

The logo for Isola Design Awards is a blue-outlined shape resembling a stylized map of an island or a speech bubble. Inside the shape, the words "isola", "design", and "awards" are stacked vertically in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

isola design awards

Isola Design Awards aims to bring the foremost architecture and design studios as well as individual architects, designers and creatives producing the most inspiring work from all over the world. Opening space for the celebration of outstanding works, we aim to empower and give the stage to the designers focusing on quality, innovation, sustainability, experimenting with artisanal techniques as well as new technologies and approaches.

This year, Isola Design Awards 2022 invites the project entries for **12 different categories**:

FURNITURE

Indoor furnitures, collections, cabinets, accessories, storage systems.

Description:

This category is for the furniture, furnishing accessories, bookshelves and storage systems, cabinets, and other furnishings projects that are unique for aesthetics, functionality, creativity, production technique; offering durability, sustainability, functionality, and unconventional material usage.

SEATING

Seating solutions, sofas, chairs, armchairs, stools.

Description:

Products and collections to be used as seating, that are unique for aesthetic, material usage, contextuality, form, creativity, and techniques as well as functionality, artistic value, craftsmanship, and user experience.

LIGHTING

Desk lamps, table lamps, architectural lights, pendants lights, floor lamps, wall lamps, industrial lightings.

Description:

This category is for any project that illuminates and diffuses light; any collection of lighting for indoors or outdoors, designed specifically for a building or structure including corporate or public spaces, mobile lighting, and lighting installations. The originality, uniqueness, unconventionality, aesthetic qualities, the emotional experience are the guiding criteria.

TABLEWARE

Silverware, bowls, dishes, cutleries, glassware, trays, tableware, surfaces, textiles, fittings, and appliances, design for food products.

Description:

A category for projects and collections that can be used at the dining table, that are in contact with food; any service utensils that invite creative approaches, new materials, no waste production, utensils for creating an experience out of food and having the values of uniqueness, craftsmanship, contextuality, aesthetic qualities, presentation, storytelling, and emotional experience.

TEXTILE

Tablecloth, tapestries, placemat, leather, vegan leather, homeware, bio textiles, looming, new techniques, knitting, tufting.

Description:

This category is for all the innovative textile projects and collections designed combining artisanal heritage and new approaches, interpretation of patterns, including regenerative manufacturing solutions for garment waste; application of textile in product design, and new coloring techniques.

PRODUCT

Daily products, individual products, collectible pieces, accessories, decorative products.

Description

This category is for any mass production items including mobile phones, televisions, cameras, laptops, tablets, drones, gadgets, beauty equipment, water bottles, sports and exercise equipment, luggage, daily usage personal products, and accessories that offer new aesthetics, functionality, sustainability, circularity, durability, emotional connection, craftsmanship, contextualizing the matter.

MATERIAL

Bio-material, material research, altered materials, new materials.

Description:

For all the products in search of new materials, usage of waste materials, or projects involving a participatory design process with living organisms such as bacteria. The category welcomes projects that are prominent with their originality, craftsmanship, contextuality, presentation, storytelling, innovative values or circularity.

MOBILITY

Cars, bicycles, motorcycles, vehicles, mobility systems.

Description:

This category includes all mobility solutions, eco-friendly approaches, planet centered designs that offer the most joy and comfort for users. Offering originality, production technique, functionality, aesthetic qualities, presentation, storytelling, innovative values, sustainability, and durability.

SUSTAINABILITY

Circular products and projects, reversible buildings or systems, self-produced energy products, sustainable packaging.

Description:

This category invites all approaches placing sustainability at its core. Any environmentally friendly projects, construction techniques, use of sustainable materials in the production, the ones that have ethically sourced products. Also, projects that are making use of recycled materials, that are produced with renewable energy sources or circular principles reducing the impact on (or benefit) the environment, the zero-carbon, carbon negative projects, zero-energy projects are welcome within the category.

DIGITAL

New media, rendering projects, digital products, apps, virtual projects, phygital projects.

Description:

This category is for various products and pieces of visual communication design including virtual projects, new media, apps or new applications offering uniqueness, production technique, unconventionality, presentation, storytelling, emotional experience, innovative values, aesthetic qualities.

OUTDOOR

Urban furniture, appliances, site-specific projects, lighting, landscape architecture projects.

Description:

Inviting all projects involving design for the outdoors, including public or private parks, gardens, the grounds, public spaces and playgrounds, outdoor toys, spatial speculations to site-specific works to outdoor products design.

INNOVATION

Co-participatory processes, AI, experience design, innovation in aesthetics, innovative applications in new technologies.

Description:

This category calls for any project within innovative approach to existing demands or stepping up for setting a new trend to ignite novel ways. All projects engaging an innovative solution or design are welcome within the category.

Two winners will be awarded in each category, respectively by Isola's jury and the public. Attributed for the product or project's originality, uniqueness, craftsmanship, production technique, durability, unconventionality, contextuality, aesthetic qualities, presentation, storytelling, emotional experience, innovative values, sustainability, circularity, functionality. The winners will also receive the trophy designed by the Spanish award-winning design studio Masquespacio.

