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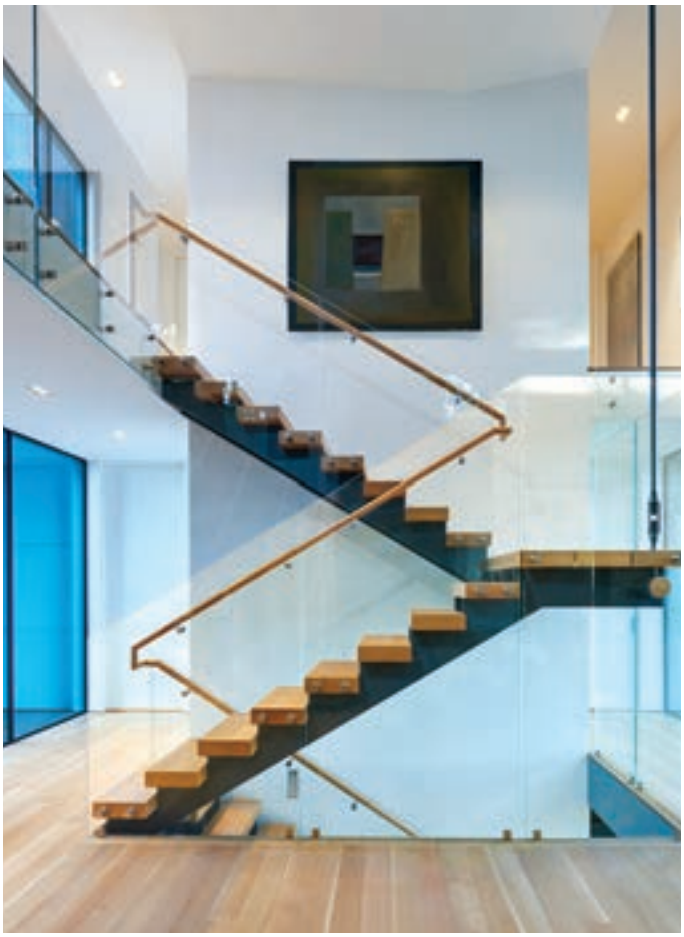

Left to right: A modern home in Lewes, Delaware, by architect Robert M. Gurney, FAIA; photo by Anice Hoachlander. An elegant living room by interior designer Kelley Proxmire in an historic Kalorama mansion; photo by Kip Dawkins. An inviting garden by McHale Landscape Design; photo by John Spaulding.

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100 Top Designers

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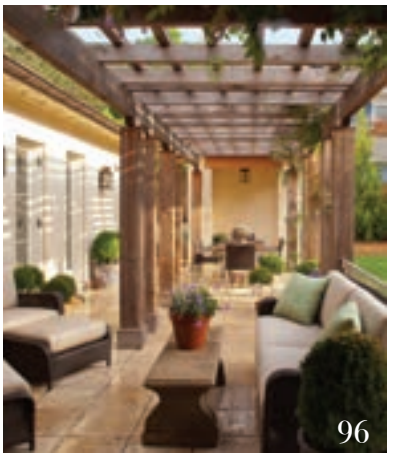

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Architecture

Flanked by sweeping colonnades, a custom home by Dalgliesh Gilpin Paxton Architects (opposite) is clad in hand-molded brick and quarried limestone; photo by Gordon Beall. Wiedemann Architects, LLC, designed a glass-walled artist's escape (above), perched on a cliff in West Virginia; photo by Anice Hoachlander.

Sarah Armstrong, AIA

From childhood, Sarah Armstrong loved to study how things were built and how light traveled through a structure. A passion for art and design inspired her to find practical ways to express her creative side—and architecture was the answer.

Now the principal of her own firm, Armstrong focuses on luxury remodeling, additions and custom homes. "We strive to create balanced, clean designs that respond specifically to each site, context and client," explains the architect, who is versed in historical preservation and traditional homes as well as modern design and detailing.

Qualities that connect all of Armstrong's projects are a sense of scale and an emphasis on natural light. "It is impossible for space planning to work well without a starting point of beautifully controlled light and proper proportions," she says. "An architect can offer suggestions to modify these things in ways a client may never have considered."

Armstrong makes the design process a collaborative one. "I find great joy in the process of helping clients and their families achieve their dreams for their homes," she reflects. "I can't imagine doing anything else." Armstrong was named Top Architect by *Northern Virginia* in 2017 and 2018.

See more projects at HandD.com/SarahArmstrong

Studio 360 LLC
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info@studio360architect.com » studio360architect.com

LEFT: JESSE SNYDER; OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: ERIC TAYLOR

Clockwise from opposite, top: A farmhouse-style kitchen is flooded with light to create a warm, welcoming and crisp space. An oceanside beach house in Fenwick Island, Delaware, reflects a timeless, modern aesthetic. A warm and earthy kitchen renovation establishes a family-friendly hub in the home; interior design by Lauren Leiss. An Arts & Crafts-style screened porch boasts an inviting fireplace.

Seth Ballard, AIA, NCARB

Seth Ballard studied architecture at Tulane University, where he was heavily influenced by the unique architecture and culture of New Orleans. He and Spanish architect Vicente Mensua, who is his father-in-law, launched Ballard + Mensua in 2005; today, they collaborate on projects in Spain and the U.S. while maintaining their own individual clients as well.

Ballard + Mensua is a full-service architecture firm with a specialty in custom homes and renovations. All types of projects are welcome, and the firm offers a cost-study process that combines the advantages of design/build with the checks and balances of a separate architect and builder. "We believe in an integrated project-management approach, including interior design and construction," Ballard explains.

Clients put together idea books on Houzz and Pinterest that serve as guides during the design phase. Listening to and interacting with clients allows Ballard and his team to consistently meet and exceed client expectations.

Ballard was named Best Architect of 2016 by *Arlington Magazine*. His firm won Best of Houzz 2016 and received Houzz's Influencer and Recommended Honors. In 2012, Ballard received a Super Service Award from Angie's List, which rates him as a top architect.

See more projects at HandD.com/SethBallard

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PHOTOS: MICHAEL GEISSINGER

Clockwise from opposite, top: To break down the height of a home's tower, Ballard expanded the porch over the garage. More than 400 truckloads of dirt were removed to create a backyard oasis. A detached garden room employs sculpted-stone retaining walls with plantings by Everett Garden Designs. A sunroom addition boasts western red cedar shiplap siding and beams, mahogany built-ins and foldaway door systems. A problematic slope was replaced by stone retaining walls and a flagstone patio with a built-in grilling area and pergola.

Anthony Barnes, FAIA, LEED AP | Stephen Vanze, FAIA, LEED AP

Barnes Vanze Architects translates discerning clients' needs and desires into beautiful, livable spaces. Founders Anthony Barnes and Stephen Vanze work in studio with senior associates Melanie Giordano, Michael Patrick, Ellen Hatton and Wayne Adams, who oversee a talented staff of architects and designers. Together, they create homes that reflect their owners' tastes and values, while responding to the unique characteristics of the properties on which they're built.

"We strive to know our clients well as people," Barnes says. "We look at how they live and their values. We are not selling a point of view, except that good design, regardless of style, is important."

Exposure to a range of cultures, styles and methods has informed each partner's approach. "Our training—in school and in practice—as well as extensive travel experience, allows us to draw from a variety of inspirational sources," Vanze observes.

Barnes Vanze has received many accolades from professional peer groups. These include the prestigious John Russell Pope Award in 2017 for an addition to a home Pope himself designed in 1932. That project also received an award of excellence from AIA Northern Virginia. In 2016, AIA Northern Virginia recognized a modern renovation of a glass-enclosed pool house and party space.

See more projects at HandD.com/BarnesVanze

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PHOTOS: ANICE HOACHLANDER

Clockwise from opposite, top: A pergola unites an outdoor dining porch with the pool at a hilltop weekend house; a cheerful cottage kitchen brightens a lakeside vacation home; a family-room and master-suite addition with a circular stair tower complement a 1920s Mediterranean revival; a newly built Arts and Crafts-inspired home includes elements of Chinese architecture such as fretwork in the master bath; the same home's exterior is all about natural materials such as stone, shingles and heavy timber.

David Benton, AIA

After nearly 20 years at some of the finest architecture firms in the DC area, David Benton fulfilled his dream of starting his own firm, Benton Architecture + Interiors, in 2016. While he currently works solo, he regularly partners with experienced contractors, craftsmen, and consultants, with whom he cultivated relationships over many years, to deliver thoughtful and beautiful results. Projects range from kitchen and bath renovations to sizable home additions.

"From traditional to contemporary, I respect the classic design principles of scale, balance and harmony," he says. "Scale makes inviting and welcoming spaces; balance achieves home designs that are stable and holistic; and harmony allows a home to sit comfortably in its surroundings."

Benton's design process begins with "getting to know the client, how they live today and how they dream of living," he explains. "Having a strong sense of the client's style, as well as the existing house and surroundings, helps lay the groundwork for a home that will be uniquely theirs."

From an addition to a 19th-century cottage in Connecticut to the whole-house renovation of a 1950s retro-modern gem in Bethesda, Benton Architecture + Interiors delivers on the big picture and the details to give clients a house that feels like home.

See more projects at HandD.com/DavidBenton

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TOP AND OPPOSITE: MARY PARKER ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY; LEFT: BENTON ARCHITECTURE

Clockwise from opposite, top: A complete kitchen renovation and a new, sun-filled breakfast bay make a once-dark and dreary space the hub of a historic Chevy Chase Village home. An existing interior Palladian window is reimagined as a bespoke bookcase and light well. A seamless addition expands a 19th-century waterfront cottage to take full advantage of its spectacular coastal setting.

Dean Brenneman, AIA

Dean Brenneman believes in focusing on one thing and doing it well. His practice is devoted exclusively to what he terms "transformative residential additions and renovations." His work has been featured in local and national publications and garnered many awards over the past 30 years. "My mission is to create a unique and personalized solution that transforms how each client experiences their home," Brenneman states.

While fascinated with all styles and periods of architecture, Brenneman is equally comfortable designing in classical and contemporary idioms. He is also noted for his expertise in preservation and adaptive reuse of historic structures and has served and advised local historic preservation boards.

Brenneman believes that architectural design is a collaborative process. He listens carefully, questions deeply and aims to solve challenges with elegance and simplicity. "I love finding creative solutions that allow my clients to not only improve their house, but also improve their lives," he says. The architect works closely with builders to ensure the complete realization of the shared architectural vision.

A native Washingtonian, Brenneman now practices over a wide-ranging geographic area. His designs can be found throughout the Atlantic seaboard and the Caribbean.

See more projects at HandD.com/DeanBrenneman

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dean@deanbrennemanarchitect.com » deanbrennemanarchitect.com

LEFT: GREG HADLEY; TOP & OPPOSITE: KENNETH M. WYNER

A modernist pool house with a curved roof nestles into the garden (opposite, bottom). A classic reinterpretation of the mid-19th-century Italianate Villa style (opposite, top). A light-filled contemporary interior features a round room with clerestory windows and minimalist detailing (above), while another home featuring a round room is designed in the turn-of–the-20th-century Prairie style, and cantilevered over a hillside covered in azaleas (left).

Jim Burton, AIA

Pete Serafin » Michelle Timberlake, ASID » Wade Michael » Nathan Strother

Since Jim Burton joined Page Carter to form Carter+Burton Architecture in 1997, he and his colleagues have been at the forefront of the sustainable-design movement. They focus on new-home design as well as renovations and additions, interior design, landscape design and commercial work. "Our projects demonstrate the process of blending site, program, innovation and craft," says Burton. "Energy efficiency, air quality, eco-friendly building materials and controlled natural light, combined with thoughtful design, are the cornerstones of our approach."

Burton and his team emphasize collaboration, working closely with artisans and other design professionals to understand clients and context and realize the best possible solutions on every project. "We care deeply about connecting a house and its interior spaces to a site and work hard to make those spaces comfortable and inspiring," he reflects. "Design elements that inspire storytelling and a sense of spirit and place work hand in hand with the architecture."

The firm recently received a Northern Virginia AIA award and a *Washingtonian* Design Award for its DC row house project and Virginia river residence, respectively. Its work has been featured in *Architecture Today: Houses* by Loft Publishing and *Architecture Now!,* Volume 10, by Taschen.

