



# 2017 ILDA Fenning Award for Outstanding Technical Achievement

For entries finished and documented between 1 Jan 2016 and 31 March 2017.

Winners will be publicly presented at the ILDA Awards Banquet and Presentation during the 2017 ILDA Conference in Bratislava, Slovakia.

Version 2.0, Feb. 21 2017 -- Adds IDN Standards category

**The Fenning Award is given for Outstanding Technical Achievement in the field of laser shows and displays. Any ILDA Member may enter a product, or a working technical demonstration. Examples include, but are not limited to: lasers, scanners, projectors, effects, hardware and software.**

## **Deadline day: Friday, March 31 2017 by 11:59 pm, your local time**

You can submit a maximum of three entries per category. For each entry, upload a single file (ZIP format) containing all video and photo files (MP4, MOV or JPG formats) and the filled-out Entry Form (DOC or PDF format). Upload this single ZIP file according to the instructions at [www.ilda.com/entries2017.php](http://www.ilda.com/entries2017.php).

- The ZIP file contents cannot be changed after uploading. So be sure all forms and files are correct.

**Deadline:** Uploaded entries must complete uploading before the deadline. After uploading, email to ILDA to notify us and confirm that you uploaded.

ILDA will download the entries sometime after the deadline; as long as you finished the uploading before the deadline, your entries will be on time.

**The entry deadline is firm. If your entry is late, it will be disqualified.** The only exception will be in case of extraordinary circumstances outside of your control, such as a natural disaster in your area, or transportation delays by the mailing service. Reasons such as "We were busy" or "We got a last-minute job" are not acceptable.

## **Contact address for the Awards**

If you have questions about the awards, email to ILDA at [mail@ilda.com](mailto:mail@ilda.com).

## **Other ILDA Awards: Technical, Career Achievement**

This document is for the ILDA **Fenning Awards for Technical Achievement** Awards. Information and entry forms for other Awards, including the Artistic Awards and the Career Achievement Award are at the webpage [www.ilda.com/entries2017.php](http://www.ilda.com/entries2017.php).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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Here is a summary of key entry rules. Please be sure to read and follow the Entry Rules that are listed further below.

- Each ILDA Member can submit up to three Fenning Award entries per category. (For 2017 there are two categories, General and IDN.)
- To enter, fill out the Fenning Award Entry Form, and provide any additional written documentation. The documentation should address the topics listed below in the Entry Rules. You can also provide an optional video that describes and demonstrates your entry(ies). Submit your video as a file in MOV or MP4/M4V format.
- Entries must be uploaded by the deadline listed above. Sorry, but we will disqualify any late entries, or entries with major mistakes or missing material.

### **Changes for 2017**

- Added IDN Standards category, for entries related to the ILDA Digital Network standard.
- Removed option to mail entries to ILDA. Only uploaded entries are now accepted. This is because the Fenning Technical Award judges do not meet in the same location, where they can review paper documentation together.  
 Instead, each judge is at their home or office. They download a master zip file containing all entries, and review the entries at their leisure. Within a few days, they then discuss and vote on the entries via electronic methods, such as teleconference or Skype.  
 For this reason, it is easier to work with electronic submissions consisting of scanned documents, and video files.
- Clarified entry deadline requirements
- Added the requirement that, if the entry video shows lasers on or near humans, then the safety must be documented as per the section “Entry safety and legality” in the 2017 ILDA Artistic Awards Guide.

### **Planning for 2018**

So that you can plan for next year’s Awards competition, the deadline for the 2018 ILDA Awards is tentatively scheduled for Saturday 31 March 2018. This means that entries created and documented between 1 January 2017 and 31 March 2018 will be eligible.

We suggest that you videotape shows when you have a chance during 2017, to avoid any rush in early 2018.

# CATEGORIES

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For 2017 there are two categories. You can enter up to three entries in each category.

## **IDN Standards Technical Achievement**

This category is for entries which implement, use, extend or otherwise help to advance the use and/or capabilities of the ILDA Digital Network standards. The IDN standards can be found on this page: <http://www.ilda.com/technical.htm>.

It is up to the Awards Coordinator or the Technical judges as to whether an IDN entry meets the requirements for the IDN category. If they feel the IDN component is not a significant element of the overall entry, or otherwise does not meet the IDN category intent, the judges can move the entry into the general Tech Awards category.

Winners in this category will receive an "ILDA Fenning IDN Standards Technical Achievement Award."

## **General Technical Achievement**

This category is for all other entries.

Winners in this category will receive a "ILDA Fenning Technical Achievement Award" -- the award will not list or state "General" in the name of the award.

