



Association of Outdoor Lighting Professionals
4305 North Sixth Street, Suite A, Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717-238-9780, Fax: 717-238-9985
Email: communications@aolponline.org
Website: www.aolponline.org

For media inquiries or available photos, contact:
Stacy Henninger, AOLP Communications Director
communications@aolponline.org, 717-238-2504

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ASSOCIATION OF OUTDOOR LIGHTING PROFESSIONALS HONOR HIROSHI KIRA
WITH INDUSTRY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

HARRISBURG, PA- During the last week of January, the Association of Outdoor Lighting Professionals (AOLP) hosted its 2010 Annual Meeting & Expo in San Antonio, TX. The conference featured two certification training sessions, as well as numerous educational speakers and seminars. On Thursday, January 28, 2010, AOLP held its annual awards banquet to honor professional excellence in outdoor lighting design. During the banquet, AOLP presented the 2010 Industry Achievement Award for leadership and pioneering efforts in the outdoor lighting industry to Hiroshi Kira. Kira humbly accepted the award and told the crowd how grateful he was to be recognized.

Who is Hiroshi Kira?

- Hiroshi Kira is the founder of HK Lighting Group. He was born in Japan and learned the art of clean simple design from his early schooling.
- He had a natural eye for design. He developed an ability to make the complex functional and durable. He is an artist, machinist, wood worker and gardener. He believes that everything must be in harmony with the earth. It must all work together. He uses only materials that are abundant and not harmful to the environment.
- Hiroshi came to the United States to further his education. He pursued a career in product design with a flair for industrial design.
- After graduation Hiroshi joined Henry Dreyfuss, who is considered the father of design the world over. There he developed an understanding for industrial design as well as durable functionality.

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- His design career includes such products as automotive, Aircraft, and Farm equipment. His first introduction to lighting was with Capri. He was hired as a consultant and went on to design and supply Capri with their "Framing Projectors" incorporating MR16 lamps. He also designed "Custom" recessed fixtures utilizing various lamp sources.
- At Capri, Hiroshi met Warren Karp. After they left Capri, Warren and Hiroshi as partners started Lumiere in 1986. There was rapid growth and industry recognition of unique design and excellence in product performance. Lumiere was eventually sold to Cooper Industries.
- Hiroshi found that the desire to design was a natural function of his everyday existence. After a period of time, the desire to form a new company became irresistible. A company built on the foundation of design and manufacturing the finest fixtures.
- Turning a sketch into a working model and carrying through to a finished product is at the heart of everything that motivates Hiroshi Kira. Designer, artist, poet, machinist, photographer, environmentalist, these are but a few of the facets of a unique individual.
- When industry individuals look at HK Lighting Groups designs, they see something different; they see a life experience in their hands.

(Taken from <http://www.hklightinggroup.com/AboutHiroshi.aspx>)

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