See more projects at HandD.com/JimBurton

Carter + Burton Architecture, PLC
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info@carterburton.com » carterburton.com

PHOTOS: DANIEL AFZAL

Burton and his team overhauled a dark and aged historic row house in DC. The transformation created an open plan, flooding the kitchen (left) and dining area (above) with natural light. The interior plans combined old and new furnishings, family heirlooms and an extensive art collection (opposite, top). Energy-efficient elements on the building envelope (opposite, bottom) include a living roof, solar panels and thermally broken steel windows.

Clockwise from above: To achieve energy efficiency, a weekend home with panoramic river valley views (above and opposite, top) employs a mix of passive design and technology, from generous roof overhangs and living roofs to foam insulation and a geothermal system. Interiors (right and opposite, bottom) feature high ceilings, LED lighting and radiant-heat floors. Southern porches, acoustical engineering and hidden functional support spaces create a unique project that is reinforced with quality craftsmanship and detailing.

PHOTOS: DANIEL AFZAL

Jonas Carnemark, CKD, CLIPP

In 1987, Jonas Carnemark founded CARNEMARK design + build to realize the creative goal of bringing home remodeling dreams to life—with both beauty and purpose. His firm is devoted to the clean lines and modern design that flow easily alongside attention to comfort. "We stress the importance of form and function, as well as service and integrity, on every project," says Carnemark.

CARNEMARK design + build specializes in the design, remodeling, and restoration of homes in the DC area, handling all elements of each building project from initial planning and design through every detail of construction. Using a client-responsive and eco-sensitive process, the firm's team turns abstract ideas into clean, sensible designs executed with careful craftsmanship.

"We work hard to have a strong sense of interactivity with our clients," Carnemark says. "Beauty in home design grows out of a notion of place and personality. It is important to create a space that is a joy for everyone who uses it."

The firm's recent accolades include a 2018 NARI National CotY award and *Remodeling* magazine's 2017 Platinum award for residential bath and universal design, as well as "Best of Houzz" recognition five years in a row. A presence in the design community, Carnemark leads seminars and speaks at industry conventions and area home shows.

See more projects at HandD.com/JonasCarnemark

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info@carnemark.com » carnemark.com

PHOTOS: ANICE HOACHLANDER

Carnemark renovated a master bath into a modern space that would allow its owner to age in place. A little-used soaking tub became a roomy shower (opposite, top), while a traditional window (opposite, bottom) received an update from frosted glass with clear, graphic banding. A galley-style kitchen (above) boasts sleek cabinets hiding a fridge, freezer and temperature-controlled wine coolers. In a contemporary-style home (left), sliding doors lead out to a deck with cable railings that maintain visibility.

Lorena Checa, AIA, LEED AP

Lorena Checa traces her interest in architecture back to her native Peru and a visit she and her father made to an architect—as clients—when she was 10 years old. "Imagining our finished home ignited my desire to be an architect," she recalls. Checa later studied architecture at Catholic University and launched her own firm in 1992.

Growing up, the architect forged a deep connection to nature that informs her focus on sustainable design. "I lived in Lima when it was known as 'The City of Gardens,'" she explains. "Homes were integrated with gardens and daylight. Later, living in Europe refined my respect for architectural history and modern design."

Today, CHECA Architects works closely with clients to integrate sustainable architecture and elegant interior design. Checa views the design process as a co-creation between the client and her highly integrated team of architects, engineers, landscape architects and builders. "We create harmonious spaces that celebrate natural beauty and lift the human spirit," she says.

In 2003, Checa was awarded the Presidential Citation for Sustainable Design by AIA DC. The firm recently made the 2017 Best of Houzz list. Checa's work has appeared in *Home & Design, Green Building & Design, Architecture DC* and *The Washington Post.*

See more projects at HandD.com/LorenaCheca

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lorena@checaarchitects.com » checaarchitects.com

PHOTOS: KENNETH M. WYNER

Checa Architects renovated a charming home in Northwest DC and designed an artist's studio in the backyard, connecting the two volumes via an intimate courtyard (opposite, bottom). Built for a sculptor, the light-filled, modern studio (opposite, top) incorporates a Corten-clad front façade inspired by the artist's work. At night, slits in the back-lit metal wall bring the structure to life (above).

A condo renovation in Reston, Virginia, features a warm and inviting guest suite (above) with custom millwork and special lighting. A renovated entry foyer (right) showcases the client's art collection. Checa also completed a renovation and addition in Arlington, Virginia, where the natural landscape surrounds a light-filled, open kitchen (opposite, bottom) and animates exterior volumes and decks (opposite, top) designed for contemplation.

PHOTOS: KENNETH M. WYNER

Anne Decker, AIA

Anne Decker Architects, LLC, specializes in the design of well-crafted homes and additions that enhance their surroundings. Sensitivity to scale, simplicity of form and attention to detail characterize the work of this nationally recognized firm.

With more than 25 years of experience creating timeless residential architecture, principal Anne Decker and her eight-member team work closely with each client to realize their vision of home. "We approach each project with a focus on being good listeners, a rigorous attention to detail and a keen appreciation of the site and its unique requirements," Decker says. "Our goal is to create spaces that are beautiful and comfortable, built using materials of exceptional quality. A well-designed house should not only meet a client's needs, it should bring a sense of ease and grace to their life."

Anne Decker's work has appeared in national publications, including *Architectural Digest, Period Homes, New Old House* and *Traditional Home,* as well as *Home & Design* and *Bethesda Magazine.* In 2015, Anne Decker Architects received a John Russell Pope award, along with awards from AIA Northern Virginia, AIA Maryland and AIA Potomac Valley. In 2009, the firm won the National Palladio Award.

See more projects at HandD.com/AnneDecker

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PHOTOS: TOM ARBAN

A new home in Bethesda juxtaposes modern and traditional elements with understated restraint, distilled to its essence to create purity of space, form, texture and light. Clockwise from opposite, top: A view of the front façade; the stair from the foyer, beneath which the passageway conceals a hidden paneled door; the living room, seen from the entry.

PHOTOS: GORDON BEALL

Decker renovated a 1905 home in Cleveland Park to instill a mid-century, Scandinavian aesthetic. The kitchen (top and right) is both bright and airy with white cabinetry, light woods and brass accents. A view past an existing fireplace into the breakfast area (above) frames French doors out to the garden.

PHOTOS: GORDON BEALL

A side view towards the orchard (right) and front door detail (above) reflect a modern-farmhouse aesthetic, embracing classic forms and spare, clean lines. Opening to the mudroom, the kitchen (top) is traditional, with rustic details.

Elizabeth Emerson, AIA | Mark Lawrence, AIA

Inspired by the conception and creation of beautiful things, EL Studio faces every project as a unique challenge requiring an innovative and thoughtful solution. Architecture by Elizabeth Emerson and Mark Lawrence is anticipatory—fostering new relationships and growth and developing strategies that will address the problems and potential posed by each project. Along with their staff of five, Emerson and Lawrence aspire to create architecture that is so rooted in the equality of its site that it is timeless.

The principals of EL Studio have worked together since they were students at Catholic University. They share a compatible design sensibility and take a holistic approach to their work. They founded their firm in 2007; over the years, they have developed hand-in-glove working methods. Both feel that two sets of eyes and ideas inevitably enrich the design.

EL Studio seeks clients who are receptive to new concepts and methods. The partners appreciate when clients are drawn to them after seeing completed projects with features that intrigue them. Their greatest reward is seeing a completed project that is happily and actively used. The firm recently won an AIA Chapter Award and received a *Washingtonian* award for their Naylor Court Shop/House project.

See more projects at HandD.com/EmersonLawrence

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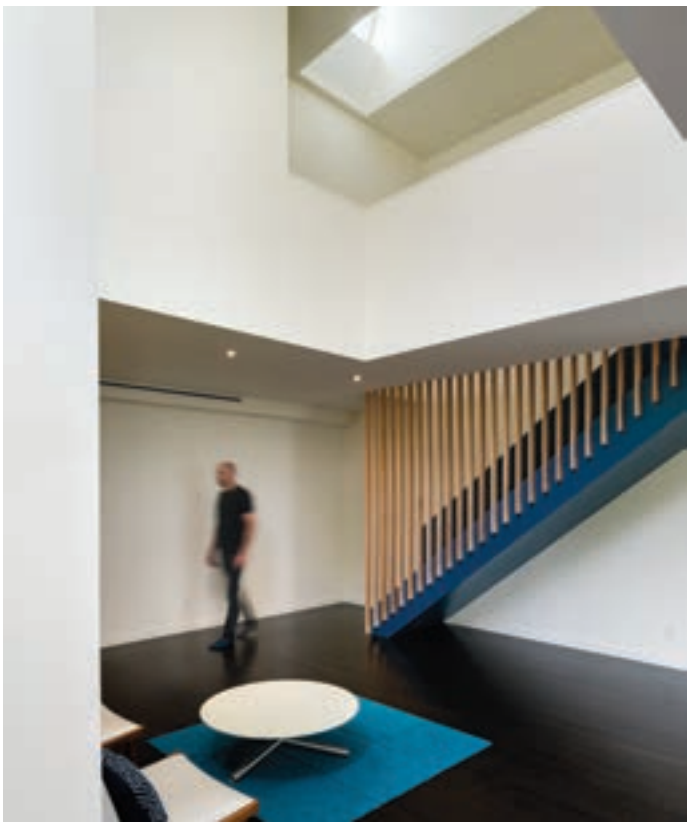

PHOTOS: PAUL BURK

EL Studio enlarged a modest home in Bethesda with an innovative, contemporary addition. Clockwise from opposite, top: An exterior side yard view reveals the addition as it connects to the existing home. A skylight/side slot indicates the intersection of the home's new and existing volumes. The new double-height family room contains a stair leading to the bedroom addition.

Robert M. Gurney, FAIA

The office of Robert M. Gurney, FAIA, designs meticulously detailed modern residential and commercial projects that are sensitive to site, program and budget. Materials are employed with honesty, integrity and ecological awareness. Interior spaces are active and intricate, tranquil and minimal. Regardless of project size or budget, the firm produces spaces that strive for design excellence.

Whether working in complex historical districts or on a vacant site, the design process involves an understanding of site-specific issues, availability of materials and construction methods, with considerable client interaction.

Design solutions arrive through the thoughtful manipulation of light, color, texture, form and geometry, with results that are simultaneously complex and distilled. Attention to detail and awareness of location, landscape and history lead to solutions that respect historical, topographical and regional context, without being revivalist.

Works by Robert M. Gurney, FAIA have won more than 290 local, regional and national design awards and have been published in numerous local, national and international magazines, books and periodicals. They are the subject of two monographs, *Modern Order: Houses by Robert Gurney* and *Robert M. Gurney Architect*, part of Images Publishing Master Architect Series.

See more projects at HandD.com/RobertGurney

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PHOTOS: ANICE HOACHLANDER

These pages: Robert Gurney designed a house in Lewes, Delaware, to accommodate an extensive art collection and to provide comfortable living spaces open to views of the surrounding marshland and heavily wooded landscape. The spaces throughout the project act as a vehicle to experience the changing scenery of the landscape beyond.

An apartment renovation in The Watergate (above) reconfigures the space with formal clarity to provide open living areas oriented towards river views. A centrally located curving volume (right) was designed in response to plumbing and electrical infrastructure that could not be relocated. A penthouse (opposite) in Washington, DC, is organized around the existing two-story corner window walls, providing a dynamic space that anchors the unit while not distracting from panoramic city views.

PHOTOS: ANICE HOACHLANDER

ANICE HOACHLANDER

A DC residence had a traditional layout with compartmentalized spaces, heavy trim and a dark material palette. Gurney's renovation focused on infusing the spaces with light and creating a seamless transition between interior and exterior spaces. Doors and windows fold open, forging an open-air connection that reinforces this relationship.

The new overall form of this renovation in McLean, Virginia, consists of four volumes with varying heights in response to the existing horizontal massing. The varied ceiling heights define the spaces within an open floor plan (above and right). Gurney combines the charm of a historical Georgetown house with a modern, open, light-filled addition (opposite, top and bottom) that visually and physically relates to the garden and outdoor spaces.

