



2026 WORLD CAR FINALS POWERED BY BREMBO

Firefly is the 2026 WORLD URBAN CAR

NEW YORK CITY, New York, USA – Wednesday, April 1, 2026 – For Immediate Release

THE ROAD TO WORLD CAR 2026 and the **WORLD CAR FINALS POWERED BY BREMBO** concluded today with the live announcement of the winners in six award categories at the [New York International Auto Show](#).

The **Firefly** is the **2026 World Urban Car**.

This is the **first World Urban Car win** for Nio / Firefly.

“This recognition isn’t just about a car, it reflects a shift in how we move through cities. At Firefly, we believe urban mobility should feel lighter, smarter, safer, and more in tune with everyday life. As a compact electric vehicle designed for global cities, we try to be more thoughtful, shaping a more intuitive, electric way to move, so people can move more freely, and glow in their own way,” said **Daniel Jin, NIO Vice President & firefly President**.

A [jury of 98 distinguished international automotive journalists](#) from 33 countries selected the winning cars by secret ballot based on their evaluation of each eligible vehicle as part of their on-going professional work. Today’s vote results have been tabulated by [KPMG](#).

The **Firefly** was chosen from an initial list of five contenders from all over the world. A shortlist of three finalists was announced on March 3rd, 2026. The 2026 **Top Three in the World** were: Baojun Yep Plus / Chevrolet Spark EUV, Firefly, and Hyundai Venue.

Vehicles eligible for **World Urban Car** must be a maximum of 4.25 meters in overall length, must be approved for operation on public roads, must be produced in volumes of at least 5,000 units/year, and must be “on-sale” in at least two major markets (China, Europe, India, Japan, Korea, Latin America, USA) on at least two separate continents within the period January 1, 2025 and March 30, 2026.

For a complete list of previous winners in all categories, please visit our [web site](#).

Mark Schienberg, president of NYIAS said, "The World Car Awards are a global benchmark for excellence by recognizing the vehicles and technologies that are truly moving the industry forward. We're proud to host these honors at the New York Auto Show, where each spring the global automotive community gathers, bringing together leaders in industry and media to exchange ideas and shape what's next."

Daniele Schillaci, Chief Executive Officer of Brembo, said: "On behalf of Brembo, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the winners across all six categories of the World Car of the Year Awards. These recognitions honor vehicles that set new benchmarks in innovation, performance and design, representing the very best of today's automotive excellence. At Brembo, we are proud to support an award that celebrates visionary achievements and inspires the entire industry to keep pushing boundaries."

The Road to the World Car Awards is an annual journey that follows our international jurors as they test-drive, and vote on, the eligible vehicles for the awards' season. The jurors' road-test journey is captured virtually on [World Car TV](#).

The World Car Awards program would not be possible without the support of our official 20th Anniversary Partners: [AITASTIC Research & Consult](#), [BREMBO](#), the [NEW YORK International Auto Show](#), [KPMG](#) and [Newspress](#). Thank you to our partners.

VIDEO – [WORLD CAR TV](#)

FOLLOW OUR 98 INTERNATIONAL JURORS:

World Car TV: [YouTube.com/worldcartv](https://www.youtube.com/worldcartv)

Instagram: @theworldcarawards #wcoty #wca2026 #WorldCarAwards

Facebook: www.facebook.com/WorldCarAwards #worldcarawards #wca2026

CELEBRATING THE BEST OF TODAY.

EMBRACING THE BEST OF TOMORROW.

For additional information please visit worldcarawards.com or contact us at: info@worldcarawards.com

ABOUT

World Car Awards

It is the mission of the World Car Awards and its 98 global journalists on the jury panel to recognize, reward and inspire automotive excellence, leadership and innovation in a rapidly changing automotive industry on a global scale.

To that end we test drive and evaluate new or fully redesigned vehicles that are for sale in multiple

markets on more than one continent each year, voting to determine the World Car Design, World Luxury Car, World Performance Car, World Urban Car, World Electric Vehicle and World Car of the Year. Full vehicle eligibility requirements and our annual timeline can be found on our website.

Now in their 22nd year, the annual World Car Awards are the number one awards program in the world for the 13th consecutive year in terms of media reach and analysis of the top global markets.

The awards were inaugurated in 2003, and officially launched in January 2004, to reflect the reality of the global marketplace. The awards are intended to complement, not compete, with existing national and regional Car of the Year programs.

New York International Auto Show

The New York International Automobile Show, North America's first and largest-attended auto show, is an amazing combination of new ideas, technological innovation, and nearly 1,000 of the latest new cars and trucks on display. The Show is owned and produced by the Greater New York Automobile Dealers Association each spring in Manhattan.

2026 Auto Show Dates

Press Preview: April 1 and 2, 2026 (credentials required)

Public Show Date: April 3–12, 2026

Social Media: Twitter: @NYAutoShow Facebook: nyautoshow Instagram: nyautoshow #nyauto #nyias #RoadtoNYC