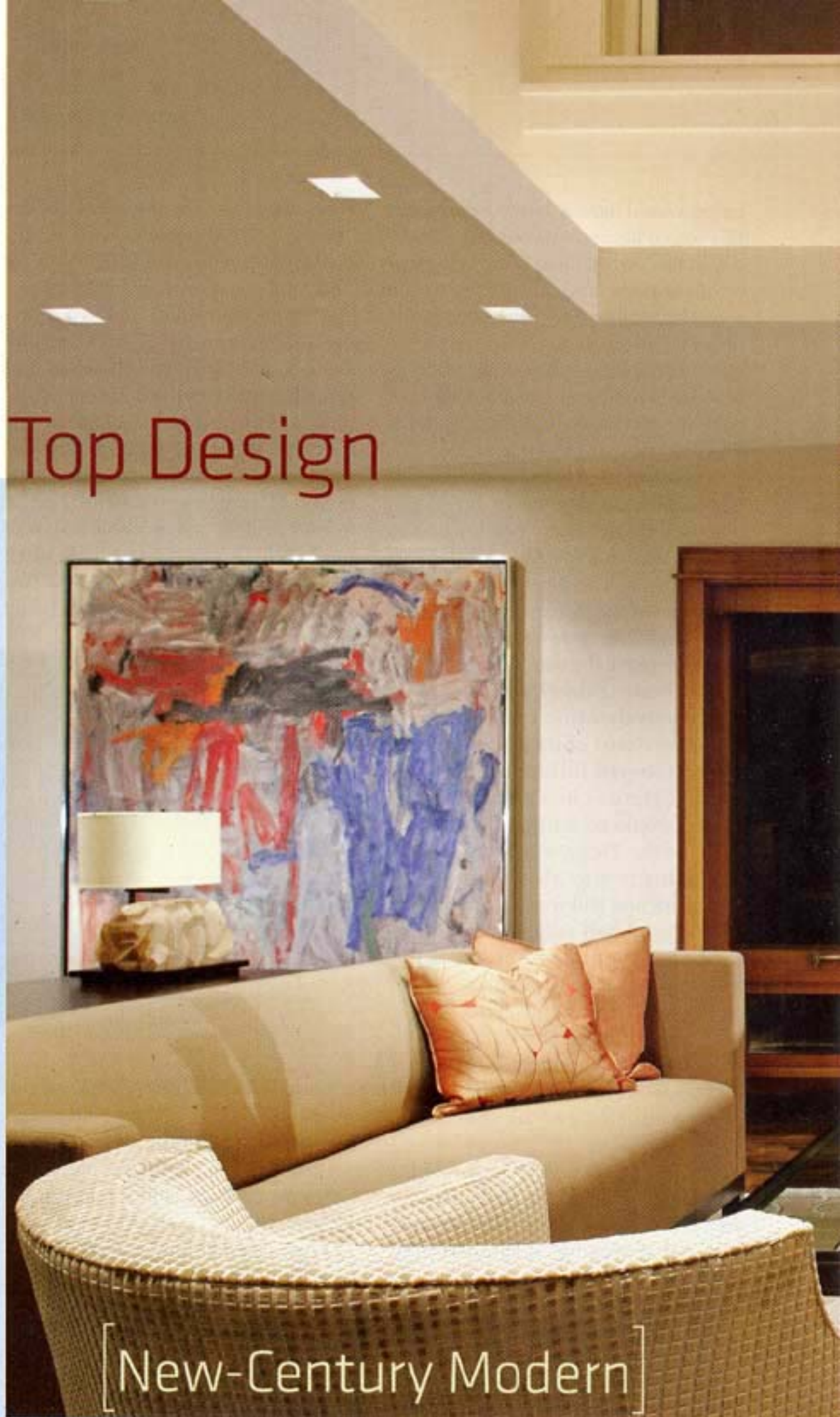


Presenting the 2007 ASID Awards  
for Outstanding Interior Design.

