



www.ald.org.uk

Association of Lighting Designers
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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

Information on Professional Membership for non-LDs

The Association of Lighting Designers has a category of 'Professional Member' for people who are not lighting designers but who are professionally engaged in other fields associated with live performance lighting.

What is the ALD#?

The Association of Lighting Designers represents professionals working in lighting design and related occupations in the live performance industry in the UK and where UK-based designers work across the world. We are proud to boast the membership of most working lighting designers in the UK in theatre, opera and dance, architecture, rock concerts, education, TV and corporate presentation.

The ALD aims are to further the art of lighting design and to raise the professional status of lighting practitioners.

The ALD is the mouthpiece of those engaged in performance lighting and a resource for information on the wide range of topics that affect the lighting profession.

Professional Member Category Explained

It is common today to have a team of people realising the lighting design and effects for events across a broad spectrum of styles and scales. ALD lighting designers felt it was time that our collaborators and freelance production partners should be able to share in the benefits and solidarity of the Association.

'Professional Member' is for those with shared interests in lighting, who make some or all of their income working alongside lighting designers for example:

- Programmers**
- Production electricians**
- People working for lighting companies**
- Projection designers**
- Theatre electrics staff**
- Educators and theatre consultants**

We welcome members from all areas of the lighting industry and the production team to join us to be in contact with lighting designers and each other and who would like to join in with the activities of the ALD, social, networking, informative, professional and political.

What's the benefit of joining the ALD#?

Benefits of membership include:

- ✦ *Focus* magazine, published 6 times a year. *Focus* brings news and contact with the LD's world, articles about performance lighting and most aspects of working on live events.
- ✦ A free copy of monthly magazine *Lighting and Sound International*
- ✦ Free entrance to trade exhibitions, PLASA, ABTT and others
- ✦ Member discounts on a wide variety of goods and services
- ✦ Member meetings to share views and develop topics and activities
- ✦ ALD Website – Exclusive members' area for contacts, networking, forums, information, CVs, resources, practice guidance, news and a kaleidoscope of design photos at: www.ald.org.uk
- ✦ Regular email newsletter with events, announcements, jobs and critical professional information that you can't get anywhere else!
- ✦ ALD Yearbook - annual directory of members' contacts, a diary and a compendium of practical information.
- ✦ Keep up to date with new equipment, latest productions and current practice with backstage meetings and supplier funded events
- ✦ ALD supports the charity *Light Relief*, which offers emergency support for those of us in the lighting industry who have fallen on hard times. For more information check out www.lightrelief.org.uk

The most important reason to join?

Our central aims are networking, social and professional, and to be the representative body for the common interests of freelance providers of performance lighting design in the UK whether that be creative (the LDs) or in realisation of the design (the PMs).

The ALD continuously strives to foster a cohesive group of freelance practitioners in the performance lighting industry. We now extend to Professional Members the ALD network and lobbying group to help improve contract conditions and fees.

Many of us may find ourselves working for the same managements and on the same productions with similar contracts and contractual issues. When that goes wrong, ALD Professional Membership gives you access to the solidarity and experience of fellow freelance professionals and you can contact people who can share experience on developing your career, tips as you move on and advice if you need to deal with difficult situations.

The ALD represents members' interests in most negotiating environments. Our members sit on the Equity Designers' Committee (the union group that negotiates lighting design fees and contracts with the TMA, SOLT and ITC). We are also involved in lobbying theatre producers to examine whether fees are sufficient, continuously developing the network of LDs and exchanging information on fees to expand a database that enables contractual information to be shared amongst members without breaching the confidentiality of any individual.

The more members we attract, the stronger is the ALD representative opinion and voice in improving freelance and other members' contractual leverage, working conditions, fees parity and equal treatment, as members of the creative or technical teams.

How much does it cost? How do I join?

Professional Membership is just £75 per year. We ask you to renew by standing order.

So join immediately and make the most of your first year!

You can either download the forms from the website www.ald.org.uk, or our administration office can send a printed copy (phone 07817 060189 or email office@ald.org.uk).

To apply for Professional Membership you just have to establish your status as a professional freelance practitioner, or salaried worker through samples of contracts, production credits etc.

We hope you will join us. ✦