THIS PAGE: ANICE HOACHLANDER

John F. Heltzel, AIA

John Heltzel started his career on the construction site, working as a carpenter for a custom homebuilder. This hands-on experience has proved invaluable to his work as an architect. "It developed my ability to design while fully understanding how things go together," he explains. "When I design a detail, I know exactly what I am asking the tradesman to do."

The creative process has always been Heltzel's first love. With more than 25 years of experience, he has designed custom homes and renovations of all sizes, from New York to Florida. He and his staff, which includes architects, engineers and interior designers, ensure that all aspects of the design process are addressed. Their objective is to help clients "enjoy happier, more productive lifestyles by improving their environment through excellent design."

Heltzel emphasizes the importance of listening to clients, understanding their objectives and helping them to prioritize. "I am just as comfortable with a felt-tip pen and tracing paper as I am with a spreadsheet," he observes. "I create design solutions alongside my clients, efficiently and within budget. I use any means of communication that I find effective, from digital scrapbooks and casual discussions to laundry lists or a road trip."

See more projects at HandD.com/JohnHeltzel

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LEFT: GREG HADLEY; TOP: BOB NAROD

Clockwise from opposite, top: The renovated great room of a home in Waterford features a barrel ceiling and lots of open space for entertaining; Heltzel used an accelerator to create a patina on the copper roof of a beachfront home in Key West; the addition of a deck and covered pavilion creates a versatile outdoor space for enjoying mountain views; and the family-friendly renovation of a penthouse in Reston boasts warm finishes and a cool color palette.

TOP: SNAPS PHOTOGRAPHY; LEFT: BOB NAROD

Outerbridge Horsey, AIA, LEED AP

Founded in 1988, Outerbridge Horsey Associates, PLLC, specializes in residential architecture. In addition to local projects, the firm has completed homes on the Eastern Shore and in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and as far afield as Newport, Nantucket, Antigua and Guatemala. A staff of five full-time architects designs new houses, additions and renovations, closely adhering to clients' requirements while drawing on the inherent qualities of the site and honoring the style of any original structures. "We ensure the use of the highest-quality materials and detailing," says principal Outerbridge Horsey. "This allows us to provide the finest finished product possible within the projected budget."

Outerbridge's early experience as a gardener and carpenter instilled in him a passion for integrating architecture and landscape, and an emphasis on details. "While I trained as a modernist, exposure to architectural history and theory provide a balanced frame of reference to explore new possibilities," he reflects. "My appreciation of people, their ideas and dreams also informs my design process."

New clients are asked to fill in a questionnaire about their functional needs, memories and aesthetic preferences. "A well-designed house should express the personality of the client in both overall concept and details," Horsey notes. "We consider each project unique."

See more projects at HandD.com/OuterbridgeHorsey

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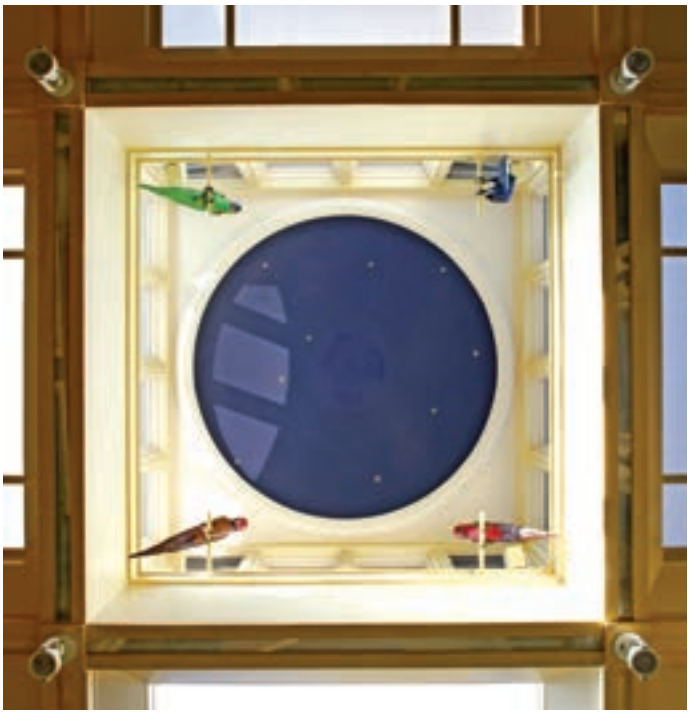
LEFT: JOHN CORBETT; TOP: ANNE GUMMERSON; OPPOSITE: MAXWELL MACKENZIE

Clockwise from opposite, top: A historic farmhouse in Rappahannock County was enhanced with a new front porch and kitchen/family room/conservatory addition. In DC's Palisades neighborhood, a new porch and swimming pool integrate the original house on left, the new two-story addition and the garden—all with uninterrupted views of the Potomac River. Seen from above, a new, three-part house in Nantucket features a playful interaction between vernacular volumes and the surrounding landscape.



Clockwise from above: A clerestory surrounded by skylights brings delight to an urban dwelling. A light steel-and-wood stair connects an existing second story with a new third-story level. A light-filled dining-room addition provides a perfect setting for an art collector's Lucite dining table and chairs. A kitchen with red-lacquered cabinetry and a mirrored backsplash is a dramatic addition to a compact DC row house.

LEFT: GORDON BEALL; TOP, LEFT: ANNE GUMMERSON; TOP, RIGHT & OPPOSITE: MAXWELL MACKENZIE

The kitchen and breakfast-room addition (above and right) to a lovely 1930s Spring Valley home is lit by six pyramid skylights and French casement windows on three sides; details include a multi-purpose oak and marble-topped island and a large La Cornue range. French doors lead onto a pea-gravel terrace shaded by a pergola, offering an elegant transition into the garden (opposite).

PHOTOS: JAMES PIPKIN

David Jameson, FAIA

Primarily situated in and around Washington, DC, the work of David Jameson Architect creates a unique situational aesthetic, evocatively negotiating the insertion of modernist constructs within authentic urban conditions, adjacent to historic reproductions in suburban environments and within visceral rural landscapes. The studio works to elevate everyday experiences to be poetic, while celebrating the refined and raw, and the hand of the artisan.

David Jameson has long believed that instilling ideas in a building is what elevates them into meaningful architecture. Each project has its own narrative ideology, while exploring the constant of interstitial space and reflectivity. "The resulting spatial logic of the work is experienced from both the interior and exterior of each home," Jameson says. "But it is always specific to the conceptual genesis of each project." He adds, "My studio explores each commission as habitable art."

Some of David Jameson's most recent awards for residential design include the American Institute of Architects (AIA) National Honor Award for Interior Architecture; AIA National Honor Award for Small Projects; International Architecture Award; American Architecture Award; AIA|DC Award of Excellence; AIA|Maryland Award of Excellence; and AIA|Virginia Award of Excellence.

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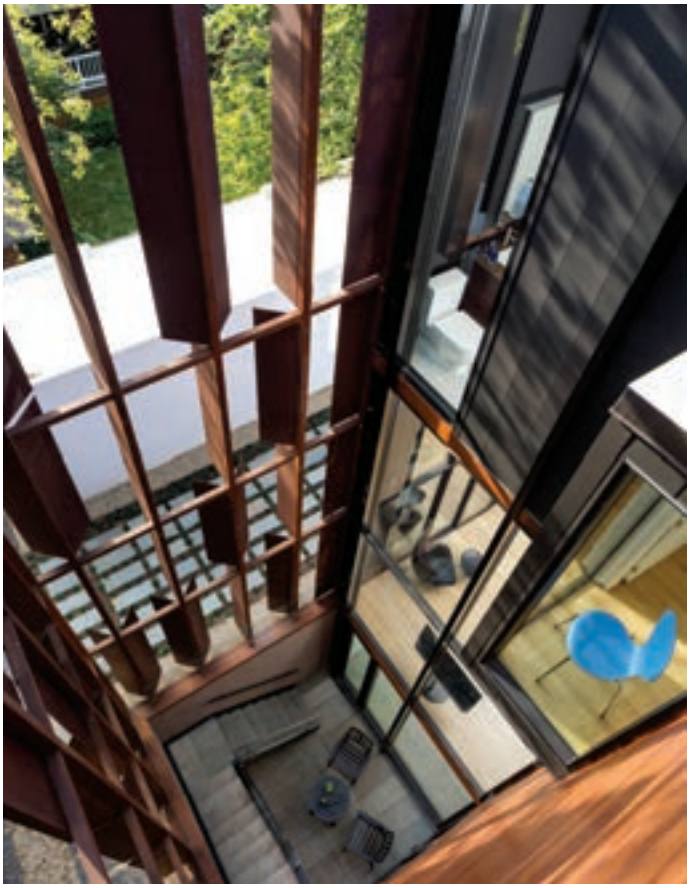
ALL PHOTOS: BRUCE DAMONTE

These pages: Jameson envisioned a portal that frames views to San Francisco Bay, Stanford University and the Santa Cruz Mountains in his design of Woodside Residence, a sustainably built concrete armature that wraps and cradles wooden cartridges. Built to withstand extreme seismic events, the home juxtaposes heavy and light, public and private, refined and raw, while revealing the hand of the artisan and the forces of nature.

These pages: Like a mirage, Vapor House explores the shape of water and its experiential qualities. Panels of rippled steel provide privacy and reflect the earth and sky, rendering unclear the building's scale and materiality. Planar glazing, both kinetic and fixed, blurs the distinction between the interior and exterior spaces that ebb and flow around the pool.

PHOTOS: PAUL WARCHOL



PHOTOS: PAUL WARCHOL

Inspired by the client's passion for repairing small-scale engine parts, Manifold House (opposite) is composed of a prefabricated structural frame outside the building envelope. Weathered-steel louvers serve as a screen, providing privacy and moderated light. Jameson replaced a 14-foot-wide garden plot between row houses in DC with a three-story volume (above) clad in burned siding; it houses living quarters and a roof deck.

These pages: Shaped largely by its site, Wildcat Mountain Residence is contained by heavy stone walls that divide it into public and private spaces around the centerpiece of the building: a spatially dynamic indoor/outdoor living pavilion. This volume unites the heavy walls with a thin, glazed volume above that rotates to focus views of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

PHOTOS: PAUL WARCHOL

David Jones, AIA | Wouter Boer, AIA

With care and creativity, Jones & Boer Architects designs traditional homes that complement their owners' loves and tastes, while also suiting the classic fabric of the Washington, DC, area and beyond. A home should "occupy the land and neighborhood comfortably, as if it has been there forever," says founding principal David Jones. He and partner Wouter Boer make such houses possible today.

Jones, who earned undergraduate and graduate degrees at Princeton and studied at Cambridge, founded his Washington, DC, practice in 1990. Originally from New Zealand, Boer joined the practice in 2003 with a degree from Notre Dame and teaching experience at the University of Maryland. The two work with a staff of architects to guide each project and homeowner through the processes of early decision-making, preliminary and final design, construction drawings, builder selection and contract administration.

For the past three decades, Jones & Boer Architects has enjoyed a national reputation, winning numerous architecture awards including, most recently, the 2017 John Russell Pope Award and 2017 Northern Virginia AIA Award of Excellence, both for the West River House, a newly built residence in Maryland.

See more projects at HandD.com/JonesBoer

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LEFT: ANICE HOACHLANDER; TOP: GORDON BEALL; OPPOSITE: MAXWELL MACKENZIE

Clockwise from opposite, top: Jones & Boer Architects designed a modern addition to a historic Tudor house; a new farmhouse on the West River in eastern Maryland; an urban estate on Northwest DC's Chain Bridge Road; and a classically styled home in DC.

Patrick Brian Jones, AIA

"I believe that architecture and design are not about being modern or traditional," says Patrick Brian Jones. "In the words of a mentor I once had, architecture is about the things you see and how you see them; first you must see the beauty, then you may use it."

Jones translates designs into sophisticated yet simple spaces that reflect the needs and lifestyles of those who inhabit them. After spending a combined 15 years at two small design firms where, he says, he "wore many hats," he launched his own firm in 2011. "I am as comfortable in the design studio as I am on a construction site," he comments. "I think a comprehensive understanding of all aspects is key."

