

Formica Corporation announces the VI “Formica Funcional” Contest for Young Architects

RULES

Background:

Following the successes, experiences and vivid dreams of these first 10 years of the “Formica Funcional” Competition, Edition VI introduces two new items:

- Participation by a prestigious international institution in the fields of architecture and urban planning. In this Edition VI, Formica Corporation has established a collaborative agreement with **La Biennale di Architettura di Venezia**: www.labiennale.org.
- A 3-month scholarship for the winning team, working in the collaborative framework of La Biennale with Formica Corporation.

Theme:

The project to be developed will be a floating building that will serve as the Biennale Architecture Workshop which can navigate between the cities of Venice and Palermo, as well as visiting cities in southern Italy that participate in LA Biennale SUD: Pescara, Naples, Salerno, Bari, Brindisi, the Calabria Region, Catania, Messina, Syracuse and Trapani.

The project proposed by each team must organize and detail the activity and daily life of 25 students, five professors, and five crew members, who will work and live in it during the La Biennale Exhibition. In addition, this building will be open to the public when it is in port in each city so that it can hold activities: debates, exhibits, etc.

This project is to be developed using Formica® products as the main material, with required use of Formica Compact phenolic panels for ventilated facades and Formica Solid Surfacing copolymer panels.

Since this is a project it does not need to be constructed in the real world and there are no other determining factors or limitations other than the starting point explained in these rules.

Participants:

Students in the final two years of architectural courses or young graduate architects under 35 years of age from Spain, Portugal and Italy may participate in the contest, with a maximum of 2 people per team.

The registration methods are:

- by e-mail; send the registration form to: info@proyetaconformica.com
- by mail; send the registration form to “D&M-Formica Funcional, Alameda Urquijo 28 7^aA- 48010 Bilbao”.
- by fax; send the registration form to the number: +34 94 423 89 01
- by telephone; + 34 902-998 928
- or by Internet; go to www.formica.es

Conditions of Participation:

Each registrant may present as many projects as he/she desires. Participation may be as an individual or as a group (2 person maximum), in the latter case the team must register both members and designate a single official spokesperson.

The judges will select the 5 finalist projects from among all of the projects presented during the contest. The finalists will then make a scale model of the project and a cost study for the construction of the Workshop.

Participants may direct any inquires they may have until 10 November to telephone number +34 902-998 928.

Materials to be Submitted:

- Each project must be unpublished and contain at least the resolution of the first draft, with descriptive statements and constructive details.
- The plans must clearly indicate all of the Formica products used, along with their technical specifications.
- The conceptual development of the architectural project, its innovative character and its viability as a moving, floating building will all be evaluated. The construction design must explore the possibilities for using Formica COMPACT phenolic panel for ventilated facades and Formica SOLID copolymer panel for extreme environmental situations as well as its uses for large media impact.
- The graphic materials are to be presented on A-2 size panels mounted on 5 mm mounting board, remitted in a single package.
- The alias should be noted in the lower right-hand corner of each panel in a clear and visible manner.
- The five works selected for the final stage will receive a subsidy of 400 euros each to produce a 1:100 scale model of the building and a cost study for its construction.

Identification:

In order to ensure the anonymity of the contestants, each project must be signed with an alias. This identification should be reflected on all of the panels as well as the proposal package. A sealed enveloped (identified with the alias) containing the name, address and telephone number of the author or authors will be enclosed inside the packet. For two-person teams, a single spokesperson must be designated. This information must also expressly indicate the intention to retrieve the work at the conclusion of the contest if it is not chosen for the final stage.

Registration Period:

- The registration period for the contest ends on 3rd November 2006.
- The entrance period for projects ends on 10 November 2006. This final day is the deadline for receipt of packages.
- Following the announcement of the judges, the five projects selected will have until 5 December to turn in scale models of the proposed selections, which are to be delivered to "D&M-Formica Funcional, Alameda Urquijo 28, 7^aA-48010 Bilbao, Spain."

Judging:

The panel of judges will consist of prestigious architects:

- Rinio Bruttomesso, Commissioner-architect for La BiennaleSUD of Venice
- Antonio Vaillo, architect
- Enrique Vallecillos, architect
- Anatxu Zabalbeaskoa, architecture critic

and a representative from the Formica Corporation who will serve as jury moderator and secretary.

The decision of the judges is final and will be made public during an awards ceremony to take place at the Guggenheim Bilbao Museum on a date that will be personally announced to the finalists.

The authors of the five finalist projects, representatives of the Higher Technical Schools of Architecture, accredited architecture professionals and specialized members of the press will be invited to this ceremony.

Awards*:

The winning team will be award a 3-month scholarship at the headquarters of METROPOLIS, the World Association of Major Metropolises www.metropolis.org, in Barcelona during the first half of 2007, working with the "Cities and Waterfronts" workgroup in the proposal development project for a new "Buenos Aires + Montevideo" city scale over the Río de la Plata to be presented at the Association's 2007 Congress in Sydney. METROPOLIS is the international institution that has been invited to La BiennaleSUD of Venice.

The award may not be divided nor may the contest be declared void. The Technical School of the winner, or winners, will receive, in addition, the Formica trophy, made of silver and ColorCore[®], designed by Javier Machimbarrena.

All finalist projects will receive a certificate recognizing their position as a finalist.

*The scholarship may be exchanged for its equivalent cost in euros.

Winning Works and Project Development:

The winning work will become the property of Formica Corporation, which will reserve all patent, marketing and publication rights of the designs, systems and constructive solutions developed as well as possible derivatives.

Furthermore, all rights will be reserved in regard to reproduction in publications and magazines of any of the non-winning projects, making mention of the authors and, in the case of students, the school in which they study.

Acceptance:

Formica Corporation is not responsible for any damage that projects may suffer due to causes beyond the organization, or for claims of plagiarism that may affect any of the participants.

Participation in Functional Formica Contest VI carries an implicit acceptance of these rules as a whole and their interpretation according the Formica Corporation.