

# 2021 SKIRT DESIGN COMPETITION

# Skirts in Isolation



## SKIRTS AFIRE FESTIVAL SKIRT DESIGN COMPETITION GUIDELINES

SkirtsAfire Festival is a theatre and multidisciplinary arts festival that features the work and creations of women-identifying and non-binary artists in Edmonton. SkirtsAfire creates a platform for the stories of Canadian Women to be shared via theatre, music, dance, visual art, comedy, spoken word, and more. The festival is a place where artists and enthusiasts come together to experience entertaining performances and thought provoking exhibits. SkirtsAfire is heading into its ninth year after its debut in 2013. Celebrating more than 100 artists annually and reaching over 5000 audience members in the last 2 incarnations, this festival continues to grow year after year.

New for 2021, and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have minimized our programming and venues in order to ensure our health and safety protocols are well monitored and executed. We are excited to be returning to the Westbury Theatre in the ATB Financial Arts Barns as our main venue, where our Skirt Designs will be featured in the lobby.

The first skirt was designed and built for the Festival in 2013. It became the Official Festival Skirt that year, and was proudly featured in the Nina Art Gallery for the duration of the programming. In 2014, we opened up the Official Festival Skirt design as a competition in order to expand and allow for the ability to showcase more than one designer each year.

We value diversity in the women we represent and therefore welcome women artists of all diverse backgrounds including trans women, self-identifying women, non-binary people, the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, all ethnicities, and all abilities.

### Competition Process and Rewards

- The top six skirts selected will be presented at the Media Launch for the festival on March 1, 2021 in a display. Designers will be invited to attend to represent their designs and be available for any media interviews.
- The six chosen skirts will be displayed in our Skirt Gallery in the Westbury Theatre Lobby for the duration of the festival.
- New for 2021, the public will vote for the winning designs online and in-person, with in-person votes holding 2x the value of online votes.
- At the end of the festival, cash prizes will be awarded to each of the top three chosen designers as follows:
  - 1st: \$400
  - 2nd: \$200
  - 3rd: \$100

### Design Competition Guidelines

Application:

- A visual rendering must be submitted with the application to be considered for the competition.
- The skirts must be made of only found/up-cycled materials.
- Skirts should incorporate this year's competition theme: "Skirts in Isolation"

If Your Design is Chosen:

- You must provide a mannequin or other form/bust to present your skirt in the lobby display for the duration of the festival, March 1-14, 2021.
- Each of the six designers is required to send 2-3 progress pictures to [skirtdesign@skirtsafire.com](mailto:skirtdesign@skirtsafire.com) as they execute their skirt design. Each designer must also send a picture of the finished product to this email by Friday, February 26, 2021.
- Judging will take place between March 1-14, 2021 online and in-person at all SkirtsAfire Festival events that take place in the Westbury Theatre. Voting is open to the public, no purchase necessary, and in-person votes will hold 2x the value of online votes.

Please fill out the attached application and send it along with a visual rendering via email to [skirtdesign@skirtsafire.com](mailto:skirtdesign@skirtsafire.com) by November 30, 2020. Chosen designers will be notified by December 7, 2020. For more information about SkirtsAfire, and to see photos from previous years, check out our website, [www.skirtsafire.com](http://www.skirtsafire.com).

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### SKIRTS AFIRE FESTIVAL SKIRT DESIGN COMPETITION GUIDELINES

We are looking for six designers to be featured in our Skirts Installation at the 2021 SkirtsAfire Festival. The six chosen designers will compete for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. All six skirts will be displayed for the duration of the festival in the Westbury Theatre Lobby, March 1-14, 2021. Please read the Design Competition Guidelines before applying. Deadline to apply is November 30, 2020. The six finalists will be notified on December 7, 2020. Each of the 6 chosen finalists must then execute their skirts and submit a photo of the completed skirt to the Competition Coordinator no later than February 26, 2021. Judging will take place for the duration of the festival by public vote, with the Winning Skirts announced at the conclusion.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to join our mailing list? (please circle) YES NO ALREADY ON IT

Preferred Method of Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Design Concept (if extra space is required, please attach to application submission)

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Describe what you have in mind for your Skirt Design, and how you plan to execute it.

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What design experience do you have (if any)?

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**Please fill out this form and attach a conceptual drawing of your Skirt (jpeg or pdf) and email to [skirtdesign@skirtsafire.com](mailto:skirtdesign@skirtsafire.com).**

Please sign below to acknowledge the following:

1. Should my design be chosen as the 1st Place Skirt, I give my permission for it to be used again at SkirtsAfire 2022.
2. I am available on the day of the Media Launch, March 1, 2021, to install and present my skirt. If I am unavailable, I will send someone to set up my design in my place.
3. I am available to pick up my skirt and mannequin/form/bust on the evening of March 14, 2021.

I have read and agree to the design guidelines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\*Please note that dates listed are subject to change. Any changes will be communicated to participants.