



SMA 2018 Annual StairCraft Awards Rules

Purpose:

To recognize the individual achievements of the members of the SMA; to elevate industry standards of aesthetic value, stair safety, quality of workmanship and technical achievement; and to promote to the public the value of utilizing the experience and products of SMA members.

Entry Deadline & Registration Fee:

All 2018 entrants must register on line at www.stairways.org and pay the entry fee no later than 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on the registration closing date stated on the entry form. An early entry fee discount of \$50 will be offered as noted on the entry form. The entry fee covers all submissions to all categories. The submission of entry forms and photos must be made by the deadline stated on the entry form.

Contest Categories

Design Scheme

Best Stair Part	----
Best Balustrade	----
Best Straight Stairway	Traditional/Classical
Best Straight Stairway	Modern/Freeform
Best Curved Stairway	Traditional/Classical
Best Curved Stairway	Modern/Freeform
Best Spiral Stairway	----
Best Ships Ladder	----
Best Alternating Tread Device	----
Most Unique Stairway	----
Best Stairway Renovation (before small pic req'd)	----
Best Stairway from Stock Components	----
Best Straight Commercial Stairway (IBC non-residential)	----
Best Curved Commercial Stairway (IBC non-residential)	----

New Category

Best Stairway Model for Production. Stairs submitted will be judged for robust design features allowing adaptability to many configurations and cost effective production in lieu of technical challenge.

Judgment Criteria for Most Categories:

Aesthetics Safety Quality Technical Challenge

Judgment Criteria for Best Stairway Model for Production:

Aesthetics Safety Quality Robust Design for Configuration and Production

A short statement of how the project demonstrates excellence worthy of a StairCraft Award in each of the judgment criteria will be mandatory.

Eligibility:

SMA member companies in good standing may enter. Joint entries (two or more cooperating firms) are permitted for all categories other than “Best stair part” if all are members and contributed to the project. Member companies may submit up to one entry in each category.

Violation of the rules or misrepresentation of a product or company as the responsible principal producer/stairbuilder/installer/mfr shall be cause for disqualification from the contest and may be a violation of the SMA’s Code of Conduct and Ethics.

Project must have been completed within three years of entry deadline date and submitter must be the principal producer/stairbuilder/installer of the product as relates to the category.

Projects receiving a prior SMA StairCraft award may not be resubmitted. Projects submitted in previous years and not awarded may be resubmitted in an alternative category, as applicable, but may not be resubmitted for consideration in a category in which it has already competed.

Members may compete in as many categories as they choose however:

- No project can be submitted in more than one category in the same year.
- Stairways that contain *stairs* with curved and straight segments must be entered as curved stairways

All stairways and balustrades must be in compliance with the building code in effect in the jurisdiction as applicable to the completed project. Residential Spiral Stairways however shall be qualified for the category based on the IRC 2015 definition of Spiral Stairways.

Anonymity of contestants is required until the election is closed. For judging purposes only a number will identify entries. Publicizing a company’s entry identity for the purpose of gaining an advantage in the elections may result in disqualification.

Following the close of all elections the entrants will be identified.

Entry Procedures:

All entries must be submitted complete and in accordance with the submission instructions on the entry form or maybe returned for resubmission. No entry fees will be refunded unless the entry is withdrawn within 3 days of the late entry closing date.

Descriptive submission is *mandatory* – A description of each judgment criteria, not to exceed 35 words, must be provided.

All submissions become the property of the SMA and may be used for any purposes as determined by the association for promotion of the association.

All entrants must bring a copy of their large 8 x 10 photo entry for display at the annual conference prior to the Awards Presentation.

Contest Administration:

All entries will be posted online in a uniform way for judgment by member peers. SMA member companies will be granted one vote in each contest category. SMA Staff will administer the contest and tally ballots. Ballots for all entries shall first be based on the entry being worthy of the award. Voters shall be directed to vote for the best entry if more than one is worthy. This could result in some awards not being recognized, to preserve the integrity of the StairCraft Awards. There must be at least two contestants within an award category to get on the ballot. When this condition is not met the entry may be resubmitted in the following year's competition without further fee for the entry in that category provided the participant is still a member in good standing.

The SMA Board of Directors shall decide issues not covered by the rules with respect to the integrity, fairness and prestige of the contest for the SMA and its members. All rulings of the Board of Directors are final and will be posted on the website or announced prior to presentation of awards.

Awards Presentation:

Participants and Recipients will be announced and the official presentation shall take place during the SMA annual conference awards banquet. A single award will be given in each category.

An employee, officer or owner of the company MUST be registered at the conference and present at the official presentation ceremony to accept the award. Failure to do so shall result in disqualification.

Do not enter if you cannot send a delegate to the conference.

The SMA shall maintain and post a history of award recipients on the website for public access.

Award Recipient Responsibilities:

The winning member company will proudly display the award in their place of business. A winning member company will proudly display “SMA Stair Craft Award Winner, year, category” only during its term of membership in the SMA. Winning members will have the opportunity to give a short “How We Did It” presentation prior to the awards presentation in the following year.

Contest Prize:

Award winners will be presented with an award plaque to proudly display the company’s excellence in achievement.

SMA will publish the award winning projects in the SMA newsletter, feature them in press releases, and post them on the SMA website until the next year’s recipients are selected. After that, winning member companies will be listed as past award recipients with year and category. Winning entries for the current year will be prominently displayed as 2017 SMA StairCraft Awards winners on the SMA website.