

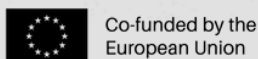
[2024]

# Distributed Design Awards

Entry Guide & Rules



A project by



Supported by



**WASP**  
**AWARD**

**CITIZEN DRIVEN  
INNOVATION**

**CRITICAL  
MATERIALITY**

**PROJECT  
EXCELLENCE**

**PEOPLE'S  
CHOICE**

**TRANSFORMATIONAL  
DESIGN**

**Join the seventh  
edition of the  
Distributed  
Design Awards!**

The Distributed Design Awards celebrate the creative, mind-shifting and responsible design responses to the post-industrial design paradigm. We recognize multidisciplinary, innovative and sustainable designs from Europe's makers, designers and creatives.

[info@distributeddesign.eu](mailto:info@distributeddesign.eu)

[distributeddesign.eu/](https://distributeddesign.eu/)  
[distributeddesign.eu/awards/2024/](https://distributeddesign.eu/awards/2024/)

**DDAwards**

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## 01. Eligible projects

Participation is open to all creative projects at the intersection of the maker movement and digital design under the following restrictions:

- The work must have been designed no longer than 5 years ago.
- Participation is limited to projects designed within Europe by designers based in any country of the European Union or countries that participate in the Creative Europe Programme.
- The design project must reflect some of the aspects of at least two of the four principles of distributed design: valuable, distributable, reproducible and design sensitive.
- Projects should be at least in the production stage but ideally are already tested and finalised projects.
- Projects submitted for previous editions of the Distributed Design Awards are not eligible.



Post Paper Studio by Davide Onestini



# Calendar

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**Open for entries**

**Wednesday, May 29th**

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**Submission deadline**

~~Sunday, June 30th~~ **Monday, July 15th**

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**Judging process**

**Three phases settled in July**

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**Finalist announcement**

**Wednesday, July 31st**

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**Winners announcement**

**Wednesday, August 28th**

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**Award Acceptance**

**Two weeks after notice by email**

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**Prizes**

**Project Excellence**  
**WASP Award**  
**Citizen Innovation**  
**Critical Materiality**  
**Transformational Design**  
**People's Choice**



\* Please note that the Distributed Design Awards organization reserves the right to modify or change the dates without previous notice.

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## 03. Submission

All projects should be submitted by completing the entry form at [distributeddesign.eu](https://distributeddesign.eu) taking into account the following points:

- Explain and defend your project as best as possible. This is your chance to convince the jury.
- Take into account the 'Selection Criteria' section to choose the right words and highlight what makes your project an award winner.
- Submitted texts will be used for communication purposes, so check your writing and text composition before submitting.
- Make sure to fill in each question. Do not leave any boxes empty.
- The images should be a good representation of your project. Sketches or working documents are not allowed. High-quality images are desired. High-quality renders will be considered.

### Important information

- Submitted projects should apply for only one **specific award category**.
- All submitted projects will compete for Project Excellence and People's choice.
- By filling out the entry form, you are accepting the Distributed Design Awards terms and conditions (please see the 'Rules & Terms' section for further details).



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## 04. Judging Process

### 4.1 Round and voting system

The Distributed Design Awards 2024 establishes three judging phases to ensure both process optimisation and fairness.

- **First Round:** 40 pre-selected → Each juror (a representative of each of the 20 Distributed Design partners members) will select two projects. (40 in total).
- **Second Round:** 16 finalists → The best among the 40 pre-selected projects. The Distributed Design coordination team at Fab Lab Barcelona at IAAC makes a shortlist of the projects for the final round. Each juror (seven in total) has 4 votes per category. The 4 most voted projects per category (16 in total) are shortlisted for the final round.
- **Final Round:** 4 winners & 1 winner of the winners → Each Advisory Board member (six in total) of the Distributed Design Platform should select one project from each of the four award categories and propose one of those four projects as the winner among the winners. The project with the most votes in each category will receive the Project Excellence award. Additionally, a representative from WASP will participate in the final round as a juror to vote for the winning project of the WASP award.
- **People's Choice:** 1 winner → The public will have the chance to vote for their favourite project online in July. The voting system will be announced on our social media channels @distributeddesign.

We promote diversity, equity and inclusion. Inviting everyone, with Europe-based projects, independent of their origin, ethnicity, creed, culture, gender identification or religious background, to join!

The Distributed Design Awards aims to ensure gender-equal participation and benefits. We will work to minimize gender disparities across all the awards stages.



