

Student Lighting Design Competition 2025

DESIGNwithLIGHT

ABOUT

DesignWithLight is a student lighting design competition organized by the Philadelphia Section of the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) to raise awareness and understanding of the lighting design profession within the student community.

This year, students will be tasked with developing a custom tabletop luminaire to be displayed as a centerpiece at Illuminate Philadelphia – a day of lighting educational seminars and hands-on product demonstrations. Through this competition the goal is that the student become more aware of the interaction between light and materials and the effect that interaction has on the individual experience. This competition will help students explore various techniques in using light and materials to create a desired lighting effect and emotional response.

The winner's center pieces will be displayed at The Philament Awards in June. Please email the committee chairs for more details.

SCHEDULE

Friday, April 18, 2025

Application Deadline

Friday, May 16, 2025

Digital Submission & Project Mail In Deadline

Sunday, May 25, 2025

Winners Announced

TBD June 2025

Philament Awards

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

REGISTRATION:

- Students that wish to participate shall complete the online form by **No Later Than April 18th, 2025**
- Please email Rochelle Spahn – Committee Chair at rspahn@illuminationsinc.com and Jason Bradshaw - Committee Chair at jason@beam ltd.com once you have completed your registration to confirm receipt

INSPIRATIONAL PHOTO:

- Your luminaire design concept shall be inspired by a photo of light.
- Students will need to submit their inspirational photo with a paragraph describing the photo and the emotional response captured in their Luminaire design
- **The Photo must be taken with your own cell phone or digital camera.**
- The Photo must capture the interaction of light in the built or natural environment. Experiment, play, search for something interesting and unique, and have fun.

LUMINAIRE DESIGN AND BUILD

- Contestants are free to use any materials they want to construct their luminaire. Please refrain from using any materials that will rot, decompose or will not be able to withstand shipping. Contestants are advised to use sturdy building materials and fastening methods
- **The use of any 3D printed materials or components is banned and will result in immediate disqualification**
- The Inspirational Photo shall be sent along with the luminaire and the photo shall be printed on an 8x11 piece of paper.

IES Philadelphia Section

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COMPETITION GUIDELINES (Cont.)

- **The Luminaire shall not exceed the following dimensions: 8" W x 8" L x 12" H** *Tip: Imagine yourself sitting with 8 others around an 8' diameter table lined with a white table cloth. Think about the type of lighting that would evoke an interesting conversation. Think about the size and shape of the fixture and not wanting to impair anyone's view of the person sitting across the table.*
- **The Luminaire shall be self-sustainable; it should be able to stand on a table without cable or suspension supports.**
- **The Luminaire shall be self-powered; the light source(s) used shall be battery operated and not require a power cord for illumination.** *Tip: There are many online sources for procuring battery operated lamps. Be creative and test the product at the beginning of the project.*
- **The Luminaire shall be innovative in use of materials.** *Tip: Think about the type and placement of the light source and using papers, acetates and materials that interact with the light in a way to best evoke the same feel and lighting effect found in the photo.*
- **The Luminaire shall be well crafted.** *Tip: Think about how the material are held together, how the battery can be concealed and accessible so that they can be replaced or recharged. Think about where the on/off button and/or the remote shall be located for ease of use.*
- **The Luminaire shall have your name on the bottom of the luminaire. Fixtures which do not have a name shall be immediately disqualified**
- **Final Submissions shall include luminaire and 8.5x11 printed page with inspiration photo and a brief description of photo and luminaire packaged together; please arrange shipping or drop-off at the address below. A digital version should be on 8.5x11 page, along with photos of the luminaire shall also be emailed to both Rochelle Spahn and Jason Bradshaw.**

**All submitted materials will become ownership of the IES Philadelphia section used for public display, publication, and promotional materials. It will be the responsibility of the student to make arrangements to have their luminaire returned.*

SHIPPING

Please send all packages to the following address:

**ATTN: Jason Bradshaw
BEAM, Ltd.
2220 Mount Carmel Avenue
Glenside, PA 19038**

**JUDGING AND AWARD INFO
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JUDGING

A panel of three judges shall be appointed to review the entries and determine the awards. Judges will be selected from the Philadelphia-area and be in the lighting, architectural, and/or interior design profession.

The luminaire design will be judged based on the following criteria and point system:

Project Criteria:

Luminaire

- ___ Project Guidelines for the luminaire were met, the luminaire was not larger than the dimensions provided, was self-sustaining, and battery operated
- ___ Construction and craftsmanship
- ___ Success in being able to verbally describe and manipulate materials in a way that captures a similar color, texture, and intensity of light as illustrated in the inspiration photo
- ___ Success in designing a luminaire that produces a similar human reaction and emotion response that is found in the inspiration image

AWARDS

First Place	\$1,000
Second Place	\$750
Third Place	\$500
Honorable Mention*	\$100

*There are (7) Honorable Mention Positions

Top ten designs: Will be invited to attend *The Philament Awards*, where their luminaires will be displayed.

CONTACT

Should you have any questions about the contest, please email the following parties:

- Rochelle Spahn – Committee Chair rspahn@illuminationsinc.com
- Jason Bradshaw - Committee Chair jason@beamltd.com