Edited by Jayne Haugen Olson,  
Melissa Colgan, and Elizabeth Doyle

# Twin Cities Top Design

The Minnesota Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers represents more than 500 local interior designers. Each year, Twin Cities ASID designers submit their best work to be judged by an interior design chapter from another state. In addition, the local chapter selects a Designer of Distinction and an Emerging Talent. Winners were recognized at an awards gala held at International Market Square in November. We're pleased to showcase the award-winning work.



**Design Challenge:** The condo's eight-foot ceiling height was of great concern to the clients, who wanted a space conducive to showing their large pieces of modern art. The designers were challenged to aesthetically mask the low ceiling height as well as to choose furnishings and finishes that would make the art collection the condo's focal

point. Additionally, the furniture needed to be sleek and simple, without being cold and hard.

**Professional Solution:** The designers selected furniture and accessories that would make the ceilings feel higher. The ceiling and wall colors were also kept light and neutral to make the





ceilings appear higher and the spaces wider and to create an allusion of more space between the large pieces of art. A dark wood floor was installed to further add visual light, and seating was kept low profile. Furnishings are neutral and warm, repeating the color palette of the architectural materials—pale-camel-colored uphol-

stery repeats the color of the white oak used on the walls and cabinets, while the deep brown of the wood floors is repeated in the woods of the dining room table and furniture accents. Complementary colors and layers of subtle textures were chosen that did not compete with the colors of the art collection.

**FIRST PLACE:** Residential Best in Show

**FIRST PLACE:** Design For Renovation,  
3,500-5,000 Square Feet

**Designers:** LuAnne Silvia, Allied ASID,  
and Kristen Mengelkoch, Allied ASID

**Firm:** Pisa Design





## [Charming Crocus Hill]

**Design Challenge:** To return as many original elements as possible to the contiguous spaces of the living room, stairway, parlor, and dining room, which had been reduced, altered, or removed in a previous "modernization" of this historic home.

**Professional Solution:** Through rediscovery, and some serious sleuthing, the design team used clues from the home to guide the project to the desired outcome. Two elements of the home that had been significantly altered were the original fireplace surround and a wooden screen separating the stairway hall

from the parlor. Both had been removed years ago. The designers discovered the nailing pattern of the original stair screen and used the design of the original balusters on the other side of the stairs to create a new screen to fit the pattern. Not only had the original mantel been removed, the entire room had been painted white. After stripping away a portion of the paint, the original outline of the surround could be seen. Using materials matching those found elsewhere in the residence, the fireplace was restored to its original scale and splendor, making it a welcoming focal point once again. Other design elements, though perhaps more subtle,

further the timeless aesthetic of this home, including antique and restored light fixtures, decorative stencil, and thoughtfully selected furnishings that all became the finishing touches.



**FIRST PLACE:** Historic Restoration  
**FIRST PLACE [TIE]:** Design Is In The Details

**Designers:** David Heide, Allied ASID, AIA Associate, and Mark Nelson, Allied ASID, AIA

**Firm:** David Heide Design Studio



## [Hidden Details]

**Design Challenge:** In order to please both the man and the lady of the household (he wanted a TV in the living room, she preferred a piece of art), the design team knew they needed to find a way to hide the television and make it invisible with a piece of art. Yet, given the location of the living room windows, the only viable place would be above the fireplace mantel, which would need to be reconfigured to accommodate both the TV and the art.

**Professional Solution:** The designers commissioned a local artist whose work appealed to both homeowners to paint a diptych on two panels to function as cabinet doors to the television. The painting was done in acrylic for a durable, touchable

finish. A new mantel was also designed to surround the new gas firebox. The mantel had to be designed in a way to allow the television to be placed as low as possible. An eight-inch-deep recess was created above the mantel in which the plasma TV wall bracket was mounted. And since the painting could not have hardware on it, touch latches were installed on the artwork frame/cabinet doors.

