

# IFDA

## International Furniture Design Competition Asahikawa 2027 Application Requirements

### Theme: "Origin"

The theme for IFDA 2027 is "Origin." Origin refers to one's roots, beginnings, and source of inspiration. Participants are invited to explore new possibilities for wooden furniture through this concept. The competition particularly values the following three perspectives embedded in the idea of Origin:

- Originality – proposing unique ideas and creative perspectives
- Quality — excellence in craftsmanship, materiality, and refinement
- Functionality — practical and meaningful usability in everyday life

Participants are encouraged to interpret the theme freely through materials, techniques, regional characteristics, culture, lifestyle, and contemporary living, and to propose wooden furniture that responds to the needs of the future. Only newly created and previously unpublished works are eligible. "Unpublished" means that, at the time the results of the main selection are announced, the work:

- has not been commercialized as a product;
- has not been published on websites, in newspapers, magazines, exhibitions, or other design competitions.

\*Please refrain from submitting the same work simultaneously to other design competitions held during the same period.

"Wooden Furniture" means furniture whose principal material is wood. The use of other materials in combination with wood is permitted.

### Qualification

Applications are open to individuals, groups, and corporations regardless of nationality, age, or profession.

### Number of entries

There is no limit to the number of entries submitted by one applicant.

### Registration fee

JPY 10,000 per entry

### Application period

From Wednesday, July 1, 2026 to Friday, December 11, 2026 (Japan Standard Time, midnight)

### Copyrights, Patents, and Industrial Property Rights

- Copyrights, patents, industrial property rights, and all other related rights of the submitted works shall belong to the applicants.
- For works selected for the main selection process, the organizer shall retain the rights related to exhibition, publication in official catalogues, publicity, and promotional use for IFDA2027 and related exhibitions.
- The organizer shall also have priority in discussions with applicants regarding the commercialization of works selected for the main selection process.

### Official languages

The official languages of the competition shall be Japanese and English.

## <Application method>

Applications must be submitted through the official website:

<https://www.ifda.jp>

### ○Presentation Sheet [PDF]

- Submit one A3-size presentation sheet (landscape orientation, single-sided).
- The sheet must include the title of the work, design concept and explanation, together with visual representations of the proposal, such as photographs or CG renderings.
- The minimum font size is 10pt.
- The presentation sheet must be prepared in either English or Japanese.
- Do not include any names, symbols, marks, or other information that may identify the applicant.
- Convert the completed A3 presentation sheet into PDF format and upload it through the application form.
- The file size must not exceed 5 MB.

## <How to Pay the Registration Fee>

Payment of the registration fee must be made online.

The following payment methods are accepted:

- Credit Card (American Express, Diners Club, JCB, MasterCard, and Visa)

Please note the following:

- Only the applicant's own credit card may be used for payment.
- The registration fee is non-refundable.
- An application will be considered complete only after both the application and registration fee have been received.

## <Selection Process>

### Preliminary Selection

- Date: Mid-January, 2027 (tentative)
- Approximately 10 finalist works will be selected based on the submitted presentation sheets and design concepts.
- All applicants will be notified of the results by e-mail by early February 2027.

### Prototype Production

#### ○Prototype Manufacturing in Asahikawa

Applicants selected as finalists will choose whether to have a full-scale prototype manufactured by an Asahikawa Furniture manufacturer or to produce the prototype themselves. If you choose to have the prototype manufactured by a local manufacturer, please prepare the drawings (full-scale and detailed drawings). The schedule for submitting the drawings will be notified to the finalists after the preliminary selection, so please submit them by the designated deadline. If the organizer judges that the prototype cannot be produced by a manufacturer in Asahikawa, the applicant will need to submit their own prototype. The organizer will bear all costs related to the manufacturing of prototypes in Asahikawa.

#### ○Submission of Applicants' Own Prototypes

Applicants who wish to produce and submit their own prototypes for the main selection process must send their prototypes to the IFDA Organizing Committee for evaluation. Details regarding the submission schedule and method will be announced after the preliminary selection. Applicants who fail to submit their prototypes by the designated deadline will be disqualified. Applicants shall bear all costs related to the production and transportation of their prototypes to the IFDA Organizing Committee.

#### ○Showing Design Proposals to Manufacturers

To provide opportunities for market exposure, design proposals that are not selected for the main selection process may be shown to furniture manufacturers in and around Asahikawa, subject to the applicant's consent and with the applicant's rights protected. (The submitted presentation sheets will not be publicly exhibited.) Please indicate your preference by selecting YES or NO on the entry page.

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### Main Selection

- Date: May 18, 2027 (tentative)
- Approximately ten finalists will be invited to present their works as part of the main selection process. Presentations may be conducted online.
- The judges will review the finalist works and select the Gold Leaf, Silver Leaf, Bronze Leaf, Special Awards by the Judges, and finalist works.
- The results will be announced at the award ceremony scheduled for the following day.

### Judges

Chief Judge: Jin Kuramoto (Product Designer)  
Judge: Tsuyoshi Tane (Architect)  
Judge: Ronan Bouroullec (Artist, Designer)  
Judge: Cecilie Manz (Designer)  
Tetsuya Fujita (Chairman of the Organizing Committee)

### Awards

Gold Leaf JPY 3,000,000  
Silver Leaf JPY 500,000  
Bronze Leaf JPY 300,000  
Special Awards by the Judges (4 awards) JPY 100,000/each

\*Tax is included in all prize amounts.

### Exhibition of Award-Winning and Finalist Works

Exhibition Period: From May 19, 2027 through the end of September 2027 (tentative)  
Exhibition Venue: Asahikawa Design Center

\*Please note that traveling exhibitions and other related exhibitions may be held in addition to the exhibition above.

### Return of Works

- Award-winning works and works manufactured by local furniture manufacturers in Asahikawa shall not be returned and will become the property of the organizer.
- Works produced by finalists themselves shall be returned after all exhibitions related to International Furniture Design Competition Asahikawa 2027 (IFDA 2027) have concluded. The organizer shall bear the transportation costs for returning such works.

### Others

Entries that fall under any of the following conditions shall be excluded from the selection process. Even after the announcement of results, awards or finalist status may be revoked if any violation is discovered.

- Entries that do not comply with the application requirements.
- Entries found to be identical or substantially similar to previously published designs, or found to infringe copyrights, design rights, or other intellectual property rights.

### Inquiries

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