



Call for Entries for AWFS 2011 Fresh Wood Student Competition

The Association of Woodworking and Furnishings Suppliers® (AWFS®) is now accepting entries for the 2011 Fresh Wood Student Woodworking Competition. The competition, which will be showcased at the 2011 AWFS*Fair, July 20-23, in Las Vegas, is open to full-time students in an accredited high school or post-secondary woodworking or related program and part-time students in an accredited post-secondary woodworking or related program that are transitioning into a career in woodworking or design. Post-secondary schools include colleges and universities as well as trade, art and union apprenticeship schools. Entry applications will be accepted until May 2, 2011.

The competition has six categories at both school levels: case goods, chairs, open, production/contract, reproduction, and tables. Entries will be rated by a panel of judges that represent different aspects of the industry such as design, education, manufacturing and retail. Judges' scores will determine the finalist pieces that will be on display at the AWFS®Fair. AWFS® covers shipping and the majority of costs to bring students and their teachers to the Fair for the final round. All forms and guidelines can be found on the website AWFSFair.org.

Competition Display to Mingle with North Hall Exhibitors

At the 2011 AWFS®Fair, the display of finalists will move from the lobby to the heart of North Hall so that it is surrounded by supply exhibitors, creating excitement and networking opportunities for the exhibitors, attendees and students.

2009 Fresh Wood Featured Creative Pieces and Historic Winners

The 2009 Fresh Wood competition showcased 50 unique finalists selected from 160 entries. Entries came from 49 high schools and colleges, 21 of which were entering pieces for the first time. More than half the students in the competition are currently pursuing degrees or careers related to the industry, primarily in furniture or interior design or furniture manufacturing.

For the first time in the competition's history, the 2009 Fresh Wood Best of Show winner was a high school student, as was the People's Choice winner. The projects that won the grand prizes were both tables; the Best of Show maple table was in the form of a half-apple, while the People's Choice table featured a complex rose design in marquetry.

Other 2009 winners included a pair of grandfather clocks, an end table that could be reconfigured into different shapes, an RTA table that stays together with magnets and a chair whose ottoman tucks neatly inside of it to complete its design. AWFS distributed more than \$20,000 in prize money for 29 award winning pieces.

Finalists Are Judged On-Site

Final judging will take place on Tuesday, July 19 at AWFS®Fair. Winners will then be announced. Awards will be given for first place and second place in each category and at each school level and honorable mentions will be awarded at the judges' discretion. A "Best of Show" award will also be selected from all first place winners and the winner's school will receive the Larry Hilchie School Grant Award. A People's Choice award, for which all AWFS®Fair attendees and exhibitors have the opportunity to vote, will also be given. All finalists will be featured in the fifth volume of the publication *Fresh Wood*, which will be available for purchase by November 2011.

All of the forms and guidelines for the 2011 Fresh Wood Competition can be accessed at AWFSFair.org or by contacting Adria Torrez at AWFS (800) 946-2937 or adria@awfs.org.

About AWFS

The full-scale international AWFS®Fair, scheduled for **Wednesday - Saturday, July 20 – 23, 2011** in Las Vegas, has become a critical hub for international commerce in the woodworking industry. The AWFS®Fair brings together the entire home and commercial furnishings industry, including manufacturers and distributors of machinery, hardware, lumber, construction materials and other suppliers to the furniture, cabinet manufacturers and custom woodworkers. For more information on the AWFS®Fair, please visit: AWFSFair.org