

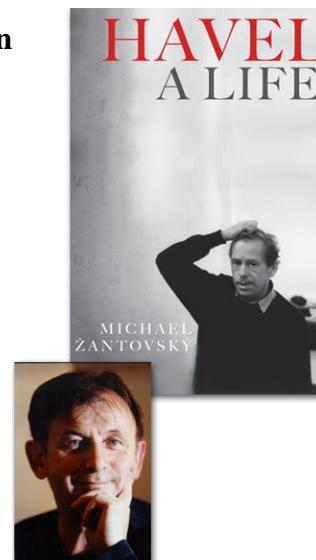
MICHAEL ŽANTOVSKY

TO PRESENT TRAVEL AWARDS



The winners of the 2017 Travel Awards Competition at Gybon will receive their prizes from Mr. Michael Žantovský on Thursday May 25th.

Mr. Žantovský will travel specially to Hrádec Králové for the awards ceremony when he will present the three prizes to Adam Petr, Andrea Větríčková and Vit Škoda, as well as Certificates of Merit to all competitors.



Michael Žantovský, 68, was the press secretary and special adviser to President Václav Havel at the time of the Velvet Revolution and was subsequently appointed as Czechoslovak Ambassador in the USA.

In 2002, after six years as a Czech Senator, he became Czech Ambassador firstly in Israel, and then, from 2009 to 2015, in London. Michael Žantovský published his biography of Havel in English and Czech in 2014 and became the Director of the Václav Havel Library in Prague in September 2015.

Julian Wilde, organiser of the Travel Awards Competition, who began the partnership with his school in Lytham in 1994 is delighted that Mr. Žantovský has accepted the invitation to present the awards.



“Michael Žantovský has always been a strong supporter of the partnership between AKS, Lytham and Gybon, visiting AK School in Lytham during his time as Ambassador in London. I am sure that he will be made very welcome by Mr. Šterba, his staff and students. He will be a most distinguished visitor,” he said.



The awards for the first competition in 2011 were presented by Nick Groves of the British Embassy in Prague and for the second competition in 2014 by Lady Milena Grenfell-Baines from Preston in the UK, one of the Winton children.



The full details of the programme for Michael Žantovský's visit to Gybon will be announced in April. He is expected to talk with students about his association with Václav Havel and his present work for the Library, as well as taking questions from his audience.