

FSPA

2024 DESIGN AWARDS

FLORIDA SWIMMING POOL ASSOCIATION DESIGN AWARDS

ENTRY WINDOW: May 1 - October 31

PURPOSE

1. Stimulate the installation of attractive pools, spas and backyard environments.
2. Recognize and reward innovative design, planning, landscaping, and craftsmanship in the development of the swimming pool and spa environment.
3. Expand industry exposure to the consuming public in a positive manner.
4. Assist participants in publicizing their product by using this competition as a marketing tool.
5. Observe trends in swimming pool and spa design and construction.

ELIGIBILITY

All entrants must be current members of the Florida Swimming Pool Association when the award is given and have been a member during the construction of the entry. The party who receives payment for the installation shall be eligible to enter and receive an award. Installations must have been completed between January 1, 2021 and September 30, 2023 (except for entries in the "Classic Residential Pools" category). An installation may be resubmitted if it meets the eligibility requirements and has not won an award. Award winning pools can only be entered once with the exception of "Classic Residential Pools" which can be entered again after 10 years.

ENTRY DATES & FEES

Entries may be submitted upon project completion or any time between May 1 - October 31, 2023. Entries must arrive at the FSPA Sarasota office by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31, 2023. A non-refundable entry fee of \$99 per entry must accompany each entry. Payment by check only. Entrants who submit eleven (11) or more entries receive one (1) entry FREE. Any entries received after this date are subject to a late fee of \$20 per entry. No entries will be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on November 7, 2023. Pools entered in multiple categories require an entry form and payment for each category. If you prefer to send only digital images, please include an additional \$25 per entry and FSPA will print the pictures for you for judging.

JUDGING

Judged will be the installation itself and supporting materials. The project's achievements will be considered as well as the quality of workmanship, soundness of design, beauty, functionality and client testimony. Attention will be given to the surrounding landscaped area with regard to how well it harmonizes with the installation.

The Florida Swimming Pool Association reserves the right to eliminate a particular category from the competition if insufficient number of entries are submitted, or two or more categories may be combined at the judges' discretion.

Each entry will be reviewed with respect to conformance with existing ANSI/APSP standards and Florida Building Code or any applicable mandatory design code of a government having jurisdiction over the installation site. It is important that entrants describe in detail any matters that might be questioned based upon the photographic representation concerning complete compliance with such standards (i.e.: Handholds - refer to ANSI/APSP-5, Article XV, Section 15.1). The judges may request clarification on compliance. Any entry that does not meet standards / codes will be disqualified. Entrants will be notified if an entry is disqualified, but the entry fee will not be refunded.

Judges will not know the names of those submitting entries. Only numbers will identify all photographs and accompanying entry materials. Each entrant agrees to accept the judging panel's decision as final. The Chairman of the Design Awards Committee will select the panel of judges. Industry judges will not be permitted to judge a category in which he/she has an entry submitted.

AWARDS

Awards of “Gold”, “Silver”, “Bronze” and “Award of Merit” may be granted in each category. Judges do not have to recognize any entries in a category if they deem that no entries merit an award. An overall “Best of Show” award may also be granted, as well as special awards for exceptional achievement (i.e. Technical Achievement). Each winner will receive a plaque with a color print of the winning entry and the winner’s name and the award. You may order additional award plaques for \$85 each. Awards become the property of the winners. A logo will be available to winners to use on letterhead, cards, etc.

Winners will be notified by mail no later than December 31, 2023. Awards will be presented at the opening reception and awards presentation at the Everything Under the Sunsm Expo in Orlando, Florida on Thursday, February 22, 2024. All entrants should plan to have representatives on hand to accept awards personally. Should you not be available to attend, your award(s) will be shipped for a pre-paid fee of \$15 each.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: (incomplete entries will be disqualified)

- Completed entry form. All questions must be answered or an explanation should be included for non-applicable items. Attach additional pages as necessary. Separate entry forms must be submitted with each entry. Any reproduction of the entry form that is completely legible is acceptable.
- Video:
 - Video footage should be shot in landscape mode and be 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 minutes long.
 - HD quality video. Include on CD-ROM or USB drive with photos and company logo.
 - Show the entire project and highlight any special features. Video shouldn’t indicate your company’s identity in any way.
- Photographs:
 - Minimum of two different views (more than two views is preferred).
 - Photos may not be altered, filtered, enhanced or edited in any way.
 - Send color prints, unmounted. Must be at least 8”x10” HORIZONTAL view prints. If you would like FSPA to print these for you from the digital images provided, please include \$25 per entry.
 - Electronic photos are also required on a CD-ROM or USB drive at minimum of 300 dpi, .jpg or .tiff format.
 - Photos of safety equipment, including handholds and barrier methods (can be 4x6 prints).

*There should be NO people, logos or names in the photographs.
- Plan / Site Drawing of pool - Drawing submitted should be on paper no larger than 11” x 17” and may be folded. Please note any field changes and indicate depth of finished pool.
- 100 - 200 word summary of the project, design goals and achievements. Include information about technical achievements, terrain challenges or special features of the project. (Not everything can be seen in a photo, please describe the project briefly but thoroughly.)
- An official company logo. Electronic version should be included on CD-ROM or USB drive.
- Optional:* Letter of support from the client testifying to the quality and functionality of the finished product.

Photographs and video must not be identified. No name or address may appear on the front or back, including that of the photographer. If photo credit is required please include the information on a separate page.

All entries and accompanying photographs / electronic files / slides become the property of Florida Swimming Pool Association and will not be returned. The Florida Swimming Pool Association reserves the right to use any of the submitted material in its own publications, other publications and for promotional and display purposes.

The Florida Swimming Pool Association can be contacted at 941-952-9293 with any questions or to confirm receipt of entries.

