



FESTIVAL OF THE TREES DESIGN CRITERIA

NOVEMBER 16, 2023 • 6:30 PM TO 9:30 PM
CORAL GABLES COUNTRY CLUB • 990 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

August 1
Online Early Bird
Tickets available

October 11
Deadline for Early Bird
Tickets and Tree
Sponsorship

October 21
Design credits due:
designer or firm name,
sponsor name, concept
statement, sketch or
photograph of piece,
and starting bid price

October 26
Deadline to have your
name included in the
program

November 15
Drop off of trees at
Coral Gables Country
Club

November 16
Gala Opening Event:
Party/Auction (6:30pm
to 9:30pm)
Coral Gables Country
Club

CRITERIA

With a legacy of 35 years, the Festival of Trees is an annual fundraising event for FIU's Interior Architecture students and programs. Each year, Festival of the Trees sponsors underwrite designers who design and build their unique holiday creations and donate them to the event. The "trees" are then displayed and auctioned at the gala opening.

The theme for this year's tree is "**The Future of Space.**" With the launch of James Webb Space Telescope that can peer into the deepest depths of the cosmos, and initiatives from companies such as SpaceX that have accelerated space transportation, how do we as designers envision the future of space? For FOT 2023, designers are challenged to create trees that inspire our imagination of space exploration, our dreams of future space habitats and ultimately, define our existential place in the universe.

The categories for judging are:

- Most Elegant**
- Most Colorful**
- Most Sustainable**
- Most Creative**
- Most Illuminating**
- Most Progressive**
- Most Whimsical**
- Most Thematic**
- Most Animated**
- + Honorable Mentions**
- People's Choice**

*All entries must be an original design and concept. If any entry is not original or does not follow the criteria, the tree will be disqualified from all awards. The Festival of the Trees is not responsible for any lost, late, or damaged entries

SIGNAGE / LOCATION / ELECTRICITY

The Festival of the Trees Committee will provide a sign with the Designer/Sponsor credits. No advertising will be permitted as part of the display. The Festival Committee will strategically place all the submittals on pedestals in the gallery setting. Note: The location of your tree is at the discretion of the committee. If you need electricity for your tree, please indicate such to the committee **AT LEAST ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE EVENT.**

SIZE

The design should not exceed 24" x 24". The height should be determined by stability and practicality. Your design must be able to stand atop an 18" square x 42" H pedestal. The weight should not exceed 80lbs, and should be able to be moved easily by two people. All trees must be displayed on the pedestal provided. If you choose to have your own, your design will be ineligible for judging and prizes. The pedestal provided is NOT to be altered or covered. **NO LIVE ANIMALS.**

AUCTION

Please submit a sketch of your design by October 21 with the Design Credits. The tree will be auctioned on the night of the event. Since this is a fundraising event for FIU Interior Architecture students and programs, we request that each team submit a minimum price of \$100 to buy back your tree if it is not auctioned off by the end of the evening. Please note that trees not sold at the auction will be donated to the Angels Reach Foundation that same evening (www.angelsreach.org). Angels Reach Foundation, is a non-profit organization with the mission of revolutionizing the education sector by understanding genomic coding to identify its roles in cognitive barriers and learning disabilities. **ADEQUATE PACKAGING MATERIAL MUST BE INCLUDED** so that your tree can be handed over to the buyer safely. Proper packaging should include bubble wrap and a box.

QUESTIONS

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Festival of the Trees Committee
Rocio Rico Gutierrez, Co-Chair
Jissette Jimenez, Co-Chair |
festivalofthetrees@fiu.edu

WWW.FESTIVALOFTHETREES.COM

Net proceeds to benefit the FIU Interior Architecture Department