The needs and budgets of his clients are paramount. "I listen closely and engage clients in the design process from the beginning," Jones explains. "I ask questions, propose ideas and incorporate feedback until we are able to convene on the best design for the client." This philosophy forms the foundation for a partnership that continues from design through construction and on to the first dinner party they will host in their new space.

Projects by Patrick Brian Jones have appeared in both national and regional publications; a project by Jones appeared on the cover of the March/April 2018 issue of *Home & Design*.

See more projects at HandD.com/PatrickBrianJones

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THIS PAGE: ROBERT RADIFERA; OPPOSITE: TONY GIAMMARINO

Clockwise from opposite, top left: A new glass-and-steel rail system updates a DC row house stair and creates storage below. Walnut and white cabinetry, quartz countertops and steel accents work together to deliver a functional yet stylish kitchen. Custom-built niches in a hallway display beloved objects with clerestory lighting above and cabinets below. Large expanses of glass opened up the rear façade of a DC row house to create a strong connection from the inside out.

John G. Katinas, AIA | Michael P. Bruckwick, AIA

With more than 50 years of collective experience, principals John Katinas and Michael Bruckwick bring varied strengths and perspectives to Katinas Bruckwick Architecture. Founded in 2004, the firm is LEED-accredited with an emphasis on energy conservation and sustainability. The 10-member firm is diverse and inclusive, boasting a wide variety of experience in all styles of architecture.

KBA's high-caliber designs employ creative, functional and aspiring solutions that result in useful and inviting spaces. "Our dynamic approach encourages homeowner involvement through all stages of design and construction," says Katinas. "Coordination with contractors and builders is vital to a successful project. We aim to cultivate an enjoyable and rewarding process for all involved."

Projects by KBA may take advantage of a home's existing features or commit to a complete transformation. "We capitalize on elements that are unique or key to the home's appearance, flow and function," Bruckwick explains. "We take clients' criteria and inspiration and create designs that encompass their vision and feel like home."

Both Katinas and Bruckwick grew up in DC and understand the fabric of the DC region; with this understanding comes the ability to push the envelope and apply forward-thinking solutions that respect their surroundings.

See more projects at HandD.com/KatinasBruckwick

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LEFT: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG. TOP AND OPPOSITE: KENNETH M. WYNER

KBA refurbished a vintage gas station, transforming it into a neighborhood bar and kitchen. A historic Alexandria home links renovated spaces to a light-filled kitchen addition; its front façade showcases a meticulous renovation of the existing structure, seamlessly connected to the airy addition. A floating staircase is the centerpiece in a two-story downtown co-op.

Devin S. Kimmel, AIA, ASLA

Trained as an architect, landscape architect and illustrator, Devin Kimmel brings a holistic approach to his practice. Since launching his firm in 2010, he has focused on designing "artful" architecture that is seamlessly integrated into its surrounding landscape.

Kimmel strives to design projects that reflect the vision of his clients, who are encouraged to be active members of the design team. As the architect reasons, "We have accomplished our mission when the client looks at a design and says, 'Yes, this is me.'"

Kimmel Studio encompasses its founder and a team of six—all well-versed in traditional and modern forms. "If a client is interested in a building with a classical, farmhouse, colonial, Shingle or Tudor style, we will enjoy designing it—and we will know how to do it," he affirms.

When designing modern structures, architectural history is still first and foremost in Kimmel's mind. "Knowing tradition does not imply that we are bound by it," he says. "But history helps us decide when and where to tweak or even break traditional rules."

Kimmel considers architecture to be an art form; he and his staff take pride not only in their finished work but also in the beautiful black-and-white drawings, color renderings and 3D models that they present to clients.

See more projects at HandD.com/DevinKimmel

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THIS PAGE: DEVIN KIMMEL; OPPOSITE: PETE ALBERT

Clockwise from opposite, top: The sleek, modern entry to a new Annapolis residence is characterized by double-height ceilings and a helical open stairway of contrasting black steel and light wood; clean lines and rigorous geometry convey a sense of casual elegance. A modern interpretation of the traditional Maryland barn reveals a large glass wall framing a water view; designed with David Mallon. The focal point of a family library is a clean-lined fireplace flanked by custom bookshelves for a family that loves to read; designed with Catherine Lowe.

Donald Lococo, AIA, NCARB, NKBA

Noted for exceptional traditional and modern architecture, Donald Lococo Architects sympathetically modernizes traditional homes; creates new homes with a warm, modern feel; and designs homes that are decidedly modern. Essential to the process is a conversation regarding personal taste, wants and needs and where clients envision their home along the traditional-to-modern spectrum. Unbound by one style or period, these conversations define the design, while dreams steer it in the right direction.

Testament to the firm's dexterity are repeated features in traditional magazines like *Architectural Digest* as well as modern periodicals such as *Remodeling* Magazine. It is this dexterity that has allowed Lococo to judge both modern and traditional architectural competitions, and has earned him recognition in both—including a national AIA award for small practitioners for his modern Wedge House renovation, and consecutive traditional awards from the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art's John Russell Pope Awards. He also received the prestigious national Benjamin Moore Hue Award, which recognized his designs for modern and traditional residential projects. Although the firm has worked across the country and England, Lococo has continued his residential focus in the DC area and across the eastern United States for more than 25 years.

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TOP AND OPPOSITE: GORDON BEALL; LEFT: JOHN COLE

A classic limestone residence (opposite, bottom) in Washington, DC, is an award-winning traditional abode. A sympathetic addition floods a historic Kalorama home (opposite, top) with sunlight and connects it to garden views. The home's historic integrity is maintained in the interior (above) with a newly built stair and new steel doors leading to the backyard.

LEFT AND TOP: JOHN COLE; RIGHT: MAXWELL MACKENZIE

The garden courtyard of a modern home (right) balances one partner's love of Mies van der Rohe proportions and the other's love of warm materials and human scale. A new farmhouse (top) contrasts rustic stone with updated board-and-batten siding in crisp white. An award-winning kitchen (above) marries modern, full-height, white cabinets with an island clad in raised, black panels.

Thomas Manion, AIA

Manion + Associates is a full-service architectural firm with a staff that is passionately interested in design. Residential work is its main focus, and provides opportunities for everything from energy-efficient contemporary homes to historic restorations. The firm was founded in 1979 by principal Thomas Manion and currently has six employees, including two consulting architects.

Manion and his team have developed a process that involves and educates the client. "By understanding clients' goals and objectives, we establish a good working relationship," Manion says. The firm emphasizes an open, cooperative approach with consultants and the large and small construction firms with whom it works.

Manion has written and lectured on passive-solar, earth-sheltered, and other energy-saving approaches. "I believe residential design is a constantly evolving profession," he observes. "Each concept must relate to the site and setting, while efficiency and orientation are crucial. Success is a well-woven litany of systems, materials and focus."

During the past year, Manion + Associates designed an addition using split logs; created a residence combining Asian and Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired elements; and won various Potomac Valley AIA awards for historic restorations. As Manion explains, "We enjoy taking on projects that challenge, educate and help us grow."

See more projects at HandD.com/ThomasManion

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TOP AND OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: HOWARD DOUGHTY; OPPOSITE, TOP: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Clockwise from opposite, top: A contemporary addition to a Mid-Century Modern home on a quiet cul-de-sac in Cabin John. The entertaining area and loft addition of a Potomac residence. A modern addition in Bethesda's Edgemoor neighborhood boasting creative arch details. A cherry staircase incorporating glass-and-metal railings in a contemporary house on the Potomac River.

Randall Mars, AIA

Whether developing a transitional home or a modern structure, Randall Mars focuses on creating architecture that celebrates space and light. "Our goal is to design spaces that enrich and excite the people who are using them," he says. As principal of his firm, Mars is intimately involved in every project and design decision. He enjoys collaborating with younger architects on staff who, as he says, "keep the work fresh."

With several decades of experience, Mars understands how to refine the details that set his work apart. "There is great beauty in the smallest considerations—the simple way a window is trimmed to wrap a corner, or the way a railing is terminated at a stone wall," he observes. "While creating light and space, we emphasize a clear organization of the massing of the house elements." The firm's latest work has explored flat roofs and cubic volumes, with rich materials such as ipe siding, concrete panels and other textures that enrich each design.

Randall Mars Architects takes pride in listening closely to clients' aesthetic and functional desires. "Though clients guide our direction, we try to take the design farther than directed, both in composition and detail," Mars explains. "Long after our projects are complete, we take great pleasure when clients discover the subtle details or textures that complete the designs."

See more projects at HandD.com/RandallMars

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TOP & OPPOSITE: ANICE HOACHLANDER

Clockwise from opposite, top: Randall Mars pared a mid-century house down to its core, then outfitted it with custom millwork that defines the interior spaces. A renovation transformed an existing home in McLean with a new metal roof, dark-stained siding and large windows capturing lush, rolling surroundings. A rendering by Randall Mars Architects depicts a modern home set back from the street on a narrow lot, currently under construction in Vienna.

James McDonald | Lynne McDonald

James McDonald Associate Architects strives to design homes that not only fulfill but exceed clients' expectations. James and Lynne McDonald understand market and design trends and are able to guide clients through projects of all sizes and levels of complexity, from small additions and renovations to the creation of grand estate homes.

The firm's principals start by carefully listening and assessing clients' needs. They then develop a concept and design direction for each project. The architects keep the process fluid and interactive. "Our first design meeting is an active charrette, where we revise concept directions with the homeowners," James McDonald explains. "This allows us as a design team to hone in on our clients' likes and dislikes." Through extensive discussions that encourage client feedback, he and his team ensure that their final design will be a true reflection of the client.

The firm has won a number of awards for its work, including four 2017 Great American Living Awards for custom designs.

"We enjoy the creative aspect of being architects," observes Lynne McDonald, "There is nothing better than the feeling that comes with having designed and built a place that our clients can call home."

See more projects at HandD.com/JamesMcDonald

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TOP: BRAD CARICOFE PHOTOGRAPHY; LEFT & OPPOSITE: GREG HADLEY

Clockwise from opposite, top: A grand, chateau-style home in Great Falls features an imposing arrival court. A light-filled family room in McLean shares space with a sleek, modern kitchen. A transitional farmhouse in Great Falls exudes classic charm. A custom Nantucket-style home in Arlington features a shingled exterior and a stone chimney.

Adam McGraw, AIA | David Bagnoli, AIA

Adam McGraw and David Bagnoli bring more than 40 collective years of experience to StudioMB, the full-service architecture firm they founded in 2011. Together, they have assembled a talented staff of 12 designers and project architects capable of a wide range of residential project types, from designing new homes to renovating existing structures in both urban and rural environments.

"Our work shows the range and diversity we thrive on," McGraw says. "We are always seeking new challenges and searching for creative solutions."

No single formula is applied to every project. McGraw and Bagnoli approach design with an open mind to the needs of the client and the context. "Successful projects come from listening and looking, then creatively responding to what you find," Bagnoli notes. StudioMB uses a collaborative design approach, working with clients to arrive at unique solutions to the demands of each project.

In addition to its residential work, StudioMB designs mixed-use, commercial, performing arts, academic, hospitality, adaptive reuse and institutional architecture. Whatever the milieu, McGraw and Bagnoli remain on every project from concept through completion. As McGraw says, "We enjoy working both knee-deep in theory and on a muddy construction site."

See more projects at HandD.com/StudioMB

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ABOVE: PAUL BURK; LEFT: GREG POWERS

Clockwise from opposite, top: A re-envisioned mid-century ranch house in Somerset allows a free-flowing connection between interior and exterior. A modern cabin overlooks the Potomac River and C&O Canal. A guest house provides both living and entertaining space amid the rolling hills of Baltimore County. A renovation and addition to an AU Park residence updates the entire home in contemporary style.

ABOVE: KENNETH M. WYNER; LEFT: DAVID BURROUGHS

The radical transformation of a Takoma Park home (above) provides modern and much-needed space for a growing family. Framing views of the outdoors, from the pool (opposite, top) to the garden (right) marries architecture to its site and extends spaces beyond the exterior walls. The renovation of a Georgetown condo (opposite, bottom) created an open plan that maximizes the views.