### FIRST PLACE [TIE]: Design Is In The Details

**Designer:** Linda Engler, Allied Member ASID, and Becky Kohout, Allied Member ASID

**Firm:** Engler Skogmo Interior Design







## [A Cook's Kitchen]



### FIRST PLACE [TIE]: Residential Kitchen

**Designer:** Linda Engler, Allied Member ASID, and Becky Kohout, Allied Member ASID

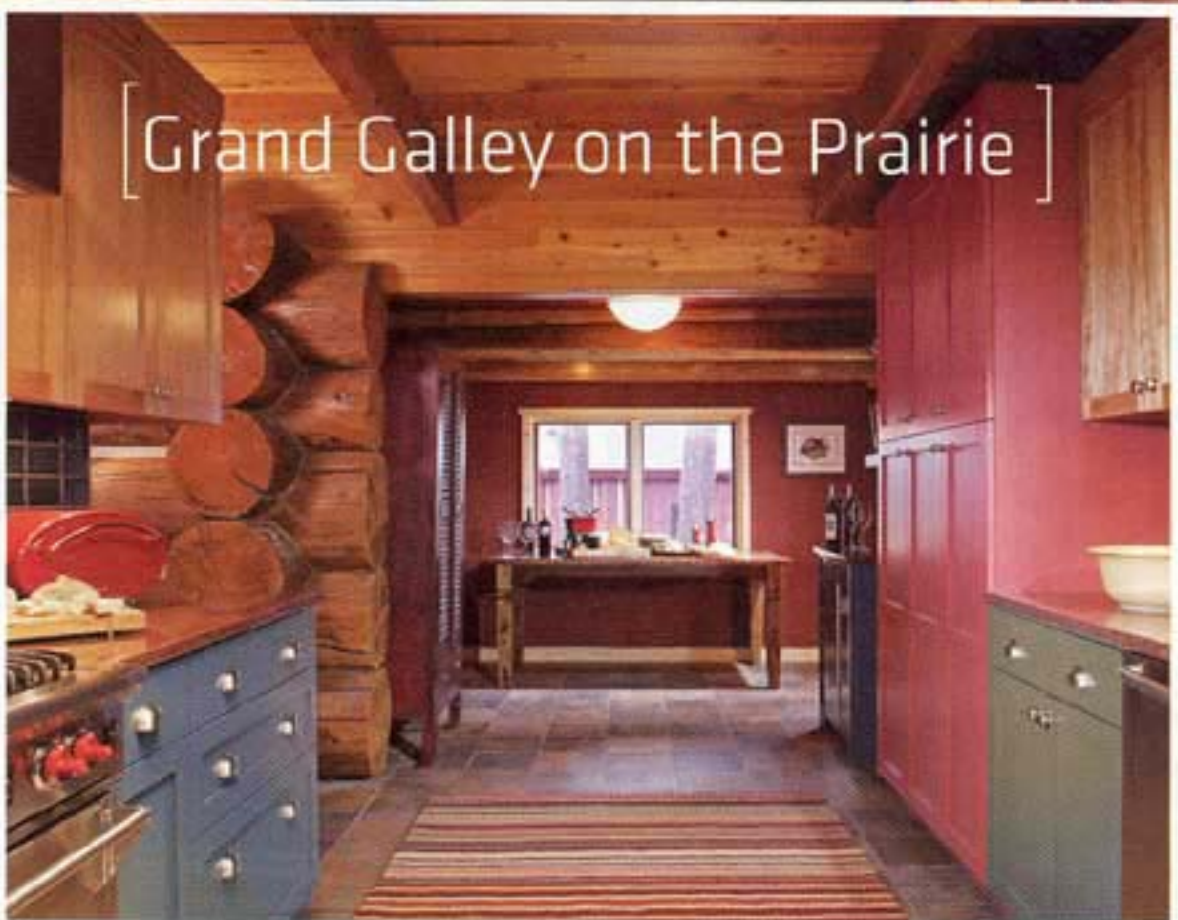
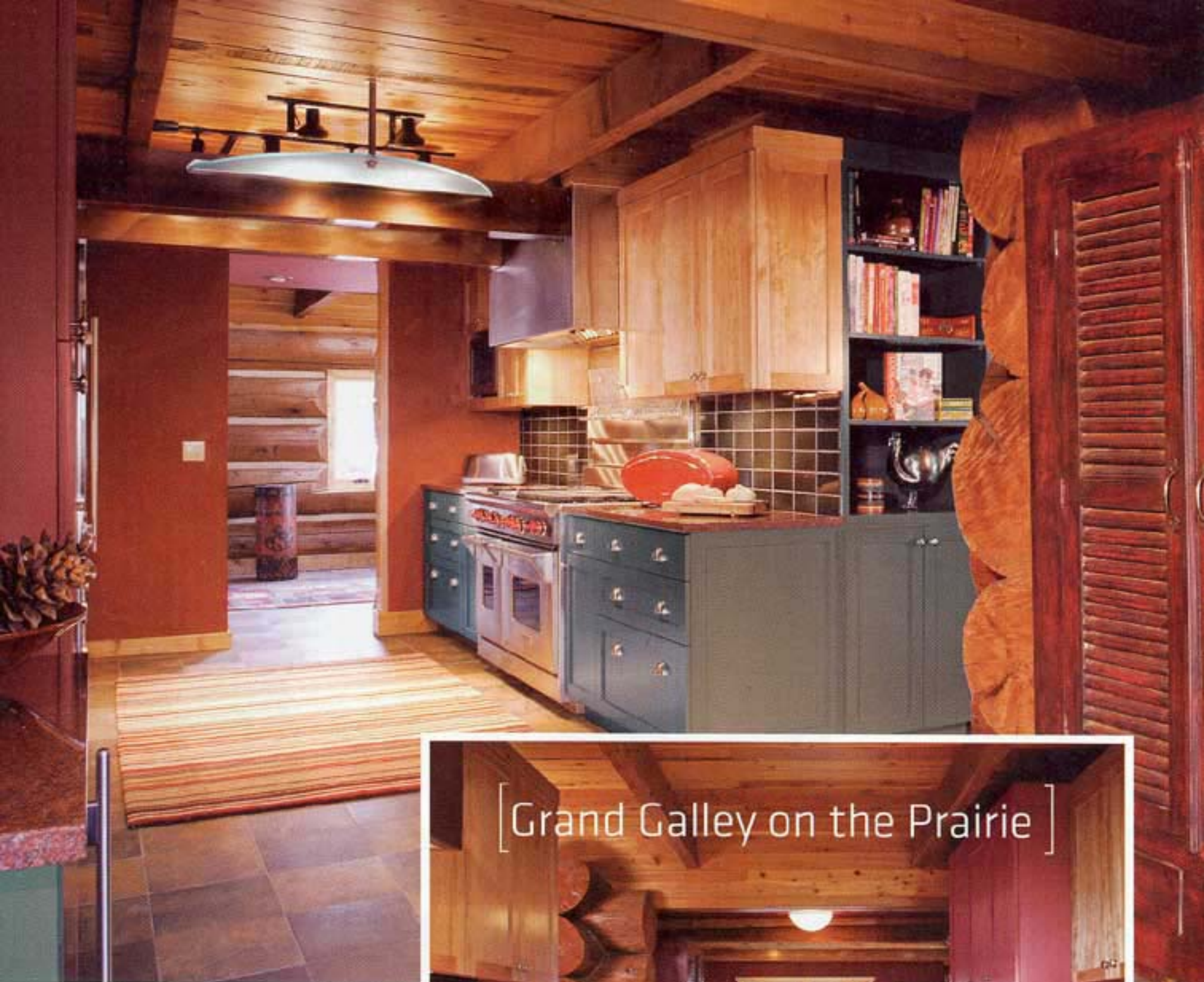
**Firm:** Engler Skogmo Interior Design

**Design Challenge:** The narrow center hallway in this 1930s colonial led to small, compartmentalized spaces, including the kitchen, back hall, and powder room. The awkward doorways, a dysfunctional layout, inefficient countertop space, and inadequate storage made cooking and organizing difficult and the small space lacked adequate dining and gathering space for a family of four. Missing entirely was a much-needed mudroom and desk area.

