Andreu World International Design Contest

2001-2020
The history of the chair has a fabulous past, a splendid present and an exciting future, because it has proven to be the piece of furniture with the greatest capacity to reinvent itself. It is said that designing a chair is one of the most difficult challenges for any professional, and it is very true, but hundreds of new models continue to appear every year on the market.

Are there plenty of chairs? Not at all, because there is no furniture closer and necessary to develop the activities of our daily lives. In any case, what is leftover are poorly designed chairs. A company with the experience and trajectory of Andreu World knows very well that the good designs of tomorrow have to be born from the designers that are being formed today. That is why it promotes and organizes every year an International Design Contest in which young people from five continents participate.

Professional competitions are common in other disciplines such as architecture, graphic design and even the automotive industry, in its more restricted versions, but they are rarely open to emerging designers, who are becoming more and more. And also, better, but nevertheless they are less likely to prove themselves than those of previous generations. It is pure statistics, because schools do not produce designers with the same proportion that new entrepreneurs emerge.

You also have to put yourself in the role of the company to understand how difficult it is to choose with whom you risk your investments, because the market is increasingly competitive and has little room for error. The usual thing is to work with recognized and experienced professionals, but let's not forget that they were also young once. That is why we must always leave a door open to new ones. They have a lot to offer, but they need showcases that make them visible.

The International Design Competition organized by Andreu World wants to be one of those showcases. It has been held annually since 2001, which surely makes it one of the longest in the world, and is unique in its specialty, the design of seats and tables. The figures accumulated in the editions that have been made until today are spectacular, with tens of thousands of participants from more than a hundred countries.

It is a success and we know what has been the key to achieving it: work every year to try to do it a little better than the last. Taking care of all the details, from graphic marketing to the awards ceremony. And most importantly, always inviting the best jurors, because they are the ones who set the level and encourage us to continue striving so that everyone who wants to can participate and have the opportunity to show their talent to the world.
20 editions since 2001 to 2020
31.053 participants
124 countries
5 continents
107 jury members
List of registered by countries

Spain 9687
Mexico 2478
Italy 1848
United States 1812
Argentina 1705
France 967
Colombia 897
Brazil 729
Germany 661
Portugal 608
United Kingdom 607
India 614
Chile 378
Russia 399
Peru 362
Iran 334
Japan 300
Turkey 285
Canada 281
Poland 239
Holland 224
Thailand 239
Switzerland 193
China 189
Serbia and Montenegro 164
Venezuela 160
Australia 159
Cuba 152
Greece 149
Belgium 150
Romania 152
Singapore 149
Austria 136
Czech Republic 136
Indonesia 125
Ukraine 131
Ireland 121
Malaysia 122
Israel 124
Finland 115
Ecuador 113
Latvia 111
Puerto Rico 111
Philippines 116
Hungary 111
Egypt 115
Hong Kong 102
Sweden 92
Bolivia 85
South Korea 83
Costa Rica 77
Croatia 72
Bulgaria 70
Uruguay 66
Denmark 65
El Salvador 61
United Arab Emirates 61
Norway 63
Saudi Arabia 59
Slovakia 53
Dominican Republic 52
Morocco 52
South Africa 51
Lithuania 41
Belarus 41
Slovenia 37
Guatemala 37
Tunisia 37
Bosnia Herzegovina 38
New Zealand 37
Jordan 30
Vietnam 29
Georgia 27
Macedonia 26
Palestine 35
Paraguay 26
Syria 27
Panama 24
Greece 23
Lebanon 27
Kenya 22
Pakistan 19
Albania 17
Algeria 17
Estonia 15
Jamaica 15
Nigeria 15
Sri Lanka 15
Taiwan 21
Angola 13
Armenia 13
Kazakhstan 14
Qatar 13
Zimbabwe 13
Andorra 11
Bahrain 11
Kuwait 12
Libya 11
Uganda 12
Bangladesh 9
Swaziland 9
Togo 9
Uzbekistan 9
Iraq 6
Luxembourg 6
Nicaragua 6
Sudan 6
Azerbaijan 4
Ivory Coast 4
Ethiopia 7
Ghana 4
Kyrgyzstan 5
Mauritania 4
Moldova 7
Yemen 4
Congo 2
Iceland 2
Trinidad and Tobago 2
Botswana 1
Bhutan 1
North Korea 1
Namibia 1
Participates
Any design student or professional can take part in this contest, without age limit.