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## 4.2 Selection Criteria

The jury will assess the projects individually during each of the phases using the following criteria:

- **Distributable** → The design can travel globally to be manufactured locally.
  - Is the design - considering hardware, software and implementation - accessible through digital platforms? Eg. through an online repository or online archive where files can be downloaded *and* through workshops or hands-on trainings
  - How is the project already distributed in the world? How many times it has been downloaded, made, bought, assembled, forked.
  - What is the distribution strategy? Is the project actively disseminated, particularly taking into account folk that are often marginalized?
- **Reproducible** → The design takes local availability into account and is based on locally available materials and hardware.
  - Are the materials and process affordable and accessible, particularly to communities that have been marginalized?
  - Does the project allow for customization?
  - What is the strategy for supply chain and manufacture of the project?
  - Is the production of the project close to its final consumption?
- **Valuable** → The design creates value for people, society, and the environment, including non-users.
  - Does the project employ regenerative and circular principles at different stages of the design process?
  - Does the project empower, create agency, and encourage collaboration in users and non-users?
  - Does the project take into account a value strategy which considers its lifespan and impact, for example reuse, recycle, repair, refurbish, remanufacture, etc?
  - What is the impact on culture, governance, and the surrounding ecosystem?
- **Design Sensitive** → A sensitivity is brought to the aesthetics and application of the design.
  - Does the designer consider an aesthetic dimension in the work?
  - Are materials, finishings, and components chosen to ensure the design is pleasing and accessible to potential users?
  - Does the design show innovation in terms of materiality, aesthetics or use?
  - Does the designer consider to whom the project is accessible, physically, economically, and emotionally?



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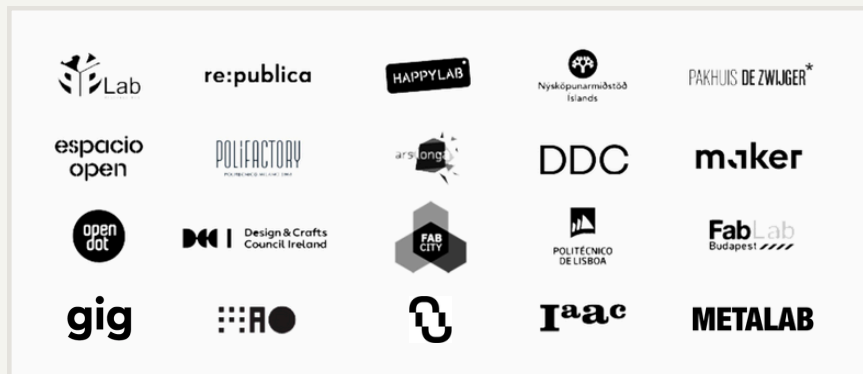
## 4.3 The Jury

The jury is formed by professionals and distributed design experts on each assessing round. They will act and decide according to the evaluation criteria ensuring partiality and fairness.

The jury decision is final and will be kept secret until the official announcement of the finalists and winners projects.

Meet the Jury:

Project Members → 20 cultural institutions representatives:



- Project Coordinator → Distributed Design Platform team members at Fab Lab Barcelona at IAAC with Jessica Guy as project manager and Olga Trevisan as programme coordinator.
- Project Advisory Board → 8 international experts and 1 representative from WASP.





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## 05. The Winners

### 5.1 Categories

The Distributed Design Awards seventh edition establishes four different award categories.

Designers can choose to apply for only **one** specific category award that best reflects their submitted project and prize preferences.

- **WASP Award** → Design that empowers navigating complex and uncertain scenarios through a hands-on, knowing-in-action methodology by utilizing and integrating 3D printing technology.
- **Citizen Driven Innovation** → Design for a better understanding and tackling of environmental challenges through creative actions and contribute to the empowerment of local and global communities.
- **Critical Materiality** → Design that embraces material innovation and responsible principles transition from traditional processes, critically reflecting on the role of materials and practices.
- **Transformational Design** → Design that challenges manufacturing and consumption through innovative, transparent processes and open-source flow.

All projects submitted will compete for the Project Excellence and People's choice.

- **Project Excellence** → Design that best tackle all four core values of the Distributed Design Platform: Open, Collaborative, Regenerative, Ecosystemic.
- **People's Choice** → Design recognized by people and the distributed design network online. The most voted entry during June.

All winning projects will have the opportunity to be exhibited at the Vienna Design Week.

\*Note that by agreeing to the terms and conditions, prize winners are also committing to participating in the residency and learning program provided by the sponsor.