**Professional Solution:** To bring in more light, a wall separating the kitchen and

dining nook was removed and one window was enlarged. The dining room door was relocated to achieve more fluidity. To further open the space and bring in light, the back entry closet was eliminated and the doorway into the kitchen was widened. This allowed the kitchen to open up beyond its borders. To reference the home's roots, cream enameled cabinets, soapstone and Carrera marble countertops, hardwood floors, and vintage lighting were brought in. To create the mudroom, French doors to an adjacent sunroom were removed, freeing up an entire wall for tall storage cabinets, a built-in bench, drawers, hoots, cubbies, and a desk. The resulting space is light and airy, making it user-friendly for multiple cooks and two young children.





**Design Challenge:** Working within the confines of log construction, the designers needed to refine the existing floor plan to function better for the homeowners' cooking and entertaining needs as well as to add more appropriate lighting. The cabinets needed to be designed to showcase the log construction, while simultaneously reflecting the homeowners' innate contemporary style. The overall attitude needed to be energizing with simple textures and vivid color to juxtapose the complexity of the log structure.

**Professional Solution:** The designers increased storage and function and created symmetry by extending the length of the range wall. A second ceiling beam was added, and the hood over the sink was mirrored to add symmetry. The addition of a pantry and wine

cooler extended the kitchen's overall footprint and the appliances were rearranged to improve workflow. New cabinetry provides a smooth and sleek counterpoint to the wood backdrop, adding a block of color to the mostly wood surfaces. The ruby red color of the countertops and granite was chosen to accent the homeowners' existing collection of Asian accents, and the