## ELIGIBILITY

**ILDA Member eligibility:** Any company or person that is an ILDA Member in good standing at time of submitting the entry may enter the ILDA Awards. This includes all Membership categories including Student.

- **If Membership status changes:** If a Member is suspended, terminated, or resigns at any time prior to the ILDA Awards Presentation, their entries may be removed from judging and/or awards consideration.

**Entry eligibility:** Submit entries created between the time period of 1 January 2016 and 31 March 2017. Technical achievements that were begun earlier than 1 January 2016 may be entered if completed, performed and documented within this time period. We are flexible on these dates; however, all material must be recent and must be new to the judges. Do NOT enter any technical achievement or materials submitted in previous years.

- An entry cannot be resubmitted in subsequent years unless new or improved elements are the primary focus of the resubmission. If an entry is resubmitted, judges must primarily focus on the new elements, because the older elements were already judged when submitted in previous years.

**Scope:** You may enter a product, or a working technical demonstration, which is used in the field of laser shows and display. Examples include, but are not limited to lasers, scanners, projectors, effects, hardware and software. It may be brand new or it may be a significant change or improvement to an existing product/technology. The entry should be newly developed or introduced to the market within the eligibility period.

- For **products**, the entry must be of a full working version that has been field-tested and is currently either in service by the entrant, and/or is available for sale or rent.
- For **technology developments** such as an invention, the entry must have been demonstrated to work and must have useful applicability to laser shows and displays.
- *Concepts and basic research do NOT qualify*; the entry must be a product, or a useful, demonstrated technology.
- For entries in the **IDN Standards** category, the entry must explain how it implements, uses, extends or otherwise helps advance the use and/or capabilities of IDN.

**Entry must be your work:** You are on your honor, in accord with the ILDA Code of Ethics, that you (the ILDA Member submitting an entry) were the primary company or individual to invent, produce or apply the technology for laser display purposes.

- It is OK if the technology was used for other, non-lasershow purposes. But you must be the primary company to have developed it or applied it for laser displays.

**Joint entries:** In cases where two or more companies shared the work of creating an entry, one of the companies will submit a single entry listing the two or more companies in the entrant name part of the Entry Form. (For example, "Specifications set by ABC Company, programmed by XYZ Inc.") DO NOT submit the same material as two separate entries. Explain in the Statement of Intent the responsibilities of each company.

- By "shared work", ILDA means that each company had significant creative and production responsibility for the entry. The responsibility went beyond a subcontractor (for example, someone paid to make a subassembly) so that it truly was co-created or co-produced by each company involved.
- At least one of the companies must be an ILDA Member during the eligibility period listed above. Award trophies provided free by ILDA will only have ILDA Members' names on them, and will only be given to ILDA Members. If you want extra trophies for a non-ILDA partner, for a client, or for employees, these can be purchased separately.

**Entry safety and legality:** If an entry video, photos or other documentation shows or describes lasers being used, then the documentation must depict or describe lasers being used safely. The documentation must follow applicable laser safety laws and regulations (including laws for audience scanning) in the jurisdiction where the show was performed.

We will accept entries where laser safety has not yet been fully determined, if the entry focus is on other factors.

For example, we accepted a submission of a laser mounted on a drone. Even though there would be safety issues involved if a drone-mounted laser was actually used in a show, the submission was focused on laser technology being newly applied to the drone. In other words, it was not up to the submitter to state or solve all potential safety issues. (Also, the video submitted showed safe usage of the drone-mounted laser, in controlled areas)

On the other hand, if a submission is for a safety device, then there would need to be evidence presented that the device worked properly as intended in a laser show environment.

- ILDA reserves the right to remove or disqualify an entry if, in our sole opinion, 1) the entry violates **or appears to violate** safety standards, laws and/or regulations; and/or 2) the entry does not have sufficient documentation of safety and legal compliance if this is a factor of the entry.
- If the entry video depicts laser light on humans (e.g., an audience or performers), or near to humans (within 3 meters vertically or 2.5 meters laterally), then you must submit documentation about the safety of the lasers used in the video. Please see the 2017 ILDA Artistic Awards Guide, the section titled "Entry Safety and Legality" for complete rules about what documentation is required.

## ENTRY RULES

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**Number of Entries:** Each ILDA Member can submit a maximum of three Fenning Award entries per category. Each entry must have its own Entry Form. Videos or other materials (scans of user manuals, or PDFs of product sheets) are optional.

If you have more than one entry, each entry will be put into its own zip file containing the Entry Form, scans of any additional documentation, and any video or other files.