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## 05. The Winners

### 5.1 Prizes

- 2.000 € project funding for the **Project Excellence**
- **WASP AWARD** winner → Two weeks practice-based residency at WASP Headquarters in MassaLombarda (Italy), including flights and accommodation. (Prize value: 7.000 €)
- **Citizen Driven innovation** winner → Smart Citizen Starter Pack and mention in European wide citizen science and research projects social networks.
- **Critical Materiality** winner → 50% Fabricademy Scholarship at the Barcelona node (Prize value: approx 4000€) and the opportunity to develop the final Fabricademy project in collaboration with Kniterate.
- **Transformational Design** winner → 50% Fab Academy Scholarship at the Barcelona node (Prize value: 3750€)
- **People's Choice** winner → The winner will be exhibit at the Vienna Design Week (September 2024)

\*Designers awarded with Project Excellence must submit a report in a Blog Post format on the insights and experiences gained from the prize received within one month after the prize is delivered.

\*Designers awarded the WASP Residency Award must submit a blog post after the completion of the WASP residency, explaining how the award has supported them in their research and development of the project during and beyond the residency (template will be provided).



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## 05. The Winners

### 5.2 Prize Details

→ The winner of **Project Excellence** will be awarded 2000€ to further develop their project. Read here about previous winners and how the Project Excellence Award helped boost their projects.

→ The winner of the **WASP AWARD** will be awarded a fully funded two weeks practice-based residency at WASP headquarters in Massalombarda (Italy), including flights and accommodation, to be able to develop their project, having access to WASP's technology and support, receiving mentoring and training from WASP experts to be able to utilize a range of printers available at location. Winners will have access to the facility to develop their project autonomously.

Requirement: The residency, in agreement, must take place starting from January and no later than March 2025.

Requisite: Basic knowledge of 3D software

→ The winner of **Critical Materiality** will be awarded a 50% Fabricademy Scholarship at the Fab Lab Barcelona node (Prize value: approx 4000€) and the opportunity to develop their final Fabricademy project in collaboration with Kniterate.

Requirement: Confirmation of acceptance of the award within two weeks after notification by email. The deposit fee paid by September 5th ensures reservation of the place in the program.

Location: Barcelona, Spain

Class starts: September 17th 2024

End of program: Classes until Mid-March 2025, Finals until the end of April 2025



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## 05. The Winners

### 5.2 Prize Details

→ The winner of **Transformational Design** will be awarded a 50% Fab Academy Scholarship at the Fab Lab Barcelona node (Prize value: 3750€).

Requirement: Confirmation of acceptance of the award within two weeks after notification by email. Deposit fee paid 2 weeks after receiving the Acceptance letter ensures reservation of the place in the program.

Location: Barcelona, Spain

Class starts: January 22nd 2025

End of program: Classes until late-May 2025, Finals until Mid-June 2025

→ The winner of **Citizen Innovation** will be awarded a Smart Citizen Starter Pack and will have the opportunity to have the winning project mentioned within the context of European-wide citizen science and research projects on social networks, such as CitiObs and More4Nature.

→ The winner of the People's choice will be exhibit at the Vienna Design Week in September 2024.



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## 06. Rules & Rights

### 6.1

- Submitted projects must be original and may not infringe on the rights of a third party.
- Distributed Design organisation is not responsible for the authenticity of the information included by the designers in the open call form.
- Distributed Design organisation is not responsible for claims of plagiarism.
- Distributed Design organisation reserves the right without any compensation to use submitted texts and visual materials for communication purposes of the Platform activities; including, but not limited to, press material, brochures, websites and third-party marketing materials.
- Designers awarded must accept the prize within a two-week period after receiving notice from the organisation.
- Designers who are awarded must accept the prizes fulfilling the stated requirements.
- Designers awarded must submit a one-page report one month after the prize is executed.
- By entering, you agree to these rules and warrant that you are eligible to enter the contest.
- The data will not be transferred unless they are strictly indispensable for the fulfilment of the aforementioned purposes or legal obligations.

By agreeing to the terms and conditions, prize winners are also committing to participating in the residency and learning program provided by the sponsor.



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## 06. Rules & Rights

### 6.2 Scholarship conditions

- Designers granted with a scholarship must accept and sign the Scholarship Terms & Conditions agreement sent by the coordinators of each course.
- Students with scholarships must attend 80% of classes.
- Students with scholarships must finish the Program in the year of enrollment, and follow all deadlines.
- Students with scholarships cannot defer their grant for following years.
- Scholarship discounts are not accumulative





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