ABOVE: PAUL BURK; LEFT: GREG POWERS; OPPOSITE, TOP: DAVID BURROUGHS; OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: PAUL BURK

Mark McInturff, FAIA

Christopher Boyd, AIA » Colleen Healey, AIA » David Mogensen, AIA » Jeff McInturff » Peter Noonan, AIA

Mark McInturff launched McInturff Architects in 1986. Today, the firm remains intentionally small, with seven members and a bent toward contemporary design for residential, commercial and institutional projects.

While McInturff's work is modern, the firm has no single identifiable style. "I have learned many lessons from good traditional buildings," McInturff observes. Each client and site is unique, and he collaborates with clients in order to tailor his work to their needs. "We are good listeners—our goal is to be involved in the entire process," he explains. "The best projects integrate everything, from the initial design through the finished product, including landscape and interiors."

McInturff Architects has received more than 300 design awards, including 37 AIA DC/Washingtonian Residential Design Awards (more than any other firm) and three national AIA Honor Awards. The firm's projects have been widely published locally and nationally, and McInturff's work has been the subject of three monographs: *In Detail: McInturff Architects* (2001); *In Residence: McInturff Architects* (2007); and *In House: McInturff Architects* (2013). He teaches at Catholic University and was elevated to the AIA's College of Fellows in 2000.

See more projects at HandD.com/MarkMcInturff

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LEFT, TOP LEFT & OPPOSITE: JULIA HEINE. TOP RIGHT: COLLEEN GOVE HEALEY

Clockwise from opposite, top left: A new house in Rehoboth Beach overlooks the marshes and ocean beyond. A garden court offsets the entry façade of a new home in Arlington. The double-height screened porch of a Rehoboth home offers sweeping views of surrounding marshland and the beach. The renovation of a tiny cabin encompasses a new stair tower and expanded views of its pastoral site.

Clockwise from above: A house with a long, narrow floor plan and generous windows provides a strong connection to the pool and yard. Automated, drop-down louvers shade a house along the C&O Canal, protecting the interiors from summer sun. A home clad in stone and copper blends into its wooded site. McInturff transformed a 1,000-square-foot cabin with a new stair tower and windows letting in plenty of natural light.

PHOTOS: JULIA HEINE

Stephen Muse, FAIA | William Kirwan, AIA, LEED AP

Established by Stephen Muse in 1983, Muse Architects offers extensive experience in architecture and interior design. In 2003, longtime employee William Kirwan became a principal of the firm; today, Muse Architects has a staff of 14. "Our work is designed to be site- and client-specific," Muse explains. "We extend what is best about existing conditions while mitigating problems. At completion, we have hopefully constructed a building that looks like it has always been there."

Muse Architects designs structures that surpass what the owners imagined they could be. "We ask clients to describe their backgrounds so we can design a home that recalls their memories and has meaning to them," Kirwan notes.

Muse Architects has won more than 160 design awards from local and national AIA chapters and from the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The firm's work has appeared in more than 200 books and periodicals, including *Architectural Record, Architectural Digest* and *The American House, Design for Living*.

In addition to the Washington, DC, area, completed projects by Muse Architects can be found up and down the East Coast from Cape Cod to North Palm Beach, Florida, as well as near Chicago and in Big Timber, Montana.

See more projects at HandD.com/MuseKirwan

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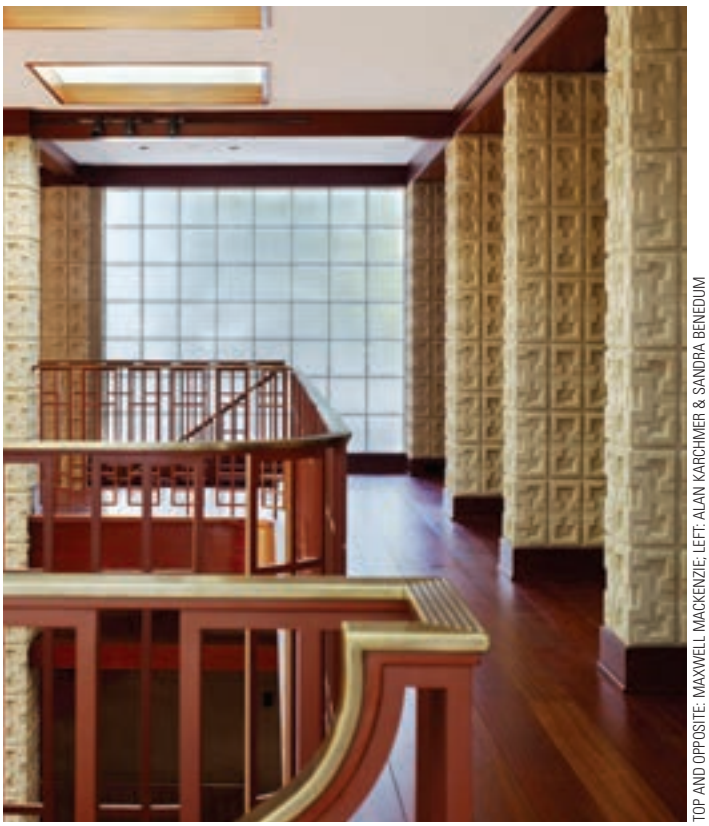

TOP AND OPPOSITE: MAXWELL MACKENZIE; LEFT: ALAN KARCHMER & SANDRA BENEDUM

Glass windows and light shafts connect the second-floor hallway to the main floor in a new Bethesda residence (above). Expansive windows overlook the rear courtyard of a Bethesda home (opposite, top), clad in local fieldstone, stained siding and shingles. A combination of textile and glass blocks recalls structures from the 1930s in an addition to an Art Modernes home (opposite, bottom).

Stucco walls, locally milled cypress piers and detailing, clay tile roofs and stone terraces lend local context to a modern North Palm Beach home (above). Maximizing under-counter storage in a Northwest DC kitchen (right) left room for expansive windows that provide inviting views of the rear garden. A wood trellis connects a stucco addition (opposite) to the garden of a renovated home belonging to antiques dealers.

PHOTOS: ERIK KVALSVIK

George T. Myers, AIA, NCARB

GTM Architects is an award-winning design firm offering architecture, planning and interior-design services. Principal George T. Myers and his team possess a breadth of knowledge, a wealth of experience and an array of skill sets, fine-tuned over many years. "We place the needs of our clients first," Myers says. "Regardless of project type or size, GTM clients find responsive, courteous and talented professionals who bring vision, creativity and passion to their work."

GTM's designers work in collaborative studio environments, each focused on specific project types. Each studio is led by an experienced professional—a structure that encourages team communication and cultivates areas of expertise that will best serve the client.

Myers finds that careful listening is the most effective way to achieve a well-designed home that satisfies its owner's goals. "Everyone's design priorities are different and home design is not a one-size-fits-all commodity," he explains. "A balance between design choices and the client's desires can only be achieved through dialog and understanding of the process."

GTM received numerous accolades in 2017, including *Bethesda Magazine*'s Readers' Pick for Best Architect for Custom Homes; two GALA awards; an NAIOP DC MD Award of Excellence; a Chrysalis Award; and two MBIA Gold Awards.

See more projects at HandD.com/GeorgeMyers

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PHOTOS: HOACHLANDER DAVIS PHOTOGRAPHY

A charming, newly built house (left and opposite, top) is cloaked in stucco with a timber-frame entry and porch and a granite cobblestone drive. Its low, swooping roof, shed dormers and clipped gables are hallmarks of French Country-style architecture. Rough-hewn, reclaimed timbers add character to a spacious kitchen (above), and a sinuously curving stair (opposite, bottom) is capped with a custom skylight.

David Neumann, FAIA | Andrew Lewis, AIA | Mark Buchanan, AIA

Using the language of traditional architecture, Neumann Lewis Buchanan creates homes that are indelibly connected to their context. Principals David Neumann, Andrew Lewis and Mark Buchanan believe that timeless design and enduring construction rarely happen by chance. With a collective 225 years' experience designing houses, their firm of nine architects brings an unmatched level of expertise to each project.

While Neumann Lewis Buchanan specializes in traditional design, the architects eschew a signature style; instead, their portfolio of one-of-a-kind projects consistently reflects the particular circumstances of each client and setting. "Our solutions are tailored to our clients' needs and aspirations," Neumann notes. "Each project is the hands-on responsibility of one of the firm's three partners."

In the Clay Hill project pictured on these pages, Neumann Lewis Buchanan extensively renovated an 1816 Federal-style home. Their efforts were recognized for Residential Design by *Washingtonian* and the AIA Northern Virginia Chapter, and have been featured in *Garden & Gun* and *Architectural Digest*.

In service to clients in the Virginia Piedmont, the firm maintains an office in Middleburg in addition to its headquarters in Washington, DC.

See more projects at HandD.com/NeumannLewisBuchanan

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THIS PAGE & OPPOSITE, TOP: GORDON BEALL; OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: ANDREW LEWIS

The formal core of Clay Hill's 1816 Federal structure was renovated and a new kitchen with related living spaces was added with deference to the original roofline. The scope of the project included reworking the site to include multiple outbuildings, gardens, hardscape and a jewel-like conservatory.

Dale Overmyer, AIA

Growing up on four continents exposed Dale Overmyer to architecture of all kinds. But his family ties are what ultimately inspired him to become an architect: His grandfather was a contractor and his father was a builder and draftsman; both men imparted their skill sets to him.

Informed by classical training and 30 years of experience, Overmyer brings fastidious attention to every design problem, from macro to micro. "We are committed to solving complex problems and providing extraordinary results at sensitive sites, guided by an appreciation of their inherent beauty and heritage," he says.

Overmyer Architects distills its clients' style by developing a program and curating numerous images for inspiration while promoting collaboration and critical review. "We are always looking for ways to express ingredients that are unique and meaningful to our clients," says Overmyer. Additionally, every associate in the firm is well versed in logistics and construction costs as well as in building techniques and styles.

The firm's projects have been featured on HGTV and in *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Washingtonian*, *Southern Accents* and *Coastal Living*. It has been recognized with awards from the AIA Washington, DC, chapter and Houzz.

See more projects at HandD.com/DaleOvermyer

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THIS PAGE: MAXWELL MACKENZIE; OPPOSITE: GORDON BEALL

Overmyer Architects designed a custom conservatory (above) featuring glass held in place by a steel skeleton and a floor of flagstone pavers. The award-winning Oyster House (opposite, top) connects to Honest Point peninsula via a 375-foot pedestrian bridge; an attached pavilion for entertaining (opposite, bottom) captures expansive views while hovering over the water on 105 driven piles.

Clockwise from above: A new DC residence boasts generous expanses of windows and doors in its Shingle-style composition. The living room at Terra Veritatis in Miami Beach features steel windows and doors, imported French limestone floors and a cypress-beamed ceiling. A gourmet kitchen includes French limestone floors, Calacatta Gold marble surfaces and rift-sawn white-oak cabinetry; white-enameled upper cabinets match the range. An airy glass-and-steel spiral leads up to a roof deck.

TOP: CELIA PEARSON; LEFT AND OPPOSITE, TOP AND BOTTOM: MAXWELL MACKENZIE

Robert Paxton, AIA, NCARB | Roger Birle, AIA | Eric Amtmann, AIA, NCARB

Dalgliesh Gilpin Paxton Architects (DGP) was founded in 1933. Today, the firm employs a staff of 15 offering architectural, interior design, historic preservation and planning services.

All three DGP principals formerly worked in construction, learning how buildings are put together and the importance of a team-oriented approach that values the input of clients, contractors and craftspeople. One or more of the principals is involved with every project. "Our team incorporates the highest standards of energy-efficiency and sustainability," says principal Robert Paxton. "Clients appreciate our collaborative process, attention to detail and careful budget management."

The client is always DGP's focus. "Our goal is to exceed the owner's expectations with a process that clients and team members enjoy," Paxton explains. "We strive to create dream homes for our clients—graceful spaces tailored to their lifestyle, needs, and budget. Our designs are elegant, with abundant natural light and strong connections to the outdoors."

In addition to its office in Charlottesville, the firm has offices in Baltimore and Richmond. Projects have appeared in *Home & Design, Architectural Digest, Southern Accents, Town & Country, The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Vogue, Southern Living* and more.

