

DEGREES - Learning with Glass

The exhibition at the Finnish Glass Museum 29.10.-31.12.2021



The exhibition, built by glass students and curated by the Finnish Glass Museum, celebrates the diversity and high level of glass education in Finland in both design and vocational training. The exhibition presents works by secondary and tertiary level students

Participants in the exhibition:

Design industry:

Aalto University, School of Arts, Design and Architecture Department of Design

Häme University of Applied Sciences, Design / Smart and Sustainable design

University of Lapland, Faculty of Art and Design, Degree Programme in Industrial Design

Arts and crafts industry:

SASKY Municipal Education and Training Consortium, Ikaalinen College of Crafts and Design / Glassblowing, Stained Glass, Glass Jewellery Design

Tavastia Vocational College, Glass, Nuutajärvi and Iittala

An education in glass design develops an understanding of the material to serve as the basis for the design and manufacturing of glass products and a well-functioning collaboration with glassblowers. The experience strengthens the expertise of designers and glassblowers in terms of both material knowledge and dialogue-based collaboration. The extensive cooperation between educational institutions and professionals is a key component in the development of glass education.

A vocational education in the glass industry provides students with skills and knowledge in basic and specialist techniques of glassmaking. Students of a vocational upper secondary qualification graduate as glass artisans. The main emphasis in the studies is learning the basics of glassmaking. Further study possibilities in applied arts include a vocational qualification (glassblower) and a specialist vocational qualification (master glassblower).

The exhibition *DEGREES - Learning with Glass* also acts as a contribution to the multinational application aimed at having the knowledge, techniques and skills related to handmade glass recognised on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Finnish glass industry is part of the network pursuing this aim. The joint European initiative wishes to safeguard the vitality of a rare professional field and to strengthen international cooperation.