



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE 20th SLOVAK DESIGN AWARD 2023 – PRODUCT DESIGN

NCD23
Press Release
Bratislava, 31 March 2023

The Slovak Design Award celebrates its 30th anniversary and simultaneously announces its 20th year!

“When one says 30 years of NCD, I feel commitment, responsibility, and also joy. Commitment stems from reflecting on the three decades since the first competition – Good Design; responsibility reflects the fact that the competitive exhibition of the best Slovak design has become a prestigious national award; and the joy is brought by the statistics of the total number of works entered during those 30 years, with a beautiful total of 3,288. In the years past, we handed out awards and special mentions, and further acknowledged 262 design works, designers, agencies, manufacturers, and personalities. The award has grown in size, variety, and reputation. This year has been contractually backed for the first time, which will enable us to plan each and every year much better. A special internal department and an NCD advisory body comprising external collaborators is currently being formed. We believe that together we will win the battle against insufficient funds, issues related to renting exhibition venues or award ceremony premises, and at the same time, we will successfully increase the recognition of the award among general public and professionals. Cross your fingers for the years to come,” said **Maroš Schmidt, director of the Slovak Design Center.**

“I consider the Slovak Design Award a project that clearly reflects quality work, creativity, and the huge amount of energy invested by its organisers from the Slovak Design Center. They are the ones who make it possible for designers to present their work to the public. I am glad that it was possible to stabilise its funding during its jubilee 20th anniversary” said **Natália Milanová, Minister of Culture of the Slovak Republic.**

The Slovak Design Award is an annual event that acknowledges and celebrates the best of Slovak design. It awards designers who created innovative and creative works with a significant impact on individual areas of human life, the whole of society, and the environment. Based on, but not limited to, these criteria, the works submitted to the competition will be judged by an international expert jury comprising seven members: **Michal Staško** (SK), **Mária Račková** (SK), **Stefan Moritsch** (AT), **Valerio Lupi Cherubini** (IT), **Václav Mlynář** (CZ), **Pavel Masopust** (CZ), and **Jakub Berdych** (CZ).

Based on the types and scope of the works and projects entered, the jury may decide to grant special mentions. However, if an insufficient number of quality projects is entered, the jury may decide not to grant any awards in the particular category.

This year, NCD2023 has partnered with **Repairably**, who will present a special award at the awards ceremony.

“Repairably supports product design because it is a key element in the reparability of products, that we strive for. We are excited that in cooperation with the Slovak Design Center, we are able to present the Award for Repairable Design and use it to showcase Slovak products that have the potential to be repaired and positively impact the future,” said **Daniela Lalahová, director of Repairably.**

This year, we introduce a new collaboration with the Slovak Fashion Council, and the winner of the last year's Best Fashion Talent, Martina Durikovic, will be able to advance straight to the 2nd round of the NCD23.

“The Slovak Fashion Council considers the Slovak Design Award an important recognition of the work of Slovak designers, but also an important tool to improve the visibility of quality people in the creative industry. That is why we are a partner, who will spread the values and purpose of the NCD to the public and we will strive to provide support not only for fashion designers.

I believe that the advancement of Maťa Durikovic will enrich the competition with the high quality that had already been acknowledged by our 10-member expert jury. We also presented Maťa's work at the London Fashion Week, where she garnered huge international recognition from the expert audience,” said **Zuzana Bobíková, director of Slovak Fashion Council.**

The current year offers a selection of **eight competition categories**. These reflect human individuality and identity (**Fashion & Fashion Accessories**), leisure activities (**Sport & Leisure**), improve the quality of life within the space “inhabited” by man (**Home & Public Space**), build an inspirational work environment and safe transportation from point A to point B (**Work & Mobility**), explore the relationship between man, society, and the environment (**Society & Environment**), respect traditions and display courage to push the boundaries of the discipline (**Art & Design & Craft**), peek over the horizons of a common way of thinking (**New Horizons**), and open up to a new generation of professional designers (**Student Design**). Along the main awards for the above categories, the NCD annually acknowledges four design personages and grants the **Established Designer** and **Emerging Talent** awards, the **Award for Long-term Cultural Contribution** presented by the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, and the **Award for Long-term Economic Contribution** presented by the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic.

The NCD23 is curated by Michal Staško, a well-rounded designer, who works in the area of industrial design, but also interior design and packaging design. He received several awards: DESIGN 95 – Slovak Design Award 1995, RedDot Design Awards 2013, is the laureate of the Krišťálové krídlo 2013 award, won the Slovak Design Award for Product Design in 2015 and he is a German Design Award Nominee for 2015. He is a member of the a11 architecture studio and the Slovak Association of Interior Designers. In his free time, he is active in promoting design to the young generation.

“When I won the Design Award as a student in 1995, I could not have known that in a few years, in 2003, I would become a member of its jury as a professional designer. In 2015, I repeatedly won the Slovak Design Award for Product Design. It is 2023 and I am honoured to take on the role of the curator for the Slovak Design Award for Product Design. I am glad that I have been able to be a part of the Slovak Design Award for the past 28 years,” **said Michal Staško, curator of the Slovak Design Award 2023.**

The NCD23 visuals and its communication campaign were authored by **Aurélia Garová, Tereza Maco and Jozef Sklenka**, graduates of Visual Communication at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, who were selected by an expert committee. They work on a plethora of assignments ranging from authorial, through commercial, non-commercial to communal. The authors like to collaborate with others not only from the field of design but also from interdisciplinary backgrounds. They share *“the joy of work, moments spent over a drink, and the infinite possibilities of the universe”*.

The NCD23 application process is open from Friday 31 March to Monday 15 May 2023 to designers, design students, design studios, and companies, who can submit works of product design created from 1 January 2021 to 15 May 2023 via [the online application form](#).

After submitting the application form, a one-time competition fee of EUR 50 must be paid. Student works are exempt from application fees.

For the application form, Terms and Conditions of registration, and more information visit <https://scd.sk/ncd>. Current information is also available on social media – Slovak Design Award's **IG** and **FB**, and Slovak Design Center's **IG** and **FB**.

#scd #ncd #ncd23 #ncd2023 #dizajn #design #slovakdesignaward #narodnacenazadizajn

Competition Announcers:

Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, Slovak Design Center

Organiser: Slovak Design Center

SCD's general advertising partner:

J&T Banka

SCD's partner:

Antalis

SCD's main media partner:

Designum

NCD's main partners:

Repairably, Slovak Fashion Council

NCD's media partners:

Aktuality.sk

Archinfo

Čerstvé ovocie

Denník N

DeTePe

In-ba

Interez

Protisedi.cz

Rádio FM

Refresher

DATES

31 March – 15 May 2023: Registration of online applications and documentation

23 May – 5 June 2023: 1st round of online evaluations by the jury

15 June – 16 June 2023 and 22 June – 23 June 2023: Collection of works advancing to the 2nd round

4 July – 5 July 2023: 2nd round of evaluations by the jury, meeting of the jury/nominations

October – December 2023: NCD23 Exhibition

October 2023: Award Ceremony

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