See more projects at HandD.com/RobertPaxton

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PHOTOS: GORDON BEALL

A Palladian villa integrates architecture, landscape, interior design and craftsmanship. Landscaping ties the house (above) to its setting with a progression of stone walls and terraced gardens from the entry courtyard to the west lawn. Classical detailing (opposite, bottom) and a "no maintenance" exterior material palette met the owners' request for architecture that would last 300 years. In the kitchen (opposite, top), a fieldstone fireplace, reclaimed timbers and wood floor convey rustic charm.

Clockwise from above: A light and airy guest suite opens to a porch overlooking gardens below. A barrel-vault ceiling and limed white-oak millwork create drama and a sense of coziness in a library. Crisply painted bookshelves flank a limestone fireplace surround with steel accents.

TOP: GORDON BEALL; OPPOSITE: ANDREA HUBBELL; LEFT: R. DAVID CRAIG

Clockwise from above: A family-room addition and covered porches overlook terraced gardens and a pool. A meticulously restored early 19th-century historic estate. A poolside dining pavilion on the isle of Mustique.

TOP & OPPOSITE: PHILIP BEAURLINE; LEFT: MIKE TOY

Travis Price, FAIA

Kelly Davies Grace, Associate AIA » Douglas Pettit » Sheila Lee

Travis Price Architects is an award-winning firm applauded for its innovative discoveries, theories and visionary aesthetics. Travis Price shapes architecture informed by ecology, mythology and technology, restoring the spirit of "place" to modern design. "Telling the client's personal story in a modern idiom is key," Price notes. "Each work speaks to the heart of the built environment's natural and human stewardship."

The TPA team is diverse, dynamic and all on the same philosophic page. "We love the dialogue with our clients," Price says. "We also have our own construction company and build many of our projects, which creates a higher standard of design and construction. Our passion is always guided by 'measure twice and cut once!'"

In addition to his practice, Price teaches graduate-level architecture studios and lectures on great historical places for The National Geographic Society. He has received AIA national and local awards for residential and academic design/build works, and his firm recently won an international competition to design a Peace Corps commemorative site on the Mall. Price has authored two award-winning books, *The Archaeology of Tomorrow—Architecture and the Spirit of Place* and *The Mythic Modern—Expeditions into the Spirit of Place.* He is currently at work on a third.

See more projects at HandD.com/TravisPrice

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PHOTOS: KENNETH M. WYNER

Clockwise from opposite, top: All four floors of a home boast southern exposure, which bathes each level with sunlight. Glass-enclosed volumes and masked walls envelop a green garden. A renovated home shimmers in a stainless-steel skin, revealing echoes of the original structure reborn. A spiral staircase extends skyward to a roof terrace.

A wooden bridge leads to a modern home in the treetops (above). A sun garden on the roof (right) boasts a sauna and soaking tub. A voluminous great room (opposite) communes with its pristine forested site.

PHOTOS: KENNETH M. WYNER

Beth Reader, FAIA | Chuck Swartz, FAIA

Nathan Webb, AIA » Kevin Walker, AIA » Laura Ours, AIA » Joel Richardson, Associate AIA

Beth Reader and Chuck Swartz established Reader & Swartz Architects in 1990. Their practice has built a portfolio of residential, commercial and institutional projects that reflects a variety of architectural perspectives ranging from historic to vernacular to modern.

Reader & Swartz works closely with clients to create unique, site-specific buildings that take the homeowners' needs, wants, life experiences and personalities into account. The firm also carefully considers the building site and its context, views, sun path and topography, making a conscious effort to "listen" to each place and to design architecture that is affected by its terroir. This approach doesn't limit possibilities, but instead is a starting point from which to create conceptually driven, situational, provisional architecture not constrained by style.

Reader & Swartz has received more than 60 design awards, including those from the Virginia, Northern Virginia and Washington, DC, chapters of the American Institute of Architects, and many others from national magazines. The firm's work has appeared widely in such publications as *The Wall Street Journal, Custom Home, Veranda, Southern Living, Residential Architect, Design Bureau* and *Washingtonian*.

See more projects at HandD.com/ReaderSwartz

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PHOTOS: NATHAN WEBB/READER & SWARTZ ARCHITECTS

Clockwise from opposite, top: A minimalist pool pavilion houses an exercise room and a guest bedroom; its oversized glass doors link the interior to the pool and a view of North Mountain in the distance. A rural mountain house is sited along an old logging road in the woods. The shed roof volume, clad in cedar and poplar bark siding, embraces the woods and a hillside meadow. An addition to an old farmhouse interprets vernacular Shenandoah Valley elements and forms in a modern way; expansive windows focus on the view of the Blue Ridge Mountains and pastoral fields.

James F. Rill, AIA

From small-scale renovations to large, single-family homes, Rill Architects has been designing custom residences and additions since 1987. Whether the project is traditional or modern, Rill Architects works closely with clients to create spaces that are innovative and tasteful, and that will respond to homeowners' unique personalities, lifestyles and needs.

Founder and principal James Rill cultivates a team spirit amongst his colleagues by ensuring that they remain involved in every phase of the project. "Teamwork and collaboration, not only within Rill Architects but also between our firm and our clients and contractors, is imperative to achieving personal and beautiful designs," Rill says.

Rill and his team carefully consider their clients' goals while guiding them through the complexities of the design and other processes. "We never forget that we as architects are just visitors to the home and site," Rill explains, "while our clients are the ones who will be living there."

Rill Architects' work has received recognition via more than 200 published articles and awards. Among recent accolades, James Rill was named 2016 Hall of Fame Architect in the Designers' Choice Awards sponsored by *Home & Design*.

See more projects at HandD.com/JamesRill

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PHOTOS: MICHAEL VENTURA

Rill Architects designed a charming European-style cottage (opposite, top) with a strong connection between indoor and outdoor spaces. The same slate floor flows from the front courtyard through the foyer (opposite, bottom) and onto the rear terrace (above), helping to create a breezeway effect.

Bill Sutton | Geri Yantis

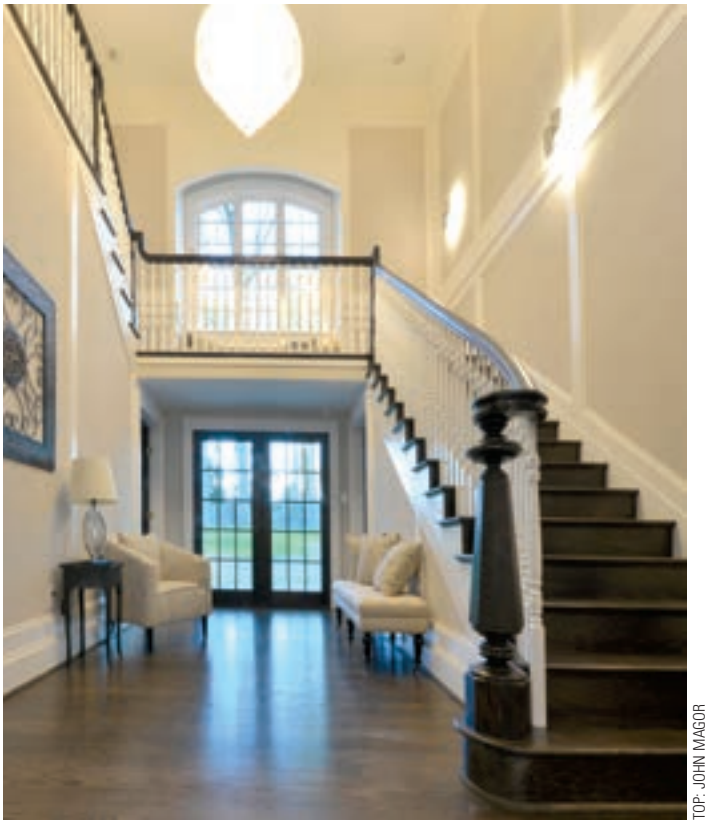
"A house is where you live, but a home is where you love," says Bill Sutton of the philosophy that guides him and co-principal Geri Yantis. "Every one of our clients comes to us with a vision of the home they want. A large part of our job is to engage them in our design process so that we can understand that vision and turn it into the reality of a home that is a unique place for their family."

Sutton and Yantis both begin their design process by creating hand-drawn sketches while they are meeting with their clients; this way, they are able to instantly turn ideas into drawings on paper that everyone can see immediately. As the design develops, the architects refine the drawings, using 3-D computer models for enhanced visualization.

"Our design approach is to develop the interior and exterior architecture so that they complement each other," explains Yantis. "There is enormous satisfaction in helping to create the environments our clients live in."

Sutton Yantis Associates Architects was founded in 1980 and has a staff of 15. The firm has won numerous awards for its custom architecture during the past 35 years and recently received a 2016 GALA award for Custom Home of the Year.

See more projects at HandD.com/SuttonYantis



TOP: JOHN MAGOR

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Clockwise from opposite, top: Beautiful custom cabinetry designed by Geri Yantis enhances a formal dining room; a new home by Yantis was inspired by the timeless, Shingle-style architecture of Narragansett Bay. Bill Sutton designed a Great Falls master bathroom with a large soaking tub set in a vaulted, light-filled space; and the classically elegant stairway of a McLean home designed by Sutton features an arched bay window on the landing.

Neal Thomson, AIA | Patrick Cooke, RA

Neal Thomson and Patrick Cooke met in college, attended different graduate schools, and ended up at the same residential firm in DC before forming Thomson & Cooke Architects a decade later. Today, the work of this eight-person firm balances the simplicity of traditional residential design with an updated aesthetic and a focus on blending classic design principles with current building practices. "We aim to create comfortable, beautiful homes that meet our clients' needs," Thomson says.

The firm's principals enjoy working with clients to develop thoughtful architecture that is sensitive to its surroundings. To ensure success, they maintain frequent dialog with clients throughout the process, constantly reviewing project goals, design drawings and precedent imagery. "Some clients are great at understanding architectural drawings while others benefit from seeing the plans and elevations alongside images of completed work," Cooke comments. "Early in a project we get a sense of what style of communication works best and then see that style through to the project's end."

Thomson & Cooke Architects is known for its work throughout the DC region and along the Chesapeake Bay. "The goal for each project," says Thomson, "is to create a comfortable, beautiful home that meets the client's needs for today and the future."

See more projects at HandD.com/ThomsonCooke

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PHOTOS: ANICE HOACHLANDER

Clockwise from opposite, top: The elegant whole-house renovation of a Northwest DC home features a mix of materials in a classically styled kitchen and breakfast room; a view though the stair hall frames the fireplace in the adjacent living room; the stately front façade is seen at dusk; and the welcoming entry is enhanced by a brick archway.

Greg Wiedemann, AIA, Principal

Felix Gonzalez, Associate AIA » *Barbara Sweeney*, Associate AIA

Principal Greg Wiedemann heads a nine-person firm bringing more than 30 years of experience to the table. Blending the technical knowledge of an engineering education, a broad perspective gleaned from training in urban planning and a degree in architecture from Harvard, Wiedemann brings a holistic approach to design and to his team.

Wiedemann Architects strives to achieve specific solutions that address challenges and celebrate the uniqueness of each site and client's aspirations, with attention to detail and commitment to sustainability. The firm eschews one signature style. "Our modern homes and seamless additions share one common goal: to achieve a timeless fit with their context," Wiedemann says. "And we are dedicated to each project, regardless of its size and scope."

Projects range from modest additions and new residences to apartment and penthouse renovations and the design of rural estates. In addition to the DC area and Maryland's Eastern Shore, the firm works in Virginia, Delaware, New York, North Carolina and West Virginia. Wiedemann Architects has received numerous design awards, including, most recently, a 2017 Honor Award for Excellence in Architecture, West Virginia AIA; and a 2016 Honor Award for Residential Architecture, Maryland AIA.

See more projects at HandD.com/GregWiedemann

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LEFT & TOP: MARC ANTHONY; OPPOSITE, TOP & BOTTOM: ANICE HOACHLANDER

Wiedemann imparted the look of a converted carriage house to the family-room addition of an early-20th-century home (opposite, top), which flows out to the patio through French doors (opposite, bottom) and through a new screened porch off the main wing. Perched cliffside, a home/artist's studio takes advantage of stunning views; at the owner's request, the rock-strewn landscape (above) was disturbed as little as possible. Inside (left), floor-to-ceiling windows blur the line between inside and out.

