



universidade de aveiro
theoria poiesis praxis

The jury for the International Design Competition for Students **A Chair with a Story. Design a chair with a strong element of Cultural Heritage** within the EU project CRAFT, met by videoconference on 26th August 2021 and decided unanimously to award the three prizes as following:

1st prize:

Manta Chair

The jury has decided to reward the first prize to the **Manta Chair** project by **Clara Alexandra Miguel Serrano** from University of Aveiro, Portugal.

The project is a refined balance between the inspirational sources and a modern expression based on our cultural heritage. The simple structure with the shepherds stick turned around becoming a handle or signature of the chair enhance the project with both humor and refined reference to our heritage. Taking starting point in the life of the shepherd, digging into mythical references of nature, man and his herd, this was transformed into a storytelling of high level. The chair is well proportioned, and the simple upholstery wrapped around the structure also gives an intriguing balance between something noble and yet simple and rough. As such the project opens chains of associations and references to cultural heritage, which makes the project rich and complex and still simple and direct. The project is a fine example of how we can use our cultural heritage and transform it into a relevant object of our time.

2nd prize:

HDWM Chair

The jury has decided to reward the second prize to the **HDWM Chair** project by **Gaëlle Pillault** from University of Aveiro, Portugal.

The project is a fine modern version of the old steambending Viennese chair combined with Bauhaus influences. The contrast between the tight expression of “New Nordic” of our time blended with the romantic simplicity of bended round sticks creates an interesting hybrid. The chair evokes something familiar in us and at the same time it provokes very dry and formal attitude. It is harmonic and functional as well as minimalistic. The project is presented in a tasteful vibrant graphic layout which underlines the modernity of the project sitting on the shoulders of one of the most archetype iconic chairs of our times. The chair will have some constructional challenges, which can be solved, and the jury misses a clearer storytelling of the historic references, which leads to the fine final solution.

3rd prize

Albicastrense Chair

The jury has decided to give the third prize to the **Albicastrense Chair** project by Mariana Cardoso Lopes from Polytechnic Institute of Castelo Branco, University College of Applied Arts, Portugal.

The project combines an old poetic and refined handcraft technique, normally used for cloth, with a piece of upholstered furniture. The delicate embroidery is placed on the square architectural form almost like a mural on a building which creates a nice contrast between the formal and the expressive. The research composed of poetic sketches shows nicely the power in the local iconography in the 1800 of the Castelo Branco regions in Portugal and the contrast between the formal archetype form and the fine detailing based on cultural heritage in the decoration is an interesting theme. The jury is though missing a more distinct attitude in the design of the structure and in the overall visual approach of the project presentation.

The jury

Professor Maria de Fátima Teixeira Pombo (Universidade de Aveiro) Chair of Competition
Designer, Hans Thyge Ravnkjær (Hans Thyge & Co)
Professor, Project Leader Anna Marie Fisker (CRAFT-Cultural Heritage Project, Aalborg University)
Professor Ana Maria Fernández Garcia (Universidad de Oviedo)