CATEGORIES FOR ENTRIES

1. Residential Pool (or Pool / Spa Combo)
 - 1-A. Small: 250 to 500 square feet
 - 1-B. Large: 501 square feet and over
 - 1-C. Vanishing Edge
2. Residential – Fiberglass or Vinyl Liner
3. Residential Spas (Interior & Exterior)
4. Classic Residential - Any residential pool of any size or type of construction built at least 10 years prior to deadline. Year pool was finished must accompany entry. Previous award winning pools are eligible.
5. Water Features
 - 5-A. Residential
 - 5-B. Commercial
6. Pool Restorations - (any type construction) - Before and after photographs must be submitted.
 - 6-A. Residential
 - 6-B. Commercial
7. Public Pools and/or Spas - Country clubs, YMCAs, county pools, hotel, motel, condo and apartment pools, and any other non-residential pools.
8. Water Parks
9. Other: Spa Pools, Swim Spas, Splash Pads, Plunge Pools, etc.

The Florida Swimming Pool Association reserves the right to eliminate a particular category from the competition if insufficient number of entries are submitted, or two or more categories may be combined at the judges' discretion.

Photography Tips

The following are some tried and true ways to help ensure photographs you enter in the FSPA Design Awards will truly show off your work and catch the eye of our panel of judges.

- Determine what impression you want to give about a particular installation. This will impact the setting, the lighting, the angle and just about every aspect of the photo shoot.
- Take a few moments to view the prize-winning entries from the 2023 FSPA Design Awards. You'll gather ideas on how to present your entry in the proper manner. Industry or trade magazines are also excellent sources for shots of other award winning spas and pools.
- Be sure to take advantage of any natural surroundings, such as a body of water or a grove of trees that can provide a beautiful backdrop for the setting.
- No matter how attractive the home adjacent to the installation might be, don't let it become a distraction from the pool or spa itself.
- Allow ample time for trees, bushes, plants, and flowers to grow and mature before selecting an installation to shoot. (This is the reason why FSPA allows entrance by installations as much as two years prior to the competition.)
- While the time of day is important for setting a particular mood, make sure there's adequate light to highlight the installation. Avoid shaded areas as this can make it difficult to see important features.
- Be sure to highlight the interesting aspects of the installation - be it the handcrafted tile work, a rock waterfall, special lighting, or a vanishing edge.
- Ask yourself the following question, "Does the photograph give a good representation of the pool's/spa's shape and size?" The entire pool or spa should be shown in one photograph.
- Every attempt should be made to eliminate electrical wires, telephone poles, trees, fences, etc. that might block the view of the installation.
- Make certain the pool or spa is clean both inside and out, and that the surrounding area is neat. Keep all maintenance equipment and toys out of the photo. If practical, items such as gas grills, carts, and excess pool-side furniture should not be included in the shot. If you are unable to remove them, make certain they are in good condition and properly arranged.
- Do not photograph any aspect of the installation that is in disrepair. Cracks, bubbles, delamination, etc., will affect an entry's chance of being selected.
- Photos should not depict food, beverages of any kind, or people in the pools or spas. While it is tempting to want to show your customers enjoying their facility, they are a significant visual distraction from what it is that the judges will be looking for.
- Common sense should also rule in determining what photos you will submit for the judges to review. If something seems out of place to you, count on it appearing that way to a panel of judges.
- While it may be tempting to adjust / enhance colors in a photo prior to submission, it will result in disqualification of the entry.

PAGE 2 ENTRY FORM FOR POOLS & SPAS

Division Entered _____ Category Entered _____

Has this pool been submitted previously in the FSPA competition? Yes _____ No _____

Note: Please identify the unit (i.e., meter, liter, etc.) where measurements are used.

1. Length / width dimensions at water line (excluding steps)

2. Area of water surface _____

3. Capacity in gallons or liters _____

4. Minimum depth _____

5. Maximum depth _____

6. Floor slope _____

7. Type of construction _____

8. Deck material _____

9. Pool Finish _____

10. HP size of pump/motor _____

11. Pipe size on suction and discharge lines _____

12. Number of return inlets _____

13. Type and size of filter _____

14. Sanitizing system _____

15. Cleaning System _____

16. Anti-Entrapment Method _____

17. Barrier Method(s) used _____

18. Heating method _____

19. Additional equipment used for special water features

Public pools/spas only:

20. Type of organization for which built (hotel, club, municipality, school)

21. Was pool designed for sole use of members of organization named, or was it also to be used by others? Name groups expected to use it (local boys/girls club, high school swim team, admission-paying public, etc.)

Supporting Materials Required for Each Entry:

Video:

- Video footage should be shot in landscape mode and be 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 minutes long.
HD quality video.

Photographs:

- Minimum of two different views
All photos should be color prints, unmounted and at least 8"x10" horizontal view (or \$25 printing fee)
Electronic files of the photos are required on CD-ROM or USB drive at minimum of 300 dpi, .jpg or .tiff files are acceptable.
Photograph of safety equipment (handholds, barriers, anti-entrapment) (can be 4 x 6 print)

Plan / Site Drawing of pool - Drawing submitted should be on paper no larger than 11" x 17" and may be folded. Please note any field changes and indicate depth of finished pool.

100 - 200 word summary of project - Include information about technical achievements, terrain challenges or special features of the project.

Optional

Letter of support from the client testifying to the quality and functionality of the finished product.

These support materials are critical to the judge's complete review of each project and must be included for an entry to be considered for an award. The Florida Swimming Pool Association will also use this information as part of the awards presentation and the package sent to local and national media regarding all Award winners.

MAIL ENTRY TO:
Florida Swimming Pool Association
Attn: DESIGN AWARDS
2555 Porter Lake Drive, Suite 106
Sarasota, FL 34240