**Supporting Documentation:** You must provide supporting documentation in writing and/or in the video that must:

- **Discuss how the entry is unique or improved.**
- **Describe any previous or similar methods** used in the industry to accomplish the same function, and how the entry differs.
- **List and describe any competitive products, or alternative methods, and how your entry differs.** Include both advantages (positive differences) and disadvantages (negative differences).
- **Describe any factors that might restrict the entry's usefulness** (examples: only works with certain equipment, laser power must be below a certain level, requires special training or knowledge, has a high cost, etc.).
- **List the price of the product, if it is for sale.** If there are various versions or levels, list these as well. If the product is available only for rental or lease, list the price for the rental or lease. (This is the public or end-user price; you do not have to list the private or dealer price.)
- **If appropriate, list other useful information** such as user manuals, research sources, additional pictures and drawings, contacts if judges need independent information, etc.
- **If the entry video depicts lasers on or near humans**, then you must submit documentation about the safety of the lasers used in the video. Please see the 2017 ILDA Artistic Awards Guide, the section titled "Entry Safety and Legality" for complete rules about what documentation is required.
- **For IDN Standards entries**, describe how the entry uses IDN and why it qualifies as implementing, using, extending or otherwise helping to advance the use and/or capabilities of the ILDA Digital Network standards.

The judges may research entries as needed to validate claims made in the entry itself. Your supporting documentation is essential. So, please supply as much material as needed to completely describe your entry and the other aspects listed above. This will assist judges in ensuring that all ILDA Award winners' products are indeed new or significantly improved, how they compare with similar products, and that they work well for their intended purpose.

**Be sure to provide the documentation discussed above.** In some previous years, entries were downgraded or eliminated because they did not provide adequate documentation to allow judging of aspects such as how the product compared with past or competitive products.

**Note about proprietary information and patents:** In your entries, do not include proprietary or secret (non-public) information. You can describe such information in general terms; for example, "Our laser cooling fluid contains a proprietary mixture of halogens." If you have patents, or patents pending, include this information; for example, "The method for combining the two frames is covered by U.S. Patent 7,654,321." If you have any questions, or if your entry hinges on proprietary or secret information, contact ILDA's Executive Director for guidance before the entry deadline.

### Optional video documentation

You are strongly urged to make a video of 4 minutes or less, which demonstrates your entry in use and explains how it qualifies as an Outstanding Technical Achievement. The video will be very helpful to the judges. Submit the video as follows:

- **QuickTime MP4** (H.264, MPEG-4 Part 10 AVC, MPEG-4 Part 4) **or MOV**. Submit as individual files, one video file per entry. *We do not accept any other formats such as AVI or WMV files – only MP4 or MOV files.*
- The video length must be **4 minutes or less**.
- **The video pixel dimensions must be 1920 x 1080 or smaller**. Do not submit any larger sizes. For ILDA's purposes of judging, showing at the awards, and uploading winners to YouTube, 1280 x 720 is a good compromise between quality and file size.
- **The video file size must be 300 MB or less**. For a 4-minute 1920 x 1080 video at reasonable compression, this is entirely possible. A NTSC or PAL sized video ((720 x 480, 720 x 576) is typically 50 MB or less.

**Identifying information in the video:** In making the video title, script, and images, you may include the name of your company and product throughout the video. (This is unlike the ILDA Artistic Awards, where video entries must be anonymous.)

## Video usage

Video entries will be used for the purpose of judging the ILDA Awards and presenting the award winners at the ILDA Conference. In addition, ILDA may make a compilation of the award winners. ILDA may also post winning entries online or otherwise present winning entries to Members and the general public.

When ILDA posts winning entries online, we will add titles that are visible during the entire video (awards year, winning place and category, name of entry, name of company submitting). We might possibly also add static or moving watermarks, but we cannot guarantee that we will do so.

While ILDA takes the above reasonable precautions, we cannot guarantee against someone misappropriating video content; for example, by taping during the ILDA Awards Presentation or by illegal copying from any compilation collection or YouTube uploads.

**Therefore, if you have special concerns about your show's video content being seen or appropriated, simply do not enter a video – rely only on the written documentation.**

# HOW TO ENTER

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**Submit each Technical Award entry separately.**

**For each entry**, use a “zip” compression program to put all files (filled-out Entry Form, Supporting Documentation, any optional additional documents scanned as JPGs or PDFs, and an optional video in MP4/M4V or MOV format) into one zipped file.