**FIRST PLACE [TIE]:** Residential Kitchen

**Designers:** LuAnne Silvia, Allied Member ASID, Lisa Peck, ASID, and Emily Anderson, Allied ASID

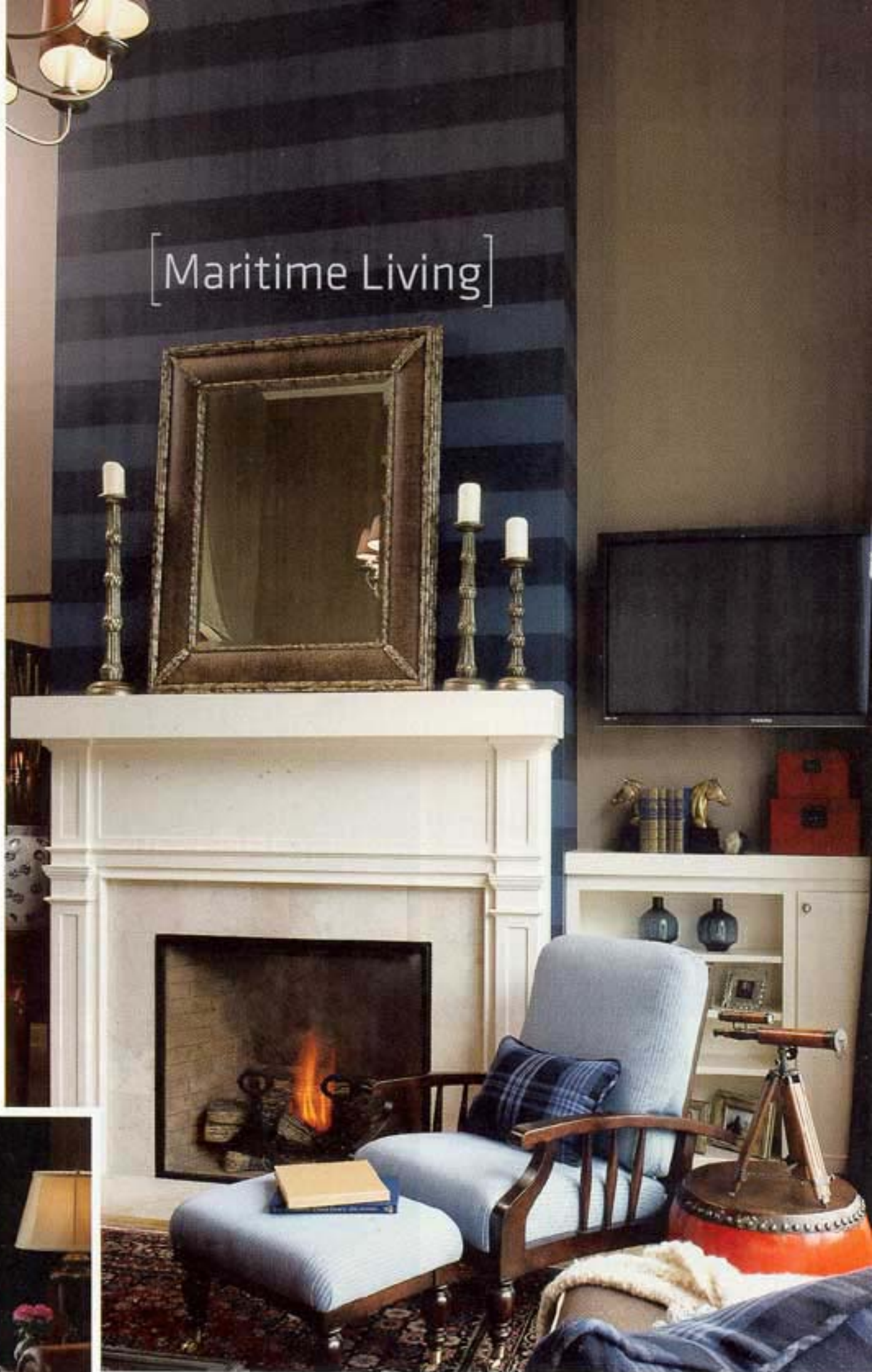
**Firm:** Pisa Design

teal backsplash and lower cabinetry adds a cool counterpoint to the rich, warm tones.



**Design Challenge:** The designer's family is the client for this dramatic new construction that celebrates life on the water, entertaining, and family time. Therefore, the living room needed to be designed to accommodate all of the energy of family and friends. The home, inspired by the lifestyles of Nantucket and the New Jersey Shore, was built in a cottage style. The goal was to bend a nautical theme with wonderful textures from the surrounding environment while enhancing the views of Lake Minnetonka.

**Professional Solution:** A nautical theme is woven throughout the home. Indigo blue is the predominant color, while red and khaki accents are seen in the furnishings and accessories. The space is designed to stand the test of time and the demands of an active family. The focal point of the living room is external, with floor to ceiling windows that frame the lake view. It was important that the design did not compete with the backdrop of the lake, but rather complement it during all four seasons. The commanding height of the ceiling gives the room the appearance of being larger than it measures, but the wall covering, furnishings, and arches



soften the scale, keeping it intimate and cozy. The fireplace, knotty walnut wide-plank flooring and authentic turn-of-the-century Persian prayer rug add drama and color to the space. A brindle hair-on-hide chair adds whimsy and humor and gives a nod to the Midwest.

**FIRST PLACE:** Single Room

**FIRST PLACE:** Design For Renovation, 3,500-5,000 Square Feet

**Designer:** Karen Soojian, ASID

**Firm:** Gabbert's Design Studio & Fine Furnishings



**Design Challenge:** The unfinished lower level needed to include spaces for a bar, watching television, playing billiards and card/board games, exercising, and a bathroom. The client wanted a space that would showcase a collection of art and reflect his love of wood and modern design.

