Jim Benya



Jim Benya is an internationally respected lighting designer and consultant, and principal of Benya Lighting Design in West Linn, Oregon. After graduating in 1973 from the University of Michigan with dual degrees in electrical engineering and computer science, Jim turned his efforts to the field of lighting and, in particular, energy efficient lighting design. Throughout his career Jim has been challenging himself, architects, and interior designers to minimize energy use in their designs by taking advantage of the industry's latest technology.

As a teacher of lighting design and applications, Jim Benya is one of the world's best. He started teaching lighting in 1974 at the college level and in 33 years has become recognized worldwide as a clear communicator, practical environmentalist and passionate designer. He is a certified AIA professional development education provider, a certified ASID/IIDA interior design continuing education provider, and one of the top public speakers in the field.

Jim has won more than 250 lighting design awards worldwide for his residential and commercial projects. He is a fellow of the International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), a fellow of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA), a registered professional engineer (PE), a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, (IEEE), and is Lighting Certified by the National Council on Qualifications for the Lighting Professions (NCQLP). Jim currently serves as chairman of the Board of Fellows and a member of the Technical Review Council of IESNA. He also chairs the IDA/IESNA Joint Task Force for a Model Lighting Ordinance

Jim is also an accomplished photographer and widely published in the field of architecture and interior design. In 1994, he started teaching a basic class in photography for architects, interior designers and lighting designers that has become one of his most popular.