

The Qualatex Event 2011 Competition Rules – Large Sculpture

1. Sculpture teams may comprise a maximum of 6 people including the team leader. All members of the team must be full registered delegates. Members of Pioneer Europe Limited [PEL] staff or instructors are not permitted to compete. Please advise the organisers in advance if you need volunteers to complete your team (up to a maximum of 6 in total).
2. All sculpture designs must be submitted to PEL addressed to rachel.ings@qualatex.com for approval by August 1, 2011. Only approved designs will be allowed to be constructed on site. All designs will be held in strict confidence.
3. Based upon the design sketch submitted by the competitor, PEL Competition Officials will work with the competitor to determine the actual space that will be available. Some alterations to designs may be necessary.
4. The competition will commence at 11.00hrs on Friday, November 4, 2011, and conclude at noon on Saturday, November 5, 2011. At 13.00hrs the work areas must be cleared and clean, ready for judging.
5. All sculptures must be constructed on site during official competition construction hours, however all structural elements such as aluminium rod and poles can be pre-cut, pre-shaped and pre-bent in 2D (two dimensional) elements (for instance in circles squares, or angles). The actual assembling of these into 3D volumes needs to be done during the competition time. Contestants from outside the UK can apply to the organisers who will allocate space for preparing these 2-D elements on site from 14.00 hrs on Thursday 3 November. No other preconstruction is allowed: for example, pre inflated balloons, double-stuffed balloons, Fantasy Flowers, pre-cut foam board or other signage.
6. The balloon product used in your design must only be Qualatex Brand balloons.
7. After registering to compete and before Thursday, September 1 2011, competitors must get prior approval from PEL Competition Officials for any components manufactured by another source that are intended to be used in a sculpture.
8. 240V electrical supplies will be provided on site. Bring your own tools and equipment. Products such as aluminum rod can be pre-ordered and must be paid for. Details to follow after design approval
9. Sculptures may only be floor-supported no rigging from above is allowed.

10. PEL will sponsor the Qualatex balloon product for this competition. A list of materials is required for each entry. Competitors must complete and submit an official Entry Form to the PEL Competition Officials by noon on August 1 2011.

11. All sculptures must remain on display until 15.30 Monday, November 7 2011. Competitors are responsible for the disposal of their entries on Monday from 15.30 - 18.00 hrs. PEL reserves the right to dispose of sculptures at its discretion and will charge competitors for clean-up and disposal if this regulation is not observed.

12. During the competition, the use of cameras and video cameras (or cell phones with cameras) is not allowed except by the competitors exclusively and only for their own compositions.

13. By entering this competition you are consenting to the official photography of your entry and its use by The Pioneer Balloon Company and Pioneer Europe Ltd. for promotional purposes including trade magazines, marketing materials and our websites.

14. In the case of the reproduction of characters or objects covered by copyrights or licenses, such as by Disney, Warner Bros, Coca Cola etc. the person responsible for the sculpture must produce, enclosed with the registration, an authorisation certificate that excludes Pioneer Europe Ltd; from all liability and responsibility for verification from the aforementioned firms. Images of copyrighted or licensed characters or themes cannot be used without the advanced authorisation of the companies that hold the rights or licenses.

15. At all times please remember that you will be working in an old and magnificent building. Respect the interior decoration and furniture. Pioneer Europe will not be responsible for any damage caused by negligence or misuse of materials.

By signing your registration form you are accepting all terms and conditions. Failure to strictly adhere to any of the criteria will result in immediate disqualification.

Judging

1. The Official Competition Judges will be selected from among the The Qualatex Event instructors, QBN members who've earned their CBA designations, and Pioneer staff.

2. The Judges will determine the winners of the Large Sculpture competition and their decision is final.

3. If an entry is found by the PEL Competition Officials to violate one or more of the Specific Set-up Guidelines in its category, it may be disqualified from the competition. However, that piece may or may not remain on display at the discretion of the Judges.

Official Competition Judging Standards

Large Balloon Sculptures

The Large Balloon Sculpture entries will be judged in the seven categories listed below. Each category will have equal weight with criteria as follows:

1. Principles & Elements of Design: Does the piece illustrate effective use of color, harmony, balance, etc.? Are all design elements in sync?

2. Proportion & Scale: Is each component of the design in proportion to all other components relative to the overall design concept?

3. Construction & Mechanics: Are the framework and all design components durable and stable? Do motion, lights, illusions, etc. work correctly? Do all design components have a professional finish and appearance?

4. Originality & Uniqueness: Does the design convey a sense of freshness, newness of style, or a concept created along new or unconventional lines? Creative expression is not necessarily practical or easily reproduced.

5. Overall Visual and Artistic Composition: Does the piece elicit a positive response and provide artistic appeal?

6. Attention to Detail: Are all mechanics hidden?

7. Adherence to All Rules, Regulations, & Guidelines: This includes time deadlines for construction of entries, completion of Entry Forms, preconstruction guidelines, dimension restrictions, etc.

Terms & Conditions

1. Applicants, upon acceptance of their entry by Pioneer Europe Ltd [the organisers] become The Qualatex Event 2011 competitors.

2. If a competitor is disqualified because of his/her failure to follow the rules, regulations, terms, or conditions, the competitor shall not be entitled to a refund of delegate fee or any other expenses.

3. In the event of war, fire, strike, government regulations, public catastrophe, act of God, the public enemy, or other cause, the competition is prevented from being held or is canceled by the organisers they shall not be liable to the competitor for any of the competitor's expenses.

4. Neither Pioneer Europe Limited nor the Headquarter Hotel nor any of their officers, agents, employees, nor other representatives, shall be held accountable or liable for, and the same are hereby released from accountability or liability for any damage, loss, harm, or injury to the person or any other representative, resulting from theft, fire, water, accident, or any other cause. Neither Pioneer Europe Limited nor the Headquarter Hotel will obtain insurance against any such damage, loss, harm, or injury. All property of the competitor is understood and agreed by and between the competitor and Pioneer Europe Limited to remain in the competitor's custody and control by transit to and from the Headquarter Hotel.

5. The applicant hereby agrees to indemnify, defend, and protect the sponsor/producers of The Qualatex Event and the Headquarter Hotel against, and hold harmless from, all claims, demands, suits, liabilities, damages, losses, costs, attorney fees, and expenses which, by nature, might result from or arise out of any action or failure to act of the applicant or any of its officers, agents, employees, or other representatives, including, but not limited to, claims of damage or loss of property, or from or out of any damage, loss, harm, or injury to the person of the applicant or any of its officers, agents, employees, or other representatives.

*Competition judging and photography will take place at random times and may require moving of entries within the Headquarter Hotel.

Interpretation and application of judging standards, rules, and scores is at the sole discretion of the Qualatex Event staff as is the selection of judges. The Qualatex Event staff will make every effort to ensure a fair, impartial, and balanced competition.