Objective
To compete, a sustainable seat and/or table design must be presented that meets all the specifications that Andreu World presents in the product briefing, solving its technical and formal problems in the terms indicated for its production in series.

Project
The material necessary to compete is the following:
- Scale model 1:5
- Technical specification
- Plans, diagrams, sketches, renderings, images of the piece
- Optional video presentation

The design must be original, that is, it has not been done before.

Prizes
The following prizes will be awarded:
- 1st prize of 5,000 euros
- 2nd prize of 2,500 euros

The jury may also grant honorable mentions, without financial amount, up to a total of four mentions.

Deadline
Until November 27, 2020. Registration must be done through: www.andreuworld.com/contest-20/access

The models must be physically sent to the Andreu World headquarters along with the rest of the materials included in the project within the planned deadline.

The complete guidelines can be consulted in: www.andreuworld.com/contest-20
Subject
Sustainable design of a seat and/or table.

Conditions
The category of seats includes: chairs, armchairs, lounge chairs, stools, benches and sofas.
The category of tables includes: meeting and conference tables, center or auxiliary.

Materials
The use of sustainable materials such as the following will be assessed:
- Wood: wood is the most ecological, biodegradable, natural, recyclable material that generates the lowest environmental impact with a carbon footprint lower than any other material. Therefore, Andreu World manufactures its products with 100% sustainable wood with FSC® certification from forests controlled by a custody protocol that includes planting, logging and drying.
- Innovative and sustainable materials: the use of materials from sustainable sources or that promote the circularity, eco-design or recyclability of the product will be assessed.
- Other materials: laminates, glass, metals, aluminum, thermopolymer and natural stones.

Environmental assessment criteria
The design must consider the entire product lifecycle with a clear focus on the responsible use and selection of materials, as well as their subsequent use to ensure high durability and longevity.

Material selection
- Use of renewable, recycled and/or low impact material.
- Optimized use of materials.

Manufacturing
- Low impact processes (low emissions and energy consumption).
- Low ratio of waste through production.
- Durability, repairability and restoration capacity.

Lifecycle
- Potential for reuse and recyclability of materials.
- Product circularity.

Social and cultural assessment criteria
The approach should focus on a design that aspires to the durability and resilience and long-term desirability of the furniture. The proposals may also be related to the promotion of universal accessibility, cultural enrichment and the application of design to improve the well-being of people in the environments they inhabit.
The Jury is constituted in each of the editions by leading international professionals in different fields of design, industry, media and other fields related to creation, from architecture to the culinary.
2001
Pouf "Immaculada"
Bermúdez
Valencia (Spain)

2002
Chair
Jorge Vega
Valencia (Spain)

2003
"Cinta" chair
Ana Inés García
Barcelona (Spain)

2004
"Teo" stool
Jorge Rodríguez
Cristino Paro
Valencia (Spain)

2005
Poltroncina
Franki Charmak
Sidney (Australia)

2006
"Diplo" table and chair
Pierre Charrié
Paris (France)

2007
Chair
Timo Saarnio
Helsinki (Finland)

2008
"Plyam" stackable chair
Yoshikazu Moritake
Tokyo (Japan)

2009
"Woox" stool
Boris Innecken
Philip Christ
Darmstadt (Germany)

2010
"Pilase" armchair
Francisco Ávila Artón
Valencia (Spain)

2011
"Capas" chair
Sebastien Cordoleoni
Barcelona (Spain)

2011
"Twin" chair
Edward Kaiser
Bietigheim-Bissingen
(Germany)

2012
"Wooden Horse"
Laurent Divome
Renens (Switzerland)

2013
"Netterti" chair
Mauro Sanin
Barcelona (Spain)

2014
"Sumo" stool
Eduard Juanola
Barcelona (Spain)

2015
"Kollar" stool
Virosh Rangalla
Brampton (Canada)

2016
Table
Ramesh Voris
Barcelona (Spain)

2017
"Mediterraneo" bench
Sérgio Hélène
Brussels (Belgium)

2018
"Lazar" chair
Juan Pablo Acuña
Cordoba (Argentina)

2019
"M" table
Anuar Portugal
Mexico City (Mexico)
Throughout all the editions, prizes have been presented adding up to more than 130,000 euros. The awards ceremonies are organized in different places and always have a festive ending. In recent years, they have been held in different locations such as the Congreso de la Fundación Arquitectura y Sociedad at the Palacio Baluarte in Pamplona with the participation of Pritzker Prize winning architect Álvaro Siza.

