



The Furniture Makers' Company
the furnishing industry's charity

Young Furniture Makers Innovation Award

An Award for Excellence in British Furniture for Young Furniture Makers

The Young Furniture Makers is the student-facing brand that encompasses all of our educational efforts. It is a free to join group open to all young people, run by our student members. It provides them with valuable information and networking opportunities with our more senior members, who come from all sectors of the furnishing industry, and vitally allows them to interact with all our unique initiatives.

The Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers is the Livery Company for the British Furnishing Industry. Its purpose is to enhance and support that industry and to encourage new talent into our industry. The most important way it does so is by creating a wide ranging education programme that helps to support and nurture young talent for the future. It also does so by encouraging public recognition of excellence and innovation by the grant of this new award, the Young Furniture Makers Design Award which recognises **excellence in the design of furniture for the intention of volume production, by the finest young designers in full time higher education.**

Criteria

Excellence in design, materials, manufacture and function

- Are the materials appropriate?
- Does the piece show new thinking?
- Does it represent value?
- Does it solve a problem?
- Have the students considered the method and cost of manufacture?

Eligibility

A YFM Innovation Award can be awarded for a piece or range which is intended for volume production and is designed by any student who is either;

- Studying in full-time education
- Who has or is studying in a private/commercial furniture designer-maker course or who has
- Recently graduated from a United Kingdom university or college.

Applications

Applications are welcome from universities and colleges. **Tutors may submit up to two pieces of furniture from their college/university or private/commercial institute (this applies to FDA, BA and MA and all other higher education courses, where students are studying full time).**

This new YFM Award is open to any young furniture maker who is in full time education who has studied in a private/commercial furniture designer-maker course or who has or has recently completed a higher education course.

If you have recently completed a higher education course or a designer-maker course at a private/commercial institute and would like to submit your work, you can do so by contacting your former tutor, they can submit your work on your behalf.

The application form is attached.

Assessment Procedure

Applications will be shortlisted by a selection panel appointed by The Furniture Makers' Company. Shortlisted furniture will be exhibited at Furniture Makers' Hall at the annual YFM Exhibition in **October**.

During the exhibition, pieces will be judged and a winning entry will be awarded the YFM Design Award. There will be two runners up receiving second and third place certificates which will be sent after the exhibition.



Benefits

Pieces or ranges of furniture awarded a YFM Award are recognisably items of quality and excellence. To substantiate and promote this accolade, YFM Award holders are entitled to;

- Use the YFM Award logo on any publicity material relating to each piece awarded a YFM Award
- Receive a numbered YFM Award certificate, which clearly states the names of the designer and maker and is itself a guarantee of the authenticity of the piece.
- Publicity within the YFM section of the Company's website (furnituremakers.org.uk) containing a link to their own site/s, their contact details, and a general description of their practice.

The Furniture Makers Company

We're here to help everyone involved with this exciting creative world, whether you are a student, designer, maker, business owner, retailer, current or former employee

- We're here to help when times are tough with grants, services, time and support
- We're encouraging new talent with our extensive education programme, working with schoolchildren, students and young professionals to create a powerful workforce for the future
- We recognise and inspire excellence within the industry with our prestigious Guild Mark Awards

About Young Furniture Makers

Young Furniture Makers is a group dedicated to students who have one thing in common - they love furniture and furnishing! The group was set up by The Furniture Makers' Company to help young, up and coming furniture makers and designers build a network with others in the same field, and to help them on the path to forming a successful career within the industry. Currently there are around 300 in the group and it is growing all the time. The social and networking opportunities are a great way of learning from the experience of others and meeting some of the leading lights in the furnishing industry.

Closing date: Friday 27 April 2018

