

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

In the spirit of inclusiveness that opened up the Professional Membership category beyond lighting designers the ALD now has a single category, Professional Member, open to anyone who can demonstrate a professional track record in one or more areas of lighting for live performance in its broadest definition.

What is the ALD?

The *Association of Lighting Designers* is the professional body representing all those who work or are interested in the creation of lighting, video & projection design for live performance and events.

Whether you are a designer, programmer, production electrician, or crew member, **the ALD aims to further the art and appreciation of creative design using light in all its forms as part of the creative process.** Its members are drawn from across the fields of theatre (including opera and dance), rock and roll, corporate presentations and events, education and manufacturing.

The ALD is the mouthpiece of the performance lighting industry and a resource for information on the wide range of lighting design topics that affect designers in all areas of the lighting profession. It also provides a resource and forum for the discussion and development of artistic and creative lighting aims, an understanding of the process involved, and how changing technology assists this.

What's the benefit of joining the ALD?

Benefits of membership include:

- Full access to the ALD website at www.ald.org.uk
- Focus magazine, published six times a year.
- A free copy of monthly magazine *Lighting and Sound International*
- A publicly viewable micro-site for each member hosted on the ALD's website
- Listing in the Professional Members Directory
- Regular Professional Members email bulletins
- Professional Members meetings
- Free entrance to trade exhibitions, PLASA, ABTT and others
- Member discounts on a wide variety of goods and services
- ALD Yearbook - annual directory of members' contacts and a compendium of practical information.
- 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.lighrelief.org.uk

Professional Members

Membership is open to anyone who can demonstrate a professional track record in one or more areas of lighting and/or video for live performance. Professional members have full voting rights and are the sovereign body of the association.

This category now includes a specific definition for Video & Projection Designers who have developed their role in creating light onstage and are now supported by the ALD.

Professional membership can be gained under one (or more) of six headings:

Lighting Design:

A portfolio of at least six professional shows where you were paid and credited as Lighting Designer

Video Design:

A portfolio of at least six professional shows where you were paid and credited as Video Designer

Programmer (for lighting and/or video):

A portfolio of at least six professional shows where you were paid and credited as a Programmer (for a named Lighting or Video Designer)

Lighting Professional:

Proof of (at least) two years of freelance production work or contracted employment in lighting for theatre, live concerts, or events. Examples of freelance roles include: Lighting Associate, re-lighter, Lighting Director (concert touring), Production Electrician, Electrics Chief, Lighting Crew, Moving Light Technician or Lighting Operator. Examples of roles in contracted employment include Head of Lighting for an organisation concerned with live performance, Chief or Deputy Electrician or any member of the lighting team in a performance venue. People working in a company concerned with lighting for live performance in roles associated with those who qualify for Professional Membership of the ALD

Video Professional:

Proof of (at least) two years of freelance production work or contracted employment in video, primarily for live theatre, concerts or events. Examples of freelance roles in this category include Video Design Associate, Video Director, Video Animation, Video Crew Chief, Video Crew, Projection Technician or Operator. Examples of roles in contracted employment include Head of Video for an

organisation concerned with live performance, Head or Deputy Head of Projection, or otherwise a member of a performance venue where the role is primarily concerned with video and/or projection. People working in a company concerned with video and projection for live performance in a role associated with those who qualify for Professional Membership of the ALD

Education Professional:

Proof of contracted employment as a teacher or lecturer on courses that have a significant focus on lighting and/or video for live performance. This category is also open to professional researchers and writers concerned with the practice of lighting and/or video design and its associated practices

Professional Members can choose to be listed under one or all of the headings for which they demonstrate sufficient experience. For example a Professional Member who has at least six professional lighting design credits and at least six professional video design credits may wish to be listed as both a Lighting Designer and a Video Designer on the ALD website and in the Professional Members Directory. There is no extra charge for multiple listings.

If a Professional Member wishes to add another heading to their existing Professional Membership they simply have to demonstrate either two years of work in that new area or six professional designs, if they wish to add a design category.



Photo © Peter Mumford: www.petermumford.info

The most important reason to join?

Our central aim is to be the representative body for the common interests of freelance providers of performance lighting design and realisation in the UK.

The ALD continuously strives to foster a cohesive group of freelance practitioners in the performance lighting industry through our professional and social network meetings and events.

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 Creative Team Committee (the union group that negotiates lighting design fees and contracts with the TMA, SOLT and ITC). It is also involved in lobbying theatre producers to examine whether fees are sufficient. We continuously develop the networks of LDs who exchange information on fees, enabling 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 do I join?

How much does it cost?

Professional Membership is £85 per year. We ask you to renew by standing order.

So join now and make the most of your first year.

You can join via the website:

www.ald.org.uk/membership/

Our administration office can send a paper copy if required; just contact office@ald.org.uk

To apply for Professional Membership you just have to establish clearly your status as a professional freelance practitioner or salaried worker as outlined in this leaflet.

We hope you will join us. ✨