or stories to be of insufficient quality. In such a case, it may award all three prizes to the other group.

6. The selection committee's decisions are final.
7. **Career Achievement Award:** The selection committee may award a prize in recognition of a journalist's outstanding contribution to the advancement of economic and financial journalism. Given the importance of this prize, it is not necessarily awarded every year.
8. The story cannot be extracted from a thesis or study done by the journalist.
9. "Publi-reportages," books and book excerpts are not eligible.
10. The award winner must still be practicing his or her profession as a journalist at the time the award is given, apart from the Career Achievement Award.
11. The award winner must be available for interviews arranged by the contest organizers.
12. There must not be any legal proceedings connected to the story submitted at the time the award is given.