**Professional Solution:** The concept for this thirtysomething's bachelor pad was to create a sophisticated entertainment space by using chunky proportions and heavy textures, incorporating an abundance of wood, and developing a menswear-inspired color palette.

The designers created a space plan with separate activity areas for media and games, but kept the areas all visually connected to allow an open traffic flow. The designers added custom wood light fixtures that appear to float just below the ceiling to further define the areas and offer rich architectural interest. A custom built-in angled bench was designed to conceal media equipment and provides extra seating for larger groups. The cabinet doors have wide stiles and rails and the countertops have a thick-edge profile. Red and white oaks are combined to add a rich backdrop for art.

**FIRST PLACE:** Residential Multiple Rooms

**Designers:** LuAnne Silvia, Allied Member ASID, Lisa Peck, ASID, and Emily Anderson, Allied ASID

**Firm:** Pisa Design

## [Urban Entertainment]





**Design Challenge [right]:** Create a large master bath in a 1960s ranch home that includes a full tub, a large shower, and two distinct vanity areas.

**Professional Solution [right]:** The original bath was a mere five by five feet and unusually shaped, so the designer had to take space, in part, from the upstairs hallway and master bedroom. After the new space was created and the layout established, a tub and natural cherry cabinetry were installed. To add texture and interest, tumbled travertine stone flooring and a walk-in shower with limestone tiles were added to the mix. The resulting space, with its warm woodwork and cool-toned tile, is smooth, sophisticated, and modern.

**FIRST PLACE [TIE]:** Residential Bathroom

**Designer:** Michelle Byers, Allied member ASID

**Firm:** Byers Interior Design, LLC



**FIRST PLACE [TIE]:** Residential Bathroom

**Designer:** Lisa Peck, ASID, LuAnne Silvia, Allied Member ASID, Emily Anderson, Allied Member ASID

**Firm:** Pisa Design

**Design Challenge [left]:** To create a serene and contemporary environment that would combine both a master bath and a powder room. The bathroom also needed to complement the existing log architecture.

**Professional Solution [left]:** To create visual balance while contrasting and complementing the existing log architecture, the designer chose furnishings and hardware with a plain, smooth finish. The three largest pieces—the tub deck, vanity, and cabinet—are made airier by a doorless shower and a cantilevered countertop overhang. The vanity's translucent blue glaze allows the wood grain of the cabinets to show through.





## [Cutting-Edge Condo]

**Design Challenge:** The forty-second floor of this downtown condo features walls of windows on two sides. The magnificent views deserve status as the unrivaled major focal point. The homeowner enjoys cooking and entertaining small groups and wanted a chef's kitchen completely open to the public space—and views—yet separate enough so guests would not interfere with his cooking.

**Professional Solution:** The walls of the existing kitchen were removed to achieve an open space. Constructing a

platform to position the kitchen a step above the other areas made space for the plumbing slope required to move the sink to the island, which also allowed the kitchen to be oriented toward the view and guests. The desired style was achieved with a simple geometry of strong angles contrasted with curves and dark rich colors that contrasted with the light and bright features. Flat slab cabinet doors of wineberry-stained cherry wood are accented by stainless steel uppers with inset glass and the taupe glass backsplash tiles. Silver

**FIRST PLACE [ABOVE]:** Residential Renovation Under 3,500 Square Feet

**Designers:** Lynn Monson, ASID, and Sandy Monson, ASID

**Firm:** Monson Interior Design

Galaxy granite countertops add visual texture. Merbau wood flooring and dark taupe wall paint are appropriate as background, saving bright color for the custom woven rugs and pillows that complement the existing wall art.



# [Luxe Library]

**Design Challenge:** The challenge was to restore the living room/library of a historic Summit Avenue home to the grandeur of its nineteenth-century Victorian roots. The design team was asked to preserve/restore the original woodwork, fireplace, and floors and create a space that would allow the new owners to entertain in style.

**Professional Solution:** The design was inspired by the ornate detail and opulent color found in James McNeill Whistler's *Harmony in Blue and Gold*. The team created a room that serves as the heart and centerpiece of the home that is comfortable and authentic to the era.

The original lead glass in the entry offered inspiration and was incorporated into the room's design. The pattern was photographed, measured, and a custom stencil created. The pattern was duplicated on the ceiling and wall under the crown molding. The motif, recreated to scale, was carried above the custom chandelier, which is reflected in the custom hand-carved pier mirror over the fireplace, creating a vista and illusion of two



chandeliers. The team paired two chairs, one "his," the other "hers." They chose the zebra-printed hair-on-hide Ralph Lauren Spencer chair for its uniqueness and a Louis XV replica finished in gold gilt. The Hancock & Moore George III wing chair was hand rubbed from black to khaki and hand tufted. Since only one-quarter of the original bookcase existed prior to the restoration, the bookcase was recreated using existing parts from the original, which had been disassembled and stored in the attic, and new millwork was added to complete the restoration.

**FIRST PLACE:** Showcase House

**Designers:** Randy Nelson, ASID, Jennifer Sheffert, Allied ASID, and Nancy Woodhouse, Allied ASID

**Firm:** Gabbert's Design Studio & Fine Furnishings





**FIRST PLACE:** Residential Addition Under 3,500 Square Feet

**Designer:** Catherine Harrington, ASID, CID  
**Firm:** Waldenwood

**Design Challenge:** The kitchen in this home was an awkward narrow passageway with cabinets and appliances along one wall and an entry door opening into the refrigerator. The laundry room was a closet with the washer and dryer tucked behind bifold doors. There was no obvious main entry to the home. Visitors coming to the home were unable to discern which door was the entry. The clients wanted a well-functioning kitchen large enough to be the hub for entertaining, with access to a patio for grilling and socializing during the summer. They also wanted an efficient laundry room that included some space for their two large dogs.

**Professional Solution:** Build an addition that included a new kitchen, new laundry room, and

new main entry to the home, which is filled with history and character. The new addition looks as though it has always been part of this upscale country cottage. The interior finishes; painted, distressed, glazed cabinets; warm butter cream paint colors; antiques, multiwidth-plank cherry wood and earthy, stone tile floors give the space a cozy, Old World aesthetic. Details such as the bead board accents, seeded glass panels, and stone fireplace are consistent with the time and place of this retreat. The ceiling in the kitchen is high and open, with rustic beams to add drama and space without building beyond the proportion of the original home. New high-end appliances and lighting are consistent with the lifestyle of a modern family.



TO SEE PHOTOS OF SECOND-PLACE AND HONORABLE MENTION WINNERS, AS WELL CONTACT INFORMATION ON ALL AWARD-WINNING DESIGNERS, GO TO [mspmag.com/homes](http://mspmag.com/homes).

## Leadership in Design

Each year the Minnesota Chapter of the ASID recognizes two members of its association for their work as design professionals, as well as their commitment to their greater community and to their field.

This year, Shirley Bolduc, ASID, was awarded Designer of Distinction for her more than ten years of service to the chapter, including serving as chapter president. She runs a successful design business, has earned awards for several of her kitchen projects, and cochaired the successful ASID Kitchen Tour of private residences in the Twin Cities.

The chapter also turns the spotlight annually on an emerging designer to watch. This year they recognize Molly Gilbertson, Allied Member ASID,



as an Emerging Talent. Designers in this category have more than five years' experience, but less than ten. Gilbertson's peers called out her efforts in collaborating on such community-minded projects as the historic renovation of the Smith-Douglas-Moore House in Eden Prairie, which has been awarded both design and architecture awards. Through those efforts, Gilbertson earned an appointment to the city of Eden Prairie's Heritage Preservation Commission.

For more photos of Shirley Bolduc and Molly Gilbertson's work, go to [mspmag.com/homes](http://mspmag.com/homes).