(The above list does not represent a ranking order for the jury's evaluation criteria.)

PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

Applications are open from March 15th to August 31st. Designers can apply the same project to multiple categories, as well as register multiple times with different products in different categories.

Nominees' projects will be voted on from September 15th to November 20th by the public and from November 1st to November 20th by the jury members. The 3 most voted projects for each category will be announced by December 1st.

The Awards Ceremony will be held on December 15th in Milan, with an exclusive invitation to nominees, jury members, sponsors, partners, and the press. The event will be streamed on Isola TV.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

To apply for the competition, candidates must have or create a user profile on isola.design, and fulfill the payment.

The work submitted must meet the following requirements:

- It must be in English.
- It must be an original creation not the result of plagiarism or alteration of other work.
- The information provided must be truthful.

Failure to comply with any of the above rules will result in disqualification from the selection without refund of the registration fee.

HOW TO APPLY

All candidates must submit their application to Isola Design Awards exclusively online using the dedicated form on <https://isola.design/awards>. They must have or create a *user account*, follow the instructions for uploading personal details and the project's information, including main category, credits, links, and digital files requested, and finally pay the relative fee for each individual project and category.

The steps to be followed carefully:

- 1 — The first step of the competition is to present a PDF file with a presentation of the project where you must include a short text that tells the story of the project (max 600 words), high-quality images and/or renders, possibly also videos, and good presentation aesthetics, then proceed to the online secure payment of 65,00€ (+VAT if due).
- 2 — Isola's team will analyze the project and presentation thoroughly, declaring whether they both meet the terms indicated and proceeding with the first selection. In 48 hours you will receive a detailed email with all the following steps.
- 3 — If you pass the first selection and are nominated by the curatorial team, you'll be able to upgrade your account to *designer profile* and upload your project no later than August 15th to be online and get voted by the public and the jury.
In this step, the presentation of your projects will be dependent on your creativity: videos, images, graphical presentations, gifs, and good storytelling are really important for the jury and the public to understand all about your project and give the highest score. Isola's crew will be leading you in case of needs in the presentation.
- 4 — From September 15th to November 20th, it will be possible for the public to vote every day on ten of their favorite projects on the platform. Each day they can choose to vote 10 times on the same project or 10 different projects.
Isola will promote the event through its channels, but every designer can also share the link and let their contacts vote for their project.
- 5 — From November 1st to November 20th, the 36 jury members will give each project a vote from 1 to 5. For every category, the project featuring the highest total score will win the prize.
- 6 — The Awards Ceremony will be held on December 15th in Milan, with an exclusive invitation to nominees, jury members, sponsors, partners, and the press. The event will be streamed on Isola TV.

Please note that the use of photos, music, people, trademarks, or images is regulated by law and copyright. Whoever registers a project assumes all responsibility for the use of images, music, people, trademarks in their advertisements.
Any material received will not be returned.

REGISTRATION FEE AND PAYMENT

The participation cost is 65,00€ + VAT (if due) to be paid via credit card, debit card, PayPal, or banking transfer at the time of registration.

After successful payment, you will receive a confirmation email with all the information you need and the invoice.

Within 48 hours you will know if your project passed the first step of the selection, after which it will be possible to upgrade your account to *designer profile* and publish the project on isola.design.

Submitting your work to the Isola Design Awards implies full acceptance of the Awards Rules.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND STATEMENTS ON THE PART OF PARTICIPANTS

By submitting their application, each candidate fully accepts these regulations, which they undertake to respect, and expressly guarantees:

- That the work meets the requirements indicated above, in the section “Participation requirements”.
- That he/she is the author of the work and is authorized to compete in the Isola Design Awards.
- That the work does not violate the rights of third parties, of whatsoever nature, and/or is not against the law.

In the event of proven violation of the above provisions, the candidate will be disqualified, without prior notice. Should the winners be found to have violated the provisions of these regulations, they will lose their right to be awarded and get the prize. In any case, each candidate undertakes to indemnify and exempt the organizers of the Isola Design Awards from any and all prejudicial consequences that may arise for them as a result of submitting their application for the Isola Design Awards.

WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

The shortlisted projects will be voted on from September 15th to November 20th by the public and from November 1st to November 20th by the jury members.

The 3 most voted projects for each category will be announced by 1st December and they will be promoted through Isola’s social media channels.

The Awards Ceremony will be held on December 15th in Milan, with an exclusive invitation to nominees, jury members, sponsors, partners, and the press. The event will also be streamed on Isola TV.

The most voted projects by the Jury for each category will win one of the 12 free exhibition spaces available for Milan Design Week 2023.

CLARIFICATIONS

The Award does not give the right to any money or other form of remuneration but represents a mere recognition of the merit of the author of works considered representative of excellence in design. The Award may physically consist of a prize chosen by Isola’s Jury and the sponsors. The present initiative, therefore, is not subject to the regulations of DPR n. 430/2001.

PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

The data of participants in the competition will be processed by Isola Design Group srl, in compliance with Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 (the so-called Privacy Code), in accordance with the terms of the information provided to interested parties pursuant to art. 13 of the above-mentioned Privacy Code when filling out the application form.

For any information, please send an email to hello@isola.design.