Graphics
Product
Medical Devices
Wayfinding & Signage
Interior Design
Art, Cultural & Public Events
Fashion & Beauty
Offices, Working Spaces
Kitchen & Bath
Jewelry & Timepieces
Consumer Goods
Electronics
Transportation
Lighting
Exhibitions
Green Tech

Architecture
Packaging
Web & Interactive
Mobility Design
Digital Video Effects
Corporate Reports
Design Engineering
Corporate & Financial
Digital Animation
Eco Design
Branding
Education
Public Sector
Furniture
Gaming
Print

18TH ANNUAL
CALL FOR ENTRY

The **Spark** International
2024 Design Awards

WWW.SPARKAWARDS.COM

Studio Hinrichs

SPARK DESIGN AWARDS
INFORMATION KIT
(ENGLISH VERSION)

Welcome to the Spark World of Design!

And welcome to the world's most modern design competition—the Spark Awards. All designers are invited to participate. The Spark Design Awards are an exciting competition created to promote great design and talented designers. These events are tightly focused on modern design and disciplines. So come on in—join the Community and enter your best work. The world's greatest designs have a home at Spark.

What Is SPARK?

Spark is first and foremost a community of designers and creative organizations, bound together by the idea that Design can make positive change in the world.

Why Enter Spark?

Spark helps entrants build their public profile and promotes the designer's work. This helps build resumes, gain new assignments and raise brand awareness. Spark winners are published in the Spark website and archived on the Internet. Official Winner Benefits include: Logo Usage Rights, Winners Certificate PDF, full description, links, video and images in their own Online Gallery web page and Publicity. All paid entrants will immediately have their own Online Gallery web page from the time of entry until the competition year concludes. Winners are included in the Galleries and Grand Winners Index for multiple years at no extra charge. The Spark Awards have dynamic social media communities around the world, where we post materials and information about entrants and of course, the winners!

Spark Award 2024 Lineup

Product Design; Spaces Design; Student Design (Spring & Fall/Winter competitions); Transport & Mobility Design; Health, Medical & Universal Design; Experience & Service Design; Graphic Design; Digital Design; Spark-E Design; Package Design and Concept Pro Design

If you or your organization create great designs, don't miss the opportunity to compete in these important events. Designers, art directors, architects, engineers, teachers, design firms, manufacturers, institutions, ad agencies and entrepreneurs may enter Spark. To register and enter the competitions, just click on the "Register" button at the Spark website in the top bar of the page.

Design Criteria

The Spark Design Awards have two major guiding criteria

–CREATIVITY: Does the design Spark? Break new ground? Is it a new idea? Creation or just refinement? Does it communicate well? Are the graphics clear and compelling?

–SUSTAINABILITY: Does it improve the quality of life? Contribute to understanding, efficiency, joy, longevity, progress? Does it sustain or conserve our Earth's limited resources?

How to Enter the Spark Design Awards

1. FIRST: Register at www.sparkawards.com
    2. Select your competition area or discipline. You may enter work in more than one, but each will be considered an individual entry with a separate fee
    3. Login to your to your **"My Submissions"** page. Upload your design images, descriptions and video.
    4. Pay the Phase 1 Registration Entry Fee
    5. For a more details about each category, go to Entry Types pages at Spark.
    6. **Questions?** Send us a note at https://www.sparkawards.com/about/contact/
    –**IMPORTANT**–make sure to include: your name; your school or organization; the name of your design and your question.

What To Enter

This section is about the specific things that an entrant needs to provide or do, to successfully complete a submission to the Spark Design Awards. Please note that different design areas and disciplines sometimes have different requirements, so please review these notes carefully.

ENTRANTS PLEASE FOLLOW THESE STEPS

1. First REGISTER HERE.(https://competitions.sparkawards.com/) Any number of entries may be made with one registration. Make sure to write down your Username and Password and keep it in a secure place.

