



The Furniture Makers' Company
the furnishing industry's charity

Young Furniture Makers Bespoke Award

An Award for Excellence in British Bespoke 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 in the craft of furniture for the intention of bespoke furniture by the finest young designers in full time higher education.**

Criteria

Excellence in design, materials, craftsmanship and function

Is the piece, in both design and craftsmanship, exceptional? There are other matters to consider, for example

- Are the materials, including the fittings and the finish, appropriate?
- Does the design of the piece show originality and creativity?
- Are its proportions and scale harmonious?
- Is the design fit for purpose?



Eligibility

An YFM Bespoke Award can be awarded for a one off piece which is intended for limited 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.

Benefits

Pieces of furniture awarded a YFM Bespoke Award are recognisably items of quality and excellence. To substantiate and promote this accolade, YFM Bespoke 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 Bespoke 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.



Applications

Applications are welcome from universities and colleges.

Tutors may put forward any students from their college/university or private/commercial institute who's pieces meet the criteria and one piece per student can be entered.

This new YFM Bespoke 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 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 **online in October**

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

If a YFM Bespoke Award is awarded, a certificate, carrying a photograph of the piece, signed by the Master, the Chairman of the Young Furniture Makers Committee and the Clerk will be sent to the successful applicant after the exhibition.

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: Saturday 31st July 2021