KUBI AWARD

of the Deaf Community

For the fourth recipient of this award we name

Dr. Penny Boyes Braem

The Swiss Federation of the Deaf, German-speaking Region, honors Dr. Penny Boyes Braem for her many years of service to the Swiss deaf community and, in particular, for her dedication to Swiss German Sign Language.

Dr. Penny Boyes Braem has made a name for herself in the local deaf community primarily as a pioneer in Swiss sign language research. Through various lectures, she introduced the subject to Switzerland. In Basel, she founded the Research Center for Sign Language in 1982, which she leads with great personal dedication. With her vast expertise, she also made a significant contribution to the development of training programs for sign language teachers and interpreters, thereby supporting the growth of sign language education. In 1983, she helped found the Association for the Support of Sign Language for the Deaf. With her book "Introduction to Sign Language and Its Research", published in 1992, she gave the Swiss Deaf community its first foundational theoretical work on their own language. Her latest project has deep roots but is still in its infancy: the creation of a sign language database that compiles and makes available the signs of the various Swiss German dialects.

We express our appreciation not only for Dr. Penny Boyes Braems' professional brilliance and outstanding achievements, but also for her compassion. She never works merely for us—the deaf—but always with us, and by creating jobs, she has made a further contribution to improving the qualifications and fostering greater independence among the deaf. Above all, however, she has opened our eyes to the value and beauty of our language and culture—and she has repeatedly made us feel how valuable we ourselves are. With the **KUBI Prize**, we express our gratitude and recognition to her for this.

The President of the Swiss Federation of the Deaf
German-speaking Switzerland Region

Zurich, April 26, 1997