2. Submit your design entries. Each submission is made at your registration page. You may enter as many pieces as you would like, but only one design or series per submission. You may enter any design(s) from year 2000 to date. You may enter multiple times, if you feel it fits in more than one category (at additional cost). You may re-submit work that was entered in past years, because our juries change from year to year. All registrations and submissions are made online.

3. Make the entry fee payment. (If you have multiple entries, you can save re-entering credit-card info by contacting us to make a single, total payment. Send a note to alert us on the Contact Form. We accept the following credit cards: VISA, Mastercard, American Express, JCB, Diners Club and Discover. After initial registration, log in to your registration page, where you'll see the option to enter your payment information via credit card. Entrants may also make payments via Paypal or bank wire (with a small service charge)—please inquire for details. No designs are judged without pre-payment.

4. Entrants will upload from 3 to 10 (1 MB maximum size each) images of their work. As many as 10 images may be uploaded. They may be photos of the work, slides or graphics, charts, graphs, certifications, etc.—whatever helps tell your story. Spark also encourages you to add a photo of your designer or team—make it your last image. The images should be 8 inches (200mm) in height or more at a resolution of 150 dpi. Please make one image in 300 dpi resolution. The images may be portrait or landscape. They must be a JPG file. All files should be RGB. At least one of the images must be completely free of any text, call-out lines, boxes or blurbs, and on a white background.

5. Entrants will also supply a 50-word, short description (synopsis), a longer 200-word description and answer a series of questions about the design (see below). All entry descriptions must be in English. We recommend a clear, non-marketing, description of your design's merits and applicability to our Criteria. Just the facts, please—no sales pitch!

6. It will be useful to the judges if you can answer some, or all, of the questions below, which are found on the entry online form. Please answer as clearly and as briefly as possible. 50 words maximum response each.

–Why should this design exist? What was the perceived need?
–What is the design brief, challenge or problem to be solved?
–Tell us about your strategy or process. How did you develop the design or user/client solution?
–What is innovative about the design?
–What is the context of your work? An important aspect of sustainability is how the design fits into the situation.
–What results, effectiveness or benefits does it deliver?
–What makes your design compelling? Does it tell a story?
–Does your design enhance the quality of life or improve the human condition?
–Target market or user?
–Target Price/cost range?

WEBSITE

Do you have a website or page that tells the story of your design or includes more data, photos, etc about it? Be sure to include its URL in the field provided on the upload form.

VIDEO

We highly recommend that you submit a short video to help tell the story of your design. Again, we recommend a straight, non-sales, non-marketing, non-PR description of your design's merits, applicability and cognizance of our Criteria. You will find a field on the entry form for a Youtube video link. (Sorry, only Youtube links are allowed. NO Vimeo, et al.) Please keep it short and factual. It should be around three minutes in length. To embed a YouTube video with your entry, simply click the "Share" button below your video at YouTube, and copy and paste the YouTube URL into the box provided in the Spark entry form. All Digital Design entries MUST have a video.

NO MORE SHIPMENTS

Shipping materials around the world—and back again, is just not sustainable practice. So we've stopped judging physical pieces. Please do NOT send products, samples, models or artifacts.

ENTRY PROCESS

The entry process is very simple: in a first round, Phase 1 review, the descriptions, image, links and video you have uploaded will be judged by the jury. Finalist candidates will then be selected by the judges, and pay a Finalist fee. Every finalist entry is debated by the live jury and after much discussion and confidential voting, winners are selected and notified within 2 weeks.

Spark Juries

Every year Spark presents a fresh group of prestigious and very talented VIP judges. Each bench of jurors is gathered with the help of our Jury Chairs, Advisors and Community members. The Jurors come from all design disciplines, media, education and experts in the field.

