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Kapfenhardt author receives award for humanity

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- The State of Vietnam recognizes Isabelle Müller's commitment.
- Your Loan Foundation provides for schools and daycare centers in the north of the country.

Doctor Lisa Federle reads from a book they wrote with Isabelle Müller in the Tower Quarter.

Isabelle Müller happily accepts the "Human Act Prize" for her Loan Foundation at the awards ceremony in Vietnam.

"Guided by love, I let my thoughts rise like soap bubbles until they finally hit you." Isabelle Müller wrote this sentence in the early 2000s in her children's book "Hip Hop in the Land of Ellsaby", in which she explains in a child-friendly way how love continues even after death. On March 7, 2003, her beloved Vietnamese mother Mè Loan died. And this sentence now symbolizes what Isabelle Müller has achieved in the past 20 years after Loan's death in her birth country.

The author, whose father is French and who is married to a German, set up her Loan Foundation in 2016 in honour of her mother. Since then, the proceeds from her biographies, "Phoenix Daughter" (published in Germany in 2009) and "Loan from the Life of a Phoenix", which was published in 2015, have flowed directly into the foundation. Both books are now bestsellers and their proceeds also flow without deductions to the Loan Foundation.



At home in Kapfenhardt, the author honors the award as recognition for her charitable work. PHOTO: PROKOPH

On December 11, Isabelle Müller's work was publicly crowned. She received the national "Human Act Prize" 2023 in Hanoi as recognition and foreign foundation. "The good in the world should be put in the foreground, which is why the prize is also a seed of hope in today's times," explains Isabelle Müller in an interview after the award ceremony. This September, the mother of two children and grandmother of a grandchild also published today's Spiegel bestseller "Vom Glück des Zuhörens - Wie uns gute Beziehungen stark machen", which she co-authored with Tübingen emergency doctor Lisa Federle (PZ reported).

But back to the Vietnamese "Human Act Prize": From a total of 129 participants from Vietnam, which has a population of almost 99 million, 33 finalists were selected, from which 28 winners emerged in various categories. The Loan Foundation won in the "Inspiring Project" category. Since 2016, the foundation, which is supported by volunteers and donations, has invested around 1.5 million US dollars in a total of 39 projects to help the poorest children in Vietnam in inaccessible places in the steep, north Vietnamese mountains have access to education.

The background: Isabelle Müller's mother Mè Loan, born in 1929, was never allowed to attend school because she was a girl. She therefore secretly had the boys in her home village teach her to read and write, paying them with a stolen chicken, for example. Her story and that of her daughter Isabelle Müller can be read in the two touching biographies.

They now have cult status in Vietnam. Isabelle Müller's children's books "Hip Hop in the Land of Ellsaby" and "Hip Hop and the Golden Forest", which were all published by the largest Vietnamese publisher, General Publisher Ho Chi Minh City, have also been a huge success. And all book proceeds go directly to the Loan Foundation. "We have now helped 5,000 children between the ages of three and 22," Isabelle Müller looks back with satisfaction. And: "At the moment I feel as free as a bird, carried by the legacy of my mother Loan, who put her inheritance in my hands," says Isabelle Müller. Because, as mentioned at the beginning: "Guided by love, I let my thoughts rise like soap bubbles until they finally reach you." And after 20 years, Isabelle Müller and her Loan Foundation are once again meeting the legacy of the beloved mother Mè Loan in Vietnam.