The Design Contest has been the focus of various exhibitions and displays that have showcased the trajectory of the contest. To celebrate the 10th anniversary, a collection of posters, models and different prototypes of the winning projects were brought together at Valencia’s Mercado de Colón. The exhibition “20 years supporting emerging talent” was opened at the Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos de Madrid (COAM) in 2020 coinciding with Madrid Design Festival and it will travel to different spaces.
"I won the first edition of the contest and it was a push and a high at many levels. I presented a project that I had done in my coursework, it consisted of a pair of seats that fit into each other. I had not finished my studies yet and I was in Erasmus in Germany when I was informed by telephone that my proposal had been the favorite of the professional jury and the second most voted of the popular jury. No credit was given, in addition to the recognition at the curricular level, I think I remember that I won over the 600,000 pesetas (sum of the two awards) that was phenomenal for me since the Erasmus scholarship did not give me even for sunflower seeds. I remember that night I celebrated it in style, yes, in Pforzheim and together with my new international friends. This award also gave me the opportunity to meet the photographer Nienke Klunder when a few years later she was commissioned to portray the winners of all editions to date, on the occasion of the publication of a book celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Andreu World. And through her to Jaime Hayon, a friendship that opened doors for me and prevails until today. For all these reasons, this award has meant a lot to me both professionally and personally."

Inma Bermudez, Valencia (Spain). 2001 First prize.

"At that moment we had just set up Cul des Sac and these contests were a great showcase to start making some noise. We had discovered an incredible material called Bendywood®, a wood that after being subjected to a pressure process offered flexibility never seen before while remaining wet. With it we developed a very colorful chair with a lot of presence, a really little piece "Andreu", but it was striking. We did not win the prize of the professional jury, but that of the public, so the satisfaction was even greater, because we liked the idea of being appreciated by who in the end we wanted to address:"


"I devised Plyam as a wooden version of the nameless plastic chairs that have been popularized for mass production and participated in the contest because it was very important that the best brands could see my work."

Yoshikazu Moritake, Tokyo (Japan). 2008 First prize.

"A single sheet of plywood formed the seat and backrest of Capas, the winning piece of the contest. Folded, the overlap of the armrests joined the legs and gave strength and structure to the whole. The memory of that design is still present today because it gave visibility to my work by the hand of an international jury whom that year was consisted of great icons and figures of design:"

Sebastien Cordoleani, Barcelona (Spain). 2011 First prize.

"It is a good opportunity not only because it is an international event but because the brand is a global reference. I was encouraged to participate for these reasons and the proposed briefing. Wood is one of the materials I like to work with. Having to present a model was also a decisive element to participate, because it is not only about conceptualizing a design but about materializing it. I’ve always liked to get down to work and that’s how it was. I encourage everyone to participate. It is an experience also on a personal level."

Rameshwor Pons, Barcelona (Spain). 2016 First prize.

"That there are contests such as Andreu World’s that offer the opportunity to participate and work every year as professional designers do, from a briefing, it is an excellent exercise"

Bérenice Hélène de Salvatore, Brussels (Belgium). 2017 First prize.

"Winning an award that has worldwide projection and is organized by a furniture company with 65 years of experience, really gives your creativity a space while offering a good window for the visibility of your work."

Chung-Yen Chang, Milan (Italy). 2017 Second prize.

"The joy of receiving this award was even greater when I saw the excitement of my friends and family after hearing the news. I guess it is the culmination of a long process. Although I keep looking forward, I stop a little to enjoy the moment. I feel proud for the satisfaction of knowing that my project was chosen by outstanding professionals in each of their disciplines and I am very grateful to them."

Juan Pablo Acuña, Cordoba (Argentina). 2018 First prize.

"One of the things that led me to participate was the collaboration between Kvadrat and Andreu World. I was struck by the requirement of having to work with an innovative and sustainable material."

Anuar Portugal, Mexico City (Mexico). 2019 First.