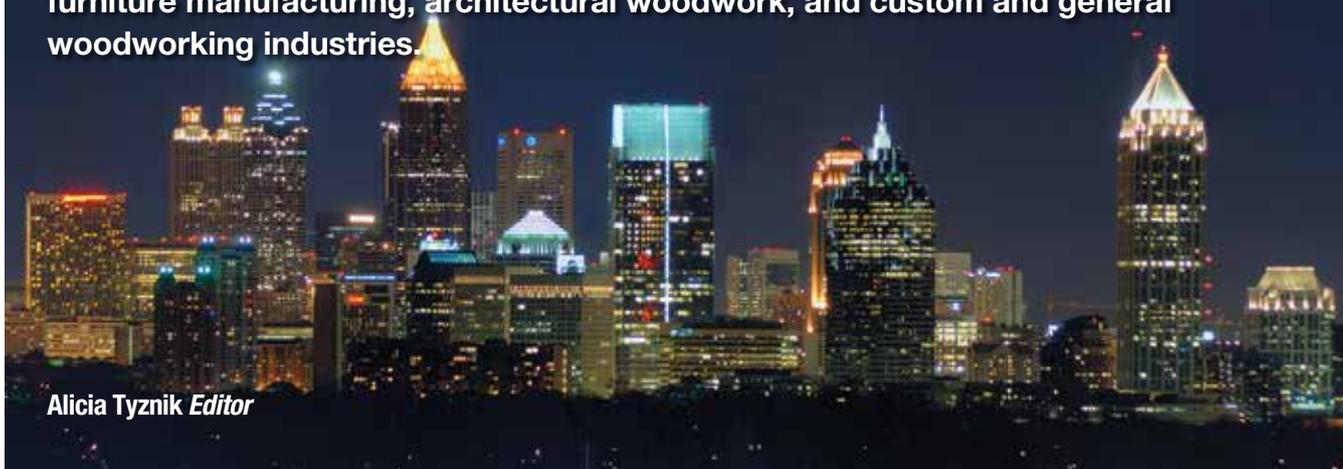


# SHOW PREVIEW

## IWF 2018 heads home to the ATL

IWF in Atlanta is one of the top woodworking trade shows in the world for the furniture manufacturing, architectural woodwork, and custom and general woodworking industries.



Alicia Tyznik *Editor*



**T**he International Woodworking Fair (IWF), a biennial trade show where woodworking, design, material processing, cabinetry, and related industries connect, is returning to Atlanta this summer. Sponsored by the Woodworking Machinery Manufacturers Association (WMMA) and the Woodworking Machinery Industry Association (WMIA), IWF 2018 will be held August 22-25 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta. From small shops to large plants, industry professionals know that IWF is the best place to source products, discover new ideas, network with peers, and learn from those who have already troubleshot the solutions.

Furniture manufacturing, cabinetry, architectural woodwork, material processing, and other industry profes-

sionals from all over the world will come to find products they want to learn more about or didn't even know existed to help their company succeed. At the last show in 2016, there were more than 27,000 attendees and more than 1,070 exhibitors.

At the show, you'll see all of the products and solutions from the beginning of the supply chain to its end. You can find everything you need, from raw materials, supplies, and finishing accessories to woodworking and material processing machinery hardware. You will also see the newest products, trends, and solutions for wood, plastic, and related material processing industries.

### Conference

The education conference will consist of technical sessions as well as all-day

symposiums that will keep you up-to-date and current with what's happening in the industry. At the technical sessions, you can learn new methods and find answers to your manufacturing challenges. The sessions are presented by peers and industry experts, and are broken up into specific tracks on business management, manufacturing and design, marketing and business development, and new business sectors.

You'll also have the opportunity to participate in one of 11 all-day symposiums that are being offered the day before the show opens. Symposiums are a great chance to network while learning the latest techniques, industry standards, and what's coming next from industry experts. Symposiums will be held on closets, CNC, countertops and architectural surfaces, digital printing, finishing, powder coating wood, and more.

## Exhibition

See the latest products from the furniture manufacturing, architectural woodwork, and custom and general woodworking industries on display as well as some cutting-edge live demonstrations. This year, more than 1,000 exhibitors will display their wood veneers, woodworking machinery, material processing tools, laminates, adhesives, decorative hardware, flooring, and other products and services. For a complete list of exhibitors, visit the show website.

## Special events

Several special events will take place at this year's show, including the IWF Challengers Distinguished Achievement Award Finalist Gallery. The award is internationally recognized as one of the industry's highest honors in recognizing advancements in technology, process, or significant contributions to environmental improvement in the woodworking industry. It challenges IWF exhibiting companies to develop forward-thinking technology in machinery, materials, supplies, manufacturing techniques, services, and safety. A panel of 10 judges, all industry professionals representing a broad cross-section of the industry, review and analyze each entry. The top finalists perform live demonstrations for the judges the day before the show, and the winners are announced at a presentation held on the show floor on opening day. Each winner is presented with a distinctive bronze sculpture to be displayed in their booth throughout the show.

The New Product Showcase is a special area where attendees can stop and preview the latest developments in products and product lines in machinery, supplies, services, and upholstery that have been introduced since the last show in 2016. The showcase will be on display throughout the duration of the show.

The Design Emphasis Showcase is a must-see at IWF. Furniture pieces designed and built by students from colleges and universities throughout the US are on display in this special area. Design Emphasis is widely acclaimed

as the foremost furniture design competition for students and offers design students a unique opportunity to demonstrate their talent and originality before a judging panel of furniture industry designers, manufacturing and retail executives, and members of

the trade press who have design-oriented backgrounds. It also provides a unique chance to experience an international industry trade show, make important career contacts, and exchange ideas with other students from around the nation.

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## More info

**Location.** IWF 2018 will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center, 285 Andrew Young International Blvd. NW, Atlanta, GA 30313. The Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is located about 10 miles south of the event center and downtown Atlanta. Car rentals, Amtrak, MARTA trains, and taxis are available to transport you to the event center.

**Hotel.** Hotel reservations can be made through the show's official housing partner, Experient, on the show's website or by calling 800/803-5486. You must be registered for the show to secure housing at the negotiated rates.

**Show hours.** 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 22, through Friday, August 24; 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 25.

**Registration.** Preregistration for the show floor is \$30 per badge (via the show website) through July 31. After that date, onsite registration is \$35 per badge. Each badge is good for all four days of the show. You must register for a show badge to attend any conference session.

**Contact info.** For more information, contact IWF at 404/693-8333 or email [info@iwfatlanta.com](mailto:info@iwfatlanta.com). The official show website is [www.iwfatlanta.com](http://www.iwfatlanta.com).