Richard Williams, FAIA

Richard Williams has spent a lot of time—both as a child and as an adult—on an 18th-century Virginia farm with gardens dating from the 1930s. "An old house by a garden will mentor you for a lifetime," he says. "I create modern architecture that is as honest, simple and timeless as this touchstone place."

Richard Williams Architects designs buildings that are inspired by and respond to their settings so that no matter the style, they appear rooted to that place. "Most sites have a mix of glorious opportunities and intractable problems," Williams observes. "Our process heals the problems and maxes out the opportunities through a deep understanding of the site. Our buildings are appropriate, yet unique and notable."

Williams brings a thorough knowledge of the history of architecture and landscape architecture to each project, introducing novel building forms and quality living spaces. Whether adding to a historic house in McLean or building a minimalist retreat on the shores of Lake Ontario, RWA's principles are the same: well-proportioned spaces designed from the inside out to integrate with the landscape; an inspired yet judicious selection of materials; and well-resolved details that do not clamor for attention.

See more projects at HandD.com/RichardWilliams

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PHOTOS: TOM ARBAN

Williams envisioned a country house in the city when he expanded and renovated a historic abode in Washington, DC's Wesley Heights neighborhood. The rear façade (opposite, top) incorporates a light-filled garden pavilion (opposite, bottom) that spills out to a pool and patio (above).

Christian Zapatka, AIA, FAAR

Christian Zapatka Architect, PLLC, is an award-winning, residential-architecture firm. "We design new houses as well as additions and renovations," says principal Christian Zapatka. "Our goal is to fuse the best of modern and traditional design to create timeless, classic structures." A new house on the Potomac River was featured on the cover of *Home & Design*'s Fall 2015 architecture issue.

The firm was one of five winners in the AIA Rowhouse of the Future Competition and presented its winning design at the National Building Museum. Zapatka and his team also took part in the History Channel's "City of the Future" competition, which envisioned the city of Washington 100 years from now.

The firm's work has appeared in numerous publications, including *The Modern Townhouse* and *Luxury Bathrooms,* as well as *The Washington Post, Washingtonian, Beautiful Homes, Home & Design* and *Architecture DC.*

After earning a master's degree from Princeton, where he received the Norton Prize for design excellence, Zapatka apprenticed with Michael Graves. In 1990, he won the Rome Prize in architecture. He has taught architectural design and history at Princeton, Columbia and the University of Michigan. His book, *The American Landscape*, was awarded an AIA International Book Award in 1998.

See more projects at HandD.com/ChristianZapatka

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PHOTOS: GORDON BEALL

Clockwise from opposite, top left: A two-story addition to an early-19th-century Georgetown row house boasts an airy, open stair; a 1930s abode in DC's Wesley Heights was reconstructed and expanded; a contemporary residence in McLean takes advantage of remarkable Potomac River views; and a new stucco-and-limestone-clad Potomac house greets visitors with a stately forecourt and fountain.

Interior Design

Charlene Kennerknecht designed a restful and luxurious master bedroom addition (opposite); photo by Lydia Cutter.
A modern great room by Deborah Kalkstein (above) features furniture by Minotti; photo by Stacy Zarin Goldberg.

Lisa Bartolomei

Lisa Bartolomei practiced commercial interior design for 10 years before transitioning to residential interiors. A desire to make an impact on individuals' lives led her to create her residential firm, Bartolomei & Co., in 1986; she has been helping people find happiness in their homes ever since.

What sets Bartolomei apart is her ability to work comfortably in any style, from the cleanest contemporary to the most traditional. "I strive to create an atmosphere that is unique, with an emphasis on comfort, usability and, of course, beauty," she says. To this end, Bartolomei often creates custom furniture and refines interior architecture in her projects. "I feel that a successful project truly reflects the client," she explains. "It should look as if they have been collecting things over a lifetime."

Bartolomei travels extensively, with frequent stops in Paris and New York in search of unique furnishings and artwork. Though based in DC, she studied design in Europe and has completed projects in Jordan, Paris, Florida, Bermuda, New York City, the Hamptons and San Francisco. Her work has been featured in numerous publications, including *Interior Design*, *The Washington Post* and *Home & Design*. She has appeared on "Good Morning America" and ABC News.

See more projects at HandD.com/LisaBartolomei

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PHOTOS: LAEL TAYLOR

Bartolomei & Co. collaborated with Meditch Murphey Architects on the design of a Palm Desert oasis. Clockwise from opposite, top: A master bedroom with a bedstead designed by Bartolomei and an onyx-and-marble custom fireplace; a dining room with custom furniture by Randolph & Hein and a vintage Sputnik chandelier from John Gregory Studios; and a sleek, modern kitchen with a Terzani light fixture.

Shannon Bieter, ASID, IIDA

Shannon Bieter, who grew up in the South, has always had an appreciation for antiques and fabrics. In the 1990s when she was working for America Online's lead production team, she was tasked with designing a break-out conference area—and that's when she realized she wanted to pursue a career in commercial and residential design.

After studying at the Corcoran College of Art and Design, Bieter launched her firm 15 years ago. "I specialize in fresh, timeless décor using bold accents to give each room a signature look," she says. "I love to create beautiful spaces for busy professionals and families who want balance and high-end, turnkey-ready rooms at the end of their day."

As a mother, Bieter also understands that spaces need to be functional. "We live in a fast-paced urban area and it's important for me to bring a sense of calm to the spaces I create," she says.

Bieter likes to incorporate old and new pieces to create a "collected" feel in every project. "I try to make each room unique. I incorporate family pieces into my projects to ensure the house has a personality and doesn't look like a model home," she explains.

Shannon Bieter's work has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *Home & Design* and *Avenel Living*.

See more projects at HandD.com/ShannonBieter

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PHOTOS: ROBERT RADIFERA/STYLING: CHARLOTTE SAFAVI

Clockwise from opposite, top: A "new traditional" living room. Bieter dressed up a preteen's bedroom with wallpaper and a custom, tufted headboard. A fresh family room boasts a soothing color palette, as does a tranquil master bedroom designed for comfort and style. An airy foyer welcomes guests.

Erika Bonnell

Designer Erika Bonnell is fond of injecting projects with a dose of "approachable glamour" and drama—usually in the way of bold color. "We like to infuse color, personality and a touch of glam to create a home that is functional, comfortable and visually impactful," she explains.

Since launching her firm in 2011, Bonnell and her two staff members have focused on creating welcoming havens, whether a client is tackling new construction, a whole-house makeover, a renovation or even a single room. They concentrate on getting to know clients in order to ensure that the end results of their work will best reflect their needs. "We believe interiors should not only be a unique reflection of our clients, they should also be designed to improve their health and lifestyle," Bonnell contends. "Often, people don't realize how the space they live in directly affects them, so that's where we come in."

The daughter of a decorator, Bonnell is adept at helping clients uncover a style that's right for them. "A well-designed home should look effortless," she says. "The personality of the clients should shine through so you can feel the soul and energy of those who reside there." In the past year, her work has been published in *Home & Design*, *Luxe* and *HGTV Magazine*.

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PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Clockwise from opposite, top: An arresting black-and-white foyer serves as an axis for the boldly hued rooms that shoot off from it. Benjamin Moore Amorous covers the walls of a dining room, complementing lavender accents in the area rug and drapery fabric; the dining table is paired with leopard-printed Klismos chairs. After falling in love with large shells decorating a resort she visited in Bali, a client asked Bonnell to incorporate a shell sink in her powder room.

PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

A vintage game table is flanked by playful, leopard-spotted chairs (top). Built-in shelving is painted in Sherwin-Williams Cloudburst, forming a bold backdrop to twin, sand-colored sectionals (right). A built-in window seat (above) adorned with pillows makes a perfect perch in which to curl up with a good book.

Melissa Broffman, Allied ASID

Melissa Broffman, owner and principal of Melissa Broffman Interior Design, creates interiors with character, comfort and timeless appeal. Broffman equally embraces traditional, eclectic, transitional and modern designs in projects ranging from interior decorating to renovations and new-house construction. "I believe it's all about making a house a home," she says. "I strive to capture a one-of-a-kind look by incorporating personal treasures and family heirlooms that go beyond the retail sameness of today's home-furnishings market. My designs express each client's unique personality."

Prior to becoming a designer, Broffman—a self-described "people person"—worked at CNN, where she dealt with all kinds of people, including celebrities and newsmakers. "The experience taught me to express myself and see the big picture by observing, listening and telling a story," she comments. "In many ways, that's what I do as a designer—I help create a narrative for my clients' homes that they can live with, embellish and enjoy every day."

Broffman recently completed the Bethesda home of Candy Crowley; the master bath was featured in the Fall 2017 issue of *Home & Design*. Prior to that project, she decorated CNN chief political correspondent Dana Bash's Northwest DC home, which also appeared in *Home & Design*.

See more projects at HandD.com/MelissaBroffman

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PHOTOS: BOB NAROD

Clockwise from opposite, top left: In a home office, grass cloth walls and a Roman shade with an ikat print are a backdrop for navy lacquered cabinets topped with quartz. German pendants and a smoky-gray glass-tile backsplash soften dark cabinets in the kitchen. Bold wallpaper inspired a Bohemian-style master bath featuring wood-look porcelain floor tiles. Native American prints provide interest in a family room. A handmade teal-and-purple rug, a tribal wall hanging and oriental art lend warmth to a cozy den.

Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey

Founder Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey's firm, SCW Interiors, offers complete design services specializing in innovative and distinctive spaces that are tailored to fit clients' lifestyles and to reflect their personal taste.

Located in the Washington, DC, region, SCW serves a wide geographic area and works with both residential and commercial clients. Detailed construction and design documentation is provided for each project—from new construction to renovation—to facilitate space planning, interior architecture and furnishings. SCW provides project coordination and management, pulling from extensive design resources.

The firm also draws on owner and lead designer Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey's unique background in the culinary arts to provide full-service kitchen and bath design. A partnership with Christiana Cabinetry makes private-label cabinetry available to clients.

With a lifelong passion for design, Cavin-Winfrey brings more than 20 years of experience in the industry to her work. A native of the Southwest, she studied at the University of Texas, the Culinary Institute of America and Parsons School of Design. She finds inspiration in her background, along with her experiences as a wife and mother, to create exceptional designs that incorporate beauty and function.

See more projects at HandD.com/CavinWinfrey

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PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

Clockwise from opposite, top: A scullery camouflages the chaos of entertaining; the hand-hammered nickel sink is flanked with dishwashers, and custom glass-and-metal shelves provide space where herbs can thrive year-round. Cavin-Winfrey consolidated heavy upper cabinets in one corner of a kitchen where bold, aqua-and-white wallpaper imparts a fresh vibe. Side-by-side bunk rooms feature roll-out trundles and coordinating wallpaper and fabric that create symmetry and soften the lines of the sloped ceilings. A cozy parlor is wrapped in Cotswolds murals with a custom trellis rug and silk drapery.

David Anthony Chenault

If David Anthony Chenault could pick one word that was synonymous with his designs, it would be "moody." Chenault is interested in creating an atmosphere, a feeling, a mood that will make a client's environment not only visually beautiful, but also full of evocative personality. "I strive to create interior design that is experienced," he says.

As principal of his own firm with 28 years in the business, Chenault has transformed numerous homes in the tri-state area, as well as memorable residential and commercial projects across the country. He follows the trends and energies of fashion, pop culture and music and resists being categorized and defined by a personal style. Instead, he employs a collaborative and open process by which he creates highly personalized designs that express a client's aesthetic, lifestyle and vision.

Chenault's work has been published in *Christie's Great Estates*, *Home & Design*, *Washingtonian*, *Northern Virginia* and *Architectural Digest*. His latest projects include a redesign of the iconic Majestic Café in Old Town Alexandria; Pamplona, the new Spanish restaurant and sangria bar in Clarendon; MIA, an Italian eatery in the landmark 100 King location in Old Town; and La Vie, a new Mediterranean restaurant in the revitalized District Wharf.