2024 Entry Fees

Spark has a dual-fee system. Spark has a two-phase process for entry fees. "Phase 1" consists of a basic registration fee, which all entrants pay to participate. These entries are then judged by the Spark Jury Chairs to select a shortlist of Finalist Candidates for the "Phase 2" live jury, which selects winners. There is a second fee for the shortlisted Finalist Candidates, which must be paid prior to the live jury sessions (before the Phase 2 [deadline](#)). Only the shortlisted Finalists pay this second fee. The shortlist will be announced on the Spark website home page and by email. Only Candidates who have paid their fee can be considered official Finalists and judged for winner selection.

Note that Spark has no other mandatory fees—no winner fees, no exhibition fees, no publication fees—nothing!

The Spark Design Awards have three pricing tiers: Student; Graphic Design; all other Pro disciplines.

1. Student Design Competitions
A. Student Fee— Early: US$145. Standard: US$165. Late: US$195
B. Series or Campaign Fee: Multiple, related entries, like a family of kitchen appliances, may be submitted with a single registration. The series fee is an additional US$60.
C. Finalist Fee: US$165
D. Winners Fee: (Zero)

2. Graphic Design Competitions
A. Graphic Design Fee— Early: US$190. Standard: US$275. Late: US$410
B. Series or Campaign Fee: Multiple, related entries, like a family of kitchen appliances, may be submitted with a single registration. The series fee is an additional US$185.
C. Finalist Fee: US$180
D. Winners Fee: (Zero)

3. All Other Pro Design Categories, including: Product; Experience; Packaging; ConceptPro; Health; Spaces; Digital; Transport; Spark-E Competitions
A. Pro Fee— Early: US$395. Standard: US$495. Late: US$630
B. Series or Campaign Fee: Multiple, related entries, like a family of kitchen appliances, may be submitted with a single registration. The series fee is an additional US$285.
C. Finalist Fee: US$535
D. Winners Fee: (Zero)

Notes on All Fees
—Entrant's payment, fully completed registration form, design media and supporting documents must be received by the competition's published closing date. This requirement is for all categories, submissions and registration fees.

Deadlines

Spark has several sets of deadlines. Please carefully note the dates concerning the categories you wish to enter. Early entrants benefit from lower pricing and longer exposure and promotion in the Spark Galleries.

Pro Design Awards (All Professional Categories)
The Call For Entry is now active for these categories. They are open to working professional-level designers and their organizations (no students).
Call For Entry: February 1, 2024
Early Deadline: May 31, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time
Standard Deadline: October 14, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time)
Late & Final Deadline: November 18, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time)
Shortlisted Finalist Announcement for Phase 1 is November 22
Shortlisted Finalist Fee Payment Period is November 22 to December 3 (Shortlist Finalists Only)
Deadline For Finalist Fee: December 3

Student Design Awards
This international competition is open to any current University-level (or above) student, in any design category. All student design must be entered in a student competition. Entries may be submitted from any time period of the student's study (could be a piece from last year, for example). This competition is open to all University-level students (no professionals).

Spring Semester Compettion
Call For Entry: February 1, 2024
Earlybird Deadline: April 1, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time
Standard Deadline: May 31, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time)
Late & Final Deadline: June 28, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time)
Shortlisted Finalist Announcement for Phase 1 is July 6
Shortlisted Finalist Fee Payment Period is July 6 to July 14 (Shortlist Finalists Only)
Deadline For Finalist Fee: July 14

Fall/Winter Semester Competition
Call For Entry: August 1, 2024
Earlybird Deadline: August 31, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time)
Standard Deadline: October 14, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time)
Late & Final Deadline: November 18, 2024 (Midnight, PST/California Time)
Shortlisted Finalist Announcement for Phase 1 is November 22
Shortlisted Finalist Fee Payment Period is November 22 to December 3 (Shortlist Finalists Only)
Deadline For Finalist Fee: December 3

We Look Forward to Seeing

Your Greatest Designs

Thanks For Sparking!

https://www.sparkawards.com/

https://www.sparkawards.com/about/contact/