Upload this ZIP file to a file service of your choice such as Dropbox, Google Drive, OneDrive, etc. Email to ILDA with the link where the file can be downloaded.

- The ZIP file contents cannot be changed after uploading. So be sure all forms and files are correct.
- Entries must be **UPLOADED** before the deadline. ILDA may download the entries after the deadline, but the upload date and time must be before the deadline.

**NEW FOR 2017: We are no longer allowing entries to be mailed. All entries must be uploaded.**

Since you are limited to a maximum of six entries (three entries per category, and two categories), this means you will have at most, six zip files to upload.

The upload must be finished before 11:59 pm, your local time, on the deadline day.

ILDA is not responsible if your upload speed is slow, or you have trouble uploading, etc. so that your entry is late. ILDA is only responsible if the trouble clearly is ILDA's responsibility.

## What to include

### Official ILDA Entry Form

For each of your Technical Award entries, include a filled-out entry form. We strongly urge you to use the Official ILDA Fenning Award Entry Form. However, you can type up your own entry form as long as you include all information required on the Official ILDA Fenning Award Entry Form

All information should be in English. We're sorry, but ILDA does not have the resources to translate from other languages. Also, if you hand-write the information, be sure it is legible.

### Optional video documentation

Submit any video as an MP4/M4V or MOV file. The video file will be included with the other files (Entry Form, supporting documents) in the single zipped file that is uploaded.

### Deadline and required information

As stated earlier, **the entry deadline is firm. If your entry is late, it will be disqualified.** The only exception will be in case of extraordinary circumstances outside of your control, such as a natural disaster in your area, or transportation delays by the mailing service. Reasons such as “We were busy” or “We got a last-minute job” are not acceptable.

All requested information must be included and must be correct. If there are problems with missing or incorrect information, the entry may be disqualified. You may wish to read over your entry – especially the supporting documentation – to be sure that all questions and areas have been addressed.

# 2017 ILDA Fenning Awards for Outstanding Technical Achievement: Entry Form

**Fill out this form for each entry you are submitting.**  
For example, if you submit three entries, then fill out this Entry Form three times: one time for each entry.

Total Fenning Awards entries: \_\_\_\_\_

This is entry number \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

**Fill out this Entry Form.** Include the filled-in Entry Form as a Word or PDF document with the other files.

- To avoid possible disqualification or fees, **please double-check your entries against the rules.** Some serious problems to avoid: *Entering past deadline. Incomplete documentation (not adequately answering all questions).*
- Entries will be sent as a single file. Use a compression program to put all files (videos, pictures, Entry Form, Entry Spreadsheet) into one zipped file. Upload it to a file-sharing service such as Dropbox, Google Drive, OneDrive, etc.
- After uploading, email to ILDA the link where we can download your file. The file upload and email to ILDA must be done before the entry deadline. ILDA's address is: *mail@ilda.com*.

**ILDA Member name** Company, institution, or individual

**Address**

**Contact Person**

**Phone** (with country code)

**E-mail**

**Are you submitting a video file** (in MP4/M4V or MOV format) **that demonstrates the entry in action?**

- Yes, the video file is included in a zipped file that we are uploading
- No, we are not submitting a video with this entry

If you need more space to answer some of the questions below, feel free to provide this information on additional paper. You do not need to "fit everything in the boxes" below.

**Title of this entry**

**Abstract** (a brief one- or two-line summary of the entry)

**Detailed description**

**What was your goal in creating the entry?**

**Discuss how your entry is unique or improved**

**Describe any previous or similar methods** used in the industry to accomplish the same function, and how the entry differs.

**List and describe any competitive products, or alternative methods, and how your entry differs.** Include both advantages (positive differences) and disadvantages (negative differences).

**Describe any factors that might restrict the entry's usefulness** (examples: only works with certain equipment, laser power must be below a certain level, requires special training or knowledge, has a high cost, etc.).

**List the price of the product, if it is for sale.** If there are various versions or levels, list these as well. If the product is available only for rental or lease, list the price for the rental or lease. (This is the public or end-user price; you do not have to list the private or dealer price.)

**If this is an entry in the IDN Standards Technical Achievement category,** describe how the entry implements, uses, extends or otherwise helps to advance the use and/or capabilities of the ILDA Digital Network standards.

**If appropriate, you may attach additional documents, user manuals, diagrams, video, etc. to support your awards application.** Please list these materials.

**If the entry video depicts lasers on or near humans,** then you must submit documentation about the safety of the lasers used in the video. Please see the 2017 ILDA Artistic Awards Guide, the section titled "Entry Safety and Legality" for complete rules about what documentation is required.