THE INTERNATIONAL MASONRY SOCIETY STUDENT PROJECT AWARDS 2026

The International Masonry Society invites submissions of work in which the principal focus of the work is masonry. The award, which is for postgraduate students, is described below.

The **Ken Fisher* Postgraduate Student Award** is for a project comprising an MSc dissertation, an equivalent portion of a PhD study or another equivalent piece of work at postgraduate level (which could include a design study) involving masonry. Exceptional work submitted for this award may additionally be considered for the Arnold Hendry Postgraduate Prize.

Each award will consist of a premium of £150, an International Masonry Society Certificate, and membership of the International Masonry Society for the calendar year following the year of the award.

In exceptional circumstances, more than one award may be made at the discretion of the judges, who will also determine the nature of the award.

* Ken Fisher was a Founder member of the British Masonry Society (now the International Masonry Society) and a long-standing Council member. He served as Honorary Secretary for twenty-four years, until 2022, and took a keen interest in the Student Project Awards.

RULES

1. Submissions must take the form of a **two-page extended abstract** prepared using the IMS template attached (also available at www.masonry.org.uk). The extended abstract may include up to three figures and two tables. The two pages should include everything: title, author details, text, keywords, notations, figures, tables and the list of the supervisory team. References may be added on a third page. **If a submission is longer than two pages, excluding References, only the first two pages will be considered.**
2. Submissions must be made by an academic tutor who is a member of staff of the university or college at which the work was carried out. Normally, the academic tutor will be the principal supervisor of the work.
3. Each submission must consist of a single MS Word file of the extended abstract, accompanied by an electronic copy of the signed entry form and a JPEG photo (optional) of the student. Details of the winner of the award, together with the profile photo, may be used for promotional

purposes on the International Masonry Society web pages and social media. The documents should be sent together to Dr Levingshan Augusthus Nelson or Dr Adrien Sparling, email: **education@masonry.org.uk**.

4. Submissions for the Ken Fisher Postgraduate Student Award must be received no later than midnight (UK time) on 31 January 2027.
5. All submissions must be in English.
6. Submissions will only be accepted for work in which the student was the primary investigator. The extended abstract must be written solely by the student; group work will not be eligible for consideration.
7. The work submitted for an award must have been undertaken as part of a course or research programme completed in 2026. One academic member of the supervisory team must declare on the Entry Form that the student was the primary investigator of the work. The work must not have been published elsewhere in its current form.
8. Submissions will be assessed by an independent panel of judges appointed by the Council of the International Masonry Society. The decisions of the panel of judges will be final, and no correspondence can be entered into concerning the decisions.
9. Prize recipients, together with their supervisory team and collaborators, will be invited to submit the work as a full paper to the IMS journal, Masonry International. The students, the supervisory team, and collaborators may then be listed as authors. The paper will undergo the standard peer-review process. If accepted, it will be published in the IMS journal, and the £250 open-access fee will be waived.
10. Winners of an award will be notified via the nominating academic tutors, normally within three months of the submission dates.
11. Results will also be announced on the International Masonry Society website (www.masonry.org.uk) and in Masonry International.
12. The International Masonry Society reserves the right not to make awards.

Professor Nigel Shrive
The President
November 2026

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University/College: ……
Academic Tutor: ……
e-mail address: ……
Telephone: ……
Address: ……
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The following student has been nominated to represent my university/college for consideration for the **Kenneth Fisher Postgraduate Student Award**.

Student name: ……
Course and Year: ……
e-mail address: ……
Telephone: ……

Notes

1. An electronic copy of this form, completed in full, must accompany the submission.
2. I accept the conditions which apply to this award.
3. I agree to accept the decision of the judges as final and agree to permit free publication and exhibition of my work by the International Masonry Society.
4. Please include a JPEG photograph of yourself.

Declaration by the supervisory team. As an academic member of the supervisory team, I confirm that the student named above was the primary investigator of the work described in the extended abstract, and that it is not the work of a group.

Signature (academic tutor): …… Date: ……..

Declaration on the use of AI (student). State whether generative AI tools were used in preparing the extended abstract and, if so, name the tool(s) and describe what they were used for (for example, language editing, coding, analysis or drafting text).

☐ No generative AI tools were used. ☐ Generative AI tools were used, as follows:

……

I declare that the extended abstract is my own work and that my AI declaration is complete and accurate.

Signature (student):……Date: …….