See more projects at HandD.com/DavidAnthonyChenault

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LEFT & OPPOSITE: DAVID ANTHONY CHENAULT; TOP: NATALIE MICHELLE PHOTOGRAPHY

Clockwise from opposite, top: In a living room, David Anthony Chenault incorporated an old elevator door into a china cabinet and paired it with a floor lamp inspired by Fortuny; layers of textures create harmonious details. Geometric flooring is offset by the use of simple velvets, metallic damask and intricate textural prints in the corner of a living room filled with attitude and personality. In a bespoke home in Washington, a subtle yet moody atmosphere is created by the bold use of unexpected elements and textures.

PHOTOS: NATALIE MICHELLE PHOTOGRAPHY

A detail of Pamplona Spanish Restaurant in Clarendon, Virginia (opposite) is a study in dramatic simplicity, combining textures and architectural elements. At Provision 14 Restaurant in Washington (above), the designer heightened the drama by selecting a banquette with an oversized back, off-center tufting and contrasting welts. Hand-stained antique bistro tables and custom-layered brick walls add mystery and edge to the dining and social experience.

Nancy Colbert, ASID, NCIDQ

Design Partners is known for creating livable rooms that seamlessly integrate architecture and interior design. Principal Nancy Colbert has cultivated a signature style combining classic beauty and contemporary comfort. Her rooms are elegant and original, and her skilled use of space, materials, color and furnishings always produces interiors that are sophisticated and refined.

While Colbert knows that "getting the bones right" is critical to any design, she strongly believes that good design solutions are the result of teamwork and ongoing communication between designer and client. She and her team work with trusted, talented craftsmen to deliver projects on time and within budget, and they stay current with best design practices, styles, trends and product lines.

"We do not have a one-size-fits-all approach," she notes. "With our know-how, creativity and sensitivity, we consistently produce results that reflect the needs and taste of the client."

Colbert graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Design. She is NCIDQ-certified and licensed in Virginia, Maryland and DC. A member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), she has more than 25 years of experience designing residential and commercial projects and believes that a degree is only the beginning of a lifetime of education.

See more projects at HandD.com/NancyColbert

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THIS PAGE AND OPPOSITE, TOP: TIMOTHY BELL; OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: ANGIE SECKINGER

Clockwise from opposite, top: A spacious master bath boasts a hand-painted, faux bois wall treatment and a frameless shower accented with a custom organic Deco panel. A seating area takes advantage of a brightly lit space. Gray and cream evoke peace and tranquility in a master bedroom. A repurposed chest with bold lines and travertine flooring add drama to a sophisticated powder room.

LEFT: TIMOTHY BELL; OPPOSITE: GEOFFREY HODGDON

A lobby vignette (above) features a mother-of-pearl framed mirror. A stylish loggia (opposite) embraces the outdoors with privacy and comfort.

Robert Cole, RIBA | Sophie Prévost, ASID

ColePrévost is a design studio. The work done by its principals builds upon their education and experience—Robert Cole as an architect and Sophie Prévost as an interior designer. Working closely with clients and fabricators, they form a partnership whose aim is to create designs that are fresh and unique, and to make the ordinary extraordinary. While the scales and budgets of their projects vary widely, their designs remain consistently fresh, coherent and well-resolved.

"We enjoy the challenge to create smart and unexpected solutions," says Prévost. "We collaborate with designers, fabricators and professional consultants in the search for design excellence, our brand of magic."

Sophie Prévost was raised in Monaco, studied fine art in Paris and later moved to the U.S. where she received professional degrees in interior design and architecture. In 2015, she was elected by her peers into *Home & Design*'s Hall of Fame for her work in interior design. Robert Cole studied architecture in the U.S. and the U.K. He has practiced and taught architecture in the U.S., England and Australia, and continues to teach as a visiting professor.

ColePrévost's projects have received numerous design awards and have been published locally and nationally.

See more projects at HandD.com/ColePrevost

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TOP: TIMOTHY BELL; BOTTOM & OPPOSITE: ANGIE SECKINGER

Clockwise from opposite, top: In a new Potomac residence, a custom maple door leads into the living room, where a continuous, 50-foot glass wall opens towards the terrace, pool and landscape beyond. A turquoise Cappellini buffet is camouflaged on the wall of a Bethesda dining room; the BDDW dining table and Lindsey Adelman chandelier are piéces de resistance. Glass tiles and ceramic panels lighten the mood of a small bathroom renovation in Washington, DC.

The designers created a sense of intimacy and calm in a Chevy Chase living room (above) that complements the family's Asian antiques with soft lines that are contemporary and clean. In a renovated DC duplex (right), a custom, solid-white oak table that slides into the kitchen island can be used as a work surface or pulled out for dining; white oak, black walnut and hot-rolled steel provide a muted backdrop for the white marble countertop and art. A casually elegant living room (opposite) in Bethesda lends itself to moments of quiet, with its muted shades of silver, pale yellow and turquoise.

PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

Arlene Critzos, ASID | Samantha Sopp-Wittwer

After studying in Rome and earning a design degree at Mount Vernon College, Arlene Critzos founded Interior Concepts in 1979. Today, the firm employs about 50 people.

As Critzos explains, "To me, interior design is not just a career, it's a passion." She and her team approach every project by first gaining a total understanding of the client's needs, quality expectations, budget and timing. Then, they work from concept to completion to create the right balance between a homeowner's lifestyle and design.

"We take great pride and pleasure in creating what we believe is the most valuable facet of a person's life—their environment," Critzos observes. "We love working collaboratively with our clients to create homes that are truly unique and that will be a haven for them. We believe that comfort, scale, art and overall visual beauty all are important."

Recent projects by Interior Concepts span the style spectrum from a relaxed retreat in the Bahamas to a contemporary urban residence. Critzos also had the recent privilege of designing the Vice President's residence at the Naval Observatory in Washington. The firm's work has been featured in local and national publications, and has been recognized with numerous design awards.

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PHOTOS: GEOFFREY HODGDON

Colorful dining chairs in a modern silhouette convey whimsy in a breakfast room (opposite, top). Clean-lined furnishings and modern art lend a fresh approach to a dining room with classical paneling (above). A sleek custom cabinet with interior lighting defines and divides two areas in a master suite (opposite, bottom).

A formal family room (above) features stunning, two-story draperies and a pair of sweeping, curved sofas. A deep-hued, upholstered wall provides a rich backdrop to eclectic furnishings in a master bedroom (opposite). Critzos and her team combined dramatic contemporary pieces within the architectural context of a classic dining room (right).

PHOTOS: GEOFFREY HODGDON

Miriam Dillon, ASID, Associate AIA

Miriam Dillon came to Barnes Vanze Architects in 2010 to develop and lead its interiors division. Her skills received wide recognition in 2017, when Baldwin Hardware selected her to serve on its national design council for a two-year term.

Dillon earned her degree in architecture prior to becoming licensed as an interior designer, which gives her a unique perspective on the connection between the two disciplines. "As a designer in an architecture firm, we work more closely as a team from the beginning," she says. "I like for the interior design to be seamlessly integrated within the home's structure and layout."

Dillon grew up in Philadelphia, where she spent many weekends traveling with her mother by train "to discover local art and architecture along the Main Line," she recounts. "My mother introduced me to the power of beauty in everyday life. It was during that time that I knew I wanted to study architecture and design."

As Dillon sees it, a well-designed home blends the vision and personalities of its owners within the built environment. "I prefer to approach a new project by first getting to know the client and understanding their vision," she says. The result is a living space that is pleasing, special and totally geared toward the people who live there.

See more projects at HandD.com/MiriamDillon

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PHOTOS: ANICE HOACHLANDER

Clockwise from above: Dillon worked with architects at Barnes Vanze to design the interiors in a California Arts and Crafts-style home that references their client's Asian heritage. A breakfast room in a kitchen renovation is wrapped in lush drapery around a custom table and banquette. A colorful master bedroom in a home addition envelops its owners in a cocoon of silk and linen, sparked by a favorite fabric pattern on a chair and ottoman.

Mary Douglas Drysdale

Drysdale Design Associates is a full-service residential interior architecture and design firm that creates and implements projects ranging from simple decoration to complex renovations. Founder Mary Douglas Drysdale is known for an original and timeless style that seamlessly bridges traditional and modern aesthetics. She and her staff are trained in architectural and interior design, with technical knowledge of kitchen and bath design and millwork. "We embrace the concept of one-stop interiors shopping," Drysdale explains.

As the lead designer on every project, Drysdale emphasizes open dialog with the client. "I communicate with my clients often and raise all issues," she says. "We are problem-solvers working to make the aspirations of our clients come true."

Drysdale received a 2017 NKBA first place award for large bath and was voted first in 2014 as well as in 2013 for mid-sized kitchen. In 2017 she was voted by her peers into *Home & Design*'s Interior Design Hall of Fame. She was a member of the Design Leadership Summit in 2014 and a Top 100 winner of the 2014 Andrew Martin International Designer of the Year contest. Her work has been published in *Architectural Digest*, *House Beautiful*, *Veranda*, *Southern Home* and *Traditional Home*, as well as in *Home & Design* and *Luxe*.

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LEFT & OPPOSITE: EARL KENDALL; TOP: JOHN COLE

"The details are what make an interior space visually memorable and express a quality of completeness," says Drysdale. A DC bathroom (these pages), which won an NKBA 2015 Best of Class award, combines white stone, intricate millwork, well-placed mirrors and graphic modern art to produce great style and elegance.

Drysdale won a 2015 Best of Class award from the NKBA for a bookshelf-lined powder room (this page). She also designed a luxurious, glass-enclosed master bath in a DC residence that offers prime views of its wooded surroundings from a soaking tub by DXV (opposite). Pictured on the cover of Kitchen & Bath Business, it received the NKBA award for Best Large Bathroom in 2017.

THIS PAGE: EARL KENDALL; OPPOSITE: JOHN COLE

Traditional and contemporary design ideas are combined in a renovated kitchen, where symmetry, detail and use of color convey a serene and welcoming sensibility.

PHOTO: MAX KIM-BEE

Drysdale relied on a custom shade of vibrant blue for the cabinetry in a Bethesda kitchen. She painted the walls in coordinating blue stripes that unify the room, and added a hand-woven rug that communicates a sense of place and warmth.

PHOTO: FRANCESCO LAGNESE

Annie Elliott, Associate ASID

Annie Elliott's philosophy is simple: Your home should make you happy every time you walk through the door. "We're reclaiming the term, 'house-proud,'" Elliott says. "To me, that means you love your home so much you want to share it with everyone."

Elliott founded bossy color in 2001 after working at the Smithsonian. "Becoming a designer was a logical progression," she observes. "As a 'recovering art historian,' I look for beauty, balance and harmony everywhere."

As her firm's name implies, color is one of Elliott's primary considerations. "But it doesn't have to be vivid to be effective—nor does it have to cover the walls," she says. "Blue silk drapes against creamy white paint? Gorgeous. Light-gray in a bath? Peaceful and perfect—and so elegant with white tile."

Elliott begins with pieces that are meaningful to her clients; if she's starting fresh, she'll find something they fall in love with and go from there. "A well-designed home can be classic or modern, neutral or vivid, minimalist or maximalist," she avers. "But it must have comfortable seating, a place to put your drink, adjustable lighting for reading and conversation, and furniture placement that encourages flow." She adds, "The best compliment I ever received was, 'You made my house more me than me!'"

See more projects at HandD/AnnieElliott

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LEFT: MICHAEL WILKINSON; TOP AND OPPOSITE: ANGIE SECKINGER

Clockwise from opposite, top: A blue grass cloth wall covering from Cowtan & Tout provides color and texture in a clean-lined Georgetown living room with matching cabinets from Century. Wallpapered ceilings were popular in the Victorian era, so Elliott paid homage with a modern wall covering in an 1898 home. Red-painted bookcases, bold art by Liza Houston and layered vintage rugs make a family room cozy and fun. An eclectic dining room blends a Chinese antique table, silk wall covering by Phillip Jeffries and a Foscarini chandelier.

Joseph Craig Embrey

Joseph Craig Embrey's interior and architectural designs reflect his eclectic sensitivity in the blending of a modernist vision with proven classic stylings. He began his career in New York, where he designed the corporate offices for EF Hutton. Following the success of this project, Embrey was hired by HOK to lead the design of Sony's corporate headquarters.

In recent years, Embrey's primary focus has been residential transformations. Now based in the Washington, DC, area, his extensive portfolio includes properties in New York, Washington and