



# 2024 ISFA Awards

## Guidelines for Submissions



The ISFA Awards is an annual program intended to honor excellence in application design, fabrication and installation of projects using surfacing materials across seven categories.

---

**SUBMISSIONS  
DEADLINE:  
AUGUST 14, 2024**





## **AWARD CATEGORIES**

Projects must be submitted in one of the categories below. Categories may be renamed, consolidated, or eliminated (and projects reclassified) at the discretion of the association or its jurors.

### **PROJECT-BASED AWARDS**

#### **Commercial Excellence in Projects Under \$100K**

Projects submitted must be completed in the commercial sector using surfacing materials that meet the ISFA minimum standard. The project scope must be under \$100,000. In addition, the project must exemplify excellence in all methods of the fabrication process, including safety, training and the use of technology.

#### **Commercial Excellence in Projects Over \$100K**

Projects submitted must be completed in the commercial sector using surfacing materials that meet the ISFA minimum standard. The project scope must be over \$100,000. In addition, the project must exemplify excellence in all methods of the fabrication process, including safety, training and the use of technology.

#### **Residential Excellence in Projects Under \$20K**

Projects submitted must be completed in the residential sector using surfacing materials that meet the ISFA minimum standard. The project scope must be under \$20,000. In addition, the project must exemplify excellence in all methods of the fabrication process, including safety, training and the use of technology.

#### **Residential Excellence in Projects Over \$20K**

Projects submitted must be completed in the residential sector using surfacing materials that meet the ISFA minimum standard. The project scope must be over \$20,000. In addition, the project must exemplify excellence in all methods of the fabrication process, including safety, training and the use of technology.

#### **Sustainable Project of the Year**

Projects submitted must be environmentally focused and include sustainable materials, while exemplifying creativity, ingenuity, innovation and quality through custom fabrication. Projects should include LEED, WELL, Fitwel or other environmental certifications. They should prioritize a positive environmental impact, focus on biophilic design or contribute to the general health and well-being of those who occupy the space. In addition, fabricators must demonstrate prioritization toward environmental conservation in their day-to-day business practices, including but not limited to renewable energy and recycling.



## **AWARD CATEGORIES (continued)**

Nominations must be submitted in one of the categories below. Categories may be renamed, consolidated, or eliminated (and projects reclassified) at the discretion of the association or its jurors.

### **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

#### **Fabricator of the Year**

The Fabricator of the Year Award recognizes an individual or a fabricator member organization that best exemplifies excellence in business using the ISFA ideals of quality, innovation, character and service to the association and the surfacing industry. Current, active members of ISFA may submit nominations for this award. Self-nominations are accepted.

#### **ISFA Hall of Fame**

The ISFA Hall of Fame Award is awarded to an individual who has, during their career, made significant contributions to the surfacing industry and has demonstrated leadership and a commitment to the ideals of the association. Current, active members of ISFA may submit nominations for this award. Self-nominations are accepted.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

ISFA Awards are open to all fabricator members. Associate members may submit entries or nominate ISFA fabricators for consideration. Project submissions must have been completed within the previous two calendar years prior to the entry deadline and comply with all association standards and award category requirements.

Entries for consideration in multiple categories are accepted and encouraged given they meet the criteria. Separate submissions must be completed for each entry.

Entrants should submit their projects with the expectation of attending the Awards Celebration at the ISFA Annual Conference November 6-8.



### **NOT A MEMBER?**

VISIT [WWW.ISFANOW.ORG/MEMBERSHIP](http://WWW.ISFANOW.ORG/MEMBERSHIP) TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP AND JOIN TODAY!



## JUDGING

An independent panel of industry professionals will select the winners for the five project-based awards. Submissions are judged on excellence in all areas of fabrication and installation, including aesthetics, creativity, fit and finish. One winner will be selected in each category. The jury reserves the right not to choose a winner from the entries submitted.

The Fabricator of the Year and the ISFA Hall of Fame submissions will be narrowed to two finalists. These finalists will be determined by a vote from the association's board of directors. The winners will then be chosen by the general membership; the vote will be held August 19-30.

## PRIZE

Participants identified in a submission may receive promotional recognition for their involvement regardless of their status as a winner. Award winners will be announced at the ISFA Annual Conference November 6-8 and should plan on attending the event.

Winners will receive:

- ★ Complimentary registration for the ISFA Annual Conference, where they will be honored with a ceremony. (an estimated value of \$800)
- ★ A physical award that includes a personalized plaque noting the award, the year and your name for display at your company headquarters or office.
- ★ A feature on ISFAnow.org and other promotional channels including social media and newsletters, at the association's discretion.
- ★ A feature article in Countertops & Architectural Surfaces magazine with an option for additional coverage in leading industry news outlets and media partners as a result of the association's official press release.
- ★ Official digital assets for self-promotion including competition award winner logos and more for use on your social media channels, website and other marketing materials.



**NEED ASSISTANCE?  
WE'RE HERE TO HELP!**  
**CONTACT US AT [AWARDS@ISFANOW.ORG](mailto:AWARDS@ISFANOW.ORG).**



**GOT QUESTIONS?  
WE'VE GOT ANSWERS.  
CONTACT US AT  
[AWARDS@ISFANOW.ORG](mailto:AWARDS@ISFANOW.ORG).**

## SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All entries must be submitted electronically using the form at [www.ISFAnow.org/isfa-awards](http://www.ISFAnow.org/isfa-awards). No hard copy submissions will be accepted.

### WRITTEN SUMMARY

Submissions must include contact information including **name, address, phone number and email**. In addition, we need the following information about the project:

- ☐ **Project title** including company name, project type and location (ex. ABC Fabrication Residential Kitchen: Anywhere, USA.)
- ☐ **Material specification.** Include details about which material(s) were used. Be sure to note the manufacturer(s) name and the specific color of the material(s).
- ☐ **Project description.** Include a brief summary that describes the scope of the project and how it qualifies for the award. Include any specific details that tell us why your project meets excellence. (Minimum 50 words, maximum 250.)
- ☐ **Challenge statement.** Describe the application in detail and include technical challenges. (Minimum 50 words, maximum 250.)
- ☐ Fabricator of the Year and Hall of Fame nominations should describe how the nominee best exemplifies the ISFA ideals of quality, innovation, character and service to the association and the industry. In lieu of the photo requirements below, submit a headshot of the individual or company representative.

### PHOTOGRAPHS

Submissions must include **3-5 high-quality full color photos of the project** at different stages. Include at least 2 of the completed work at different angles.

- ☐ JPEGs preferred; minimum resolution 300 DPI.
- ☐ Composite images or renderings are not allowed. No company logos or text should appear in the images. Images may not be edited to add, remove or alter any aspect or element of the project, including its context. Images should represent the project as it exists in the built environment.
- ☐ Include your company name in the photo file names.
- ☐ Collect and post photos to a file-sharing service like Google Drive, Dropbox or WeTransfer. You will be asked to provide a link so that we may obtain the photos.
- ☐ Photos must include captions, not to exceed 50 words, that describe the photo. Captions will be submitted via a Word document.