

## **2026 Only Natural International Student Design Competition Terms & Conditions**

By entering the Competition (the “Competition”) organised by the Leather & Hide Council of America (LHCA) on behalf of *Only Natural* and entrants agree to be bound by the following Terms & Conditions:

1. The Competition opens in **January 2026** (“Opening Date”) and closes at **23:59 on 30 June 2026** (“Closing Date”). No entries will be accepted before the Opening Date or after the Closing Date. Each entrant may only submit one (1) entry in total to the competition per year. Entries comprising anything obscene or vulgar, abusive, harmful, threatening, libellous, defamatory, invasive, profane or otherwise unlawful shall be deemed invalid. All entries must be your original work.
2. Entries are invited in one of five categories: Apparel, Footwear, Accessories, Furniture and Interiors. Apparel, Footwear and Accessories sit in the Fashion section of the competition and Furniture and Interiors in the Home section of the competition.
  - a. **Footwear, Accessories, Furniture and Interiors**, entrants must submit one (1) item — for example, a pair of shoes or a handbag.
  - b. **Apparel**, entrants may submit one (1) item or one (1) look. A “look” comprises two or more items intended to be worn together (excluding footwear and accessories), for example a jacket or top and skirt or trousers.
  - c. All entries, whether single item or looks, will be judged equally using the same criteria.
3. Wherever possible, entries should be made entirely of natural materials (exceptions are made for items such as zippers or snap fasteners, although entrants must report and list the inclusion of all non-natural material items - and the estimated percentage they contribute to the finished item, at the point of submission).
4. The use of fur or exotic skins is strictly prohibited and will result in automatic exclusion from the Competition.
5. Digital tools and AI may be used in the design process. Entrants must be able to physically produce their design and must have an appropriate methodology to create a prototype. Category winners are required to present their physical prototypes to a judging panel at the finals.
6. Entries should include the following:
  - A short summary of your project in English
  - Mood board and design storytelling
  - Sketches, technical flats and specifications
  - A full list of materials
  - \*A two (2) minute video introducing you and your entry (\*this is optional but encouraged)
7. There will be nine (9) winning titles: one (1) overall winner for fashion, one (1) overall winner for home, one (1) category winner for apparel, one (1) category winner for footwear, one (1) category winner for accessories, one (1) category winner for furniture, one (1) category winner

for interiors, and two (2) People's Choice winners - one each for Fashion and Home competitions.

The prizes ("Prize") shall consist of the following, which are non-transferable and non-exchangeable:

- i. Category winner's entries will be included in the *Only Natural* capsule collection shown at events around the world. Winners will be asked to recreate their winning design to form part of the capsule collection showcasing the best international talent.
- ii. All category winners will be invited to attend the final event – the location for which is to be confirmed for 2026. Travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by The Organisers. (The Organisers reserve the right to host a digital event in the case of travel restrictions being in place.)
- iii. Winners will receive a certificate and trophy according to their category.
- iv. Winners will be included in publicity including (but not limited to) social media promotion, website promotion, and print and digital collateral.

Additional prizes may be announced by The Organisers, at a later date. The Prize may be altered or varied at the sole discretion of *Only Natural* and LHCA and substituted with a prize which, in the sole opinion of *Only Natural* and LHCA, is a suitable alternative. LHCA and any other company, organisation or person assisting or connected with the Competition shall not be liable for any claims or complaints of any nature in respect to the Prize or to the Entries, to the fullest extent that this is permissible by law.

8. Eligibility:
  - Entrants must be 18 or older.
  - Entrants must be currently enrolled in higher education or have graduated within the last one (1) year.
  - Entrants employed full-time in the creative industry are not eligible.
  - Entrants may re-enter the competition provided they have not been appointed as a judge. However, the same design may not be re-submitted; each new entry must be an original design not previously entered into the competition.
9. The Organisers reserve the right to:
  - i. Make reasonable inquiries to verify these requirements
  - ii. Deem any entry invalid if, at their absolute discretion, The Organisers are not satisfied that such requirements have been met.
10. The following persons are not eligible to enter the Competition: Employees of (i) *gt&i*, franchises, subsidiaries, agents and advisors and their families; (ii) Leather & Hide Council of America, franchises, subsidiaries, agents and advisors and their families; and (iii) any other company, organisation or person assisting or connected with promotion of the Competition
11. The Competition shall be judged by a panel comprised of representatives chosen by LHCA and *Only Natural* (the "Panel"). Entries will be judged on the following equally weighted criteria: individuality, conceptualisation, relevance, sustainability impact and commerciality and functionality.

The Panel shall select:

- the Overall Winning Entry (the “Winning Entry”),
- the Category Winners (as outlined in clause 7),

Winners shall be notified by email. The panel may invite shortlisted entrants to conduct an interview by video. The People’s Choice Winner will be selected by public vote (Voting open from July 2026).

12. Scoring is private and confidential, accessible only to the judging panel. Only the overall winners are announced at the final event, and individual feedback or scoring is not provided to entrants.
13. Entries must be original and not infringe the intellectual property rights of any third party. This includes the use of third-party trademarks, images and/or copyright. By submitting, entrants warrant that the work comprising the Entry was created by them and/or they have validly licensed the necessary rights for incorporation into the Entry. Entries shall not comprise anything which is obscene or vulgar, offensive, abusive, harmful, threatening, libellous, defamatory, invasive of another’s privacy, sexually or racially or ethically or religiously insulting, harassing, abusive, profane or otherwise unlawful. All Entries will be screened by LHCA, and LHCA reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to remove and/or disqualify any Entry which it believes is in breach of this clause or any of the provisions of these Terms and Conditions.
14. By submitting an Entry, entrants warrant that they shall procure the necessary consents, licenses and other such authorisations from any third party (including without limitation any models or members of the public) that may form part of the Entry, and we reserve the right to request proof of such.
15. If the Entry is selected as a Winning Entry, Category Winner or People’s Choice Winner, entrants hereby grant LHCA (and its authorised partners) a non-exclusive, irrevocable, perpetual, worldwide licence to use the Entry in all media for the purposes of: a. Administering, marketing and promotion of this Competition b. Marketing and promotion of future competitions held by *Only Natural* and LHCA c. Marketing and promotion of *Only Natural* and LHCA (collectively, “Marketing and Promotional Purposes”)
16. The Winning Entries may be displayed at one or more exhibitions around the world (date and location to be decided at the sole discretion of *Only Natural* and LHCA) for viewing by the general public, and entrants shall additionally hereby grant LHCA (and its authorised partners) a non-exclusive, irrevocable, perpetual, worldwide licence to use the Winning Entry in such manner. Winners will, if requested, be required to reproduce or provide their original entry piece for exhibition purposes. The cost of production of the item for inclusion in the capsule collection will be borne by the promoters.
17. Entrants and winners agree that:
  - a. Entrants’ names may appear on Entries reproduced for Marketing and Promotional Purposes.
  - b. The winners agree to take part in post-competition publicity at the request of LHCA. Publicity may include, but is not limited to, interviews, video content, social media features, press releases and other promotional materials used to highlight the Competition, its winners and their designs.

18. *Only Natural* and LHCA shall contact entrants and allow them to negotiate the terms of any additional usage of non-winning Entries falling outside of the Marketing and Promotional Purposes.
19. No purchase of any kind is necessary to enter into this Competition.
20. LHCA reserves the right to withdraw or amend the Competition and these Terms and Conditions in the event of any unforeseen circumstances outside of its reasonable control or if in its absolute discretion it considers it necessary.
21. Information regarding personal data, which is provided by the entrant on entry submission, will be processed in the Only Natural database in accordance with the Only Natural Competition platform privacy policy, which can be found [here](#).
22. On completion of their profile set up, entrants will be able to review and will be offered the option to opt out with all data removed from storage at that point.
23. Entrants additionally agree that LHCA may use their personal data for the purposes of administering the Competition.
24. Such information will not be used for any other purpose than as stated in these Terms and Conditions or as separately accepted by entrants. If they have separately agreed to receive communications from *Only Natural*, LHCA or a third party, then their personal data may be used by them for such purposes including direct marketing. Any personal data that entrants provide will be held and processed in accordance with the requirements of the applicable data protection laws.
25. Entrants accept that the Website is offered on an “as is” and “as available” basis. LHCA does not warrant that the Website will be uninterrupted, timely, secure or error-free, that defects will be corrected or that the Website or the server that makes it available are free of software viruses or bugs or other defects. LHCA has no control over and disclaims all responsibility for any content that Entrants may encounter or events which may occur as a result of any Entrant’s use of the Website and/or their Competition Entry, to the fullest extent permitted by law, and LHCA shall not be liable for any damages or other losses of any type whatsoever incurred by Entrants as a result of their use of the Website and/or their Competition Entry. LHCA shall not be responsible for any Entry which is lost or damaged in transit or that cannot be uploaded onto the Website.
26. The Promoter of this Competition is LHCA, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Ste 604, Arlington, VA 22203, United States.
27. These Terms and Conditions are governed by Washington, DC law. The courts of Washington, DC shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear any dispute or claim arising in association with the Competition or these Terms and Conditions.