

*DESIGNPREIS

Rapperswil-Jona, February 26th 2026

CALL FOR ENTRIES 2026 DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK

In a two-year cycle since 2012, the GEBERT FOUNDATION FOR CULTURE has offered Swiss designers an attractive platform to present current projects to a broad public. As part of the exhibition, it is awarding the DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK in the amount of CHF 10,000. Together with *ALTEFABRIK and KURATOR*IN, the DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK is one of the main supporting initiatives of the foundation.

This year's edition of the DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK will take place from November 21st 2026 to January 17th 2027 in Rapperswil-Jona. The exhibition will be accompanied by various educational formats.

SAVE THE DATE

Opening and award ceremony, Friday, November 20th 2026 at 6 pm

Conditions for participation

- The competition is open to professional designers who have lived and worked in Switzerland for at least five years or have Swiss citizenship.
- The submitted projects should be as recent as possible and should not date back more than three years. If a proposed project is still in the conception stage, it should be accompanied by a detailed description of the planned realisation. Only functioning prototypes will be considered.

Guidelines for the application

The application must be submitted electronically and must include the following content:

- Brief description of the idea (max. one A4 page)
- Sketches, models, photographs, explanatory text
- Curriculum vitae with work biography
- The application must be submitted electronically in a single PDF document of no more than 15 A4 pages. The size should not exceed 10 MB.

Admitted design sectors

- Product design (furniture, lighting, accessories, ...)
- Craft design (ceramics, glass, jewellery, ...)
- Fashion and accessories design
- Textile design

Please note: purely artistic works that do not result in a merchantable “design product” will not be accepted.

Deadline for entries

Sunday, May 31st 2026

Please note: incomplete or late submissions will not be considered.

Submission

Please send the complete application with the above-mentioned documents electronically to

- ▶ designpreis@alte-fabrik.ch

If material samples are added to the electronic application, please send them by post. The same deadline is valid for sending material samples: Sunday, May 31st 2026 (postmark). No liability can be accepted for the materials submitted.

- ▶ GEBERT STIFTUNG FÜR KULTUR / DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK
Klaus-Gebert-Strasse 5, 8640 Rapperswil

Criteria

The projects are evaluated on the basis of five main criteria:

- relevance
- sustainability
- innovation
- realisation
- presentation

Jury

Members of the jury are: Alexandra Blättler (Collection Curator Kunstmuseum Luzern), Christa Gebert (President Gebert Foundation for Culture), Liz Kim Domeisen (artist and co-owner Domeisen Jewelry), Martin Leuthold (Textile Designer) and Dimitri Bähler (Product Designer). The exhibition is jointly curated by Dimitri Bähler and Irene Grillo (Curator Gebert Foundation for Culture).

In June 2026, the first round of the jury-process will take place on the basis of the dossiers submitted. This will result in the invited exhibitors. The winner of the DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK will be determined in a second round after the exhibition has been set up.

Communication

The preliminary decision of the selection committee on the projects qualified for the exhibition will be announced in writing at the beginning of July 2026. Documents submitted by post for projects that are not considered will be returned. The decisions of the selection committee are final. No reasons will be given for rejections and no correspondence will be entered into. Nominees will be contacted in advance of the exhibition organisation to discuss the next steps.

Award ceremony

The *DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK will be awarded during the opening ceremony on Friday, November 20th 2026 at 6 pm.

News

This year's edition of the DESIGNPREIS brings several innovations: under its new name, DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK, the award is moving even closer to its venue, the ALTEFABRIK cultural centre. A newly developed, flexible display gives the exhibition a fresh look. At the same time, the ALTEFABRIK is presenting itself with a new visual identity and a new website.

If you have any questions, please contact the Team of DESIGNPREIS ALTEFABRIK at ▶ designpreis@alte-fabrik.ch