

Call for nominations for the Pierre Bézier Award

Sponsored by the Solid Modeling Association (SMA) (www.solidmodeling.org)

With the approval of the family of the late Pierre Bézier, the Solid Modeling Association established in 2007 the Pierre Bézier Award for contributions in Solid, Geometric and Physical Modeling and for their Applications. Pierre Bézier was one of the founders of these fields. Beginning with his work on representing curves, and continuing through his work on one of the first CAD/CAM systems at Renault (UNISURF), Pierre Bézier led the transformation of design and manufacturing, through mathematics and computing tools, into computer aided design and three-dimensional modeling. He made contributions to computer control, interactive free-form curve and surface design and 3D milling for manufacturing clay models and masters. Bézier's approach to research exemplifies how the problems from the real world can drive scientific inquiry and lead to engineering accomplishments. Solid, geometric and physical modeling have matured and have come a long way since the 1950s, resulting in a rich set of theories, mathematics and algorithms that define and manipulate representations of physical objects, their properties, and their associated abstractions. These representations are intimately tied to processes (such as simulation, design, manufacturing, and analysis) and application domains (such as automotive, aerospace, bio-medical, graphic arts, and others). These representations support the creation, exchange, simulation, visualization, animation, interrogation, and annotation of the digital models of the objects and their evolution.

Nomination Process and Criteria:

The Pierre Bézier Award is the most prestigious award of the Solid Modeling Association. The award may be given to an individual or group of individuals nominated for contributions of a technical and leadership nature made to solid, geometric or physical modeling and applications. The contributions should be of lasting and major technical importance. The Pierre Bézier Award is modeled after the Association of Computing Machinery's A.M. Turing Award, which also may be given to a single person for their lifetime achievements; or to a group of people for their particular result or accomplishments.

Individuals or teams can be nominated. All nominations received in the current year and top nominations retained from previous years (upon recommendation from previous years committees) will be rigorously reviewed by the Pierre Bézier Award jury. The individual awardee or team will be chosen by the Pierre Bézier Award Committee based on the strength of the nomination dossier and possibly the inputs of the external referees that the committee may contact. Joint nominations, submitted jointly by several nominators of international stature, are encouraged.

Nomination Form and Timeline:

Nominations should be prepared using the Pierre Bézier Award nomination form, which is available as a fillable PDF form.

- Download nomination form (PDF), complete, and send via e-mail.
- The information on this webpage can be downloaded here (PDF).

Please change the file name for the completed form using the nominee(s) name(s) (e.g., "Bezier_nomination_John_Smith.pdf") and send it by e-mail to the SMA Executive and Awards Committee Chairs. For the e-mail subject line, please use "Bezier Award Nomination". The e-mail should be sent from the e-mail account of one of the nominators. All other nominators (if any) should be CC-ed. All nominators will receive an acknowledgement by e-mail within 72 hours of the nomination.

The current nomination deadline and the contact information of the Chair(s) of the SMA Awards Committee (for submission or questions) are announced by e-mail to SMA members and posted on the SMA website (www.solidmodeling.org).

Jury, Selection, and Announcement:

Each year, the chair of the Bézier Award jury is nominated by the SMA Executive Committee and invited to select at least 6 additional jury members. The jury members review all recent nominations and also outstanding nominations from previous years and votes to select the recipient for the current year as well as the outstanding candidates whose nominations should be considered for the subsequent years. The recipient of the Bézier Award is announced at that year's SPM conference and invited to deliver an acceptance lecture during the conference. The conference registration and a capped amount of travel expenses for the recipients are covered by the funds donated by the industrial sponsors of the Bézier Award.

Best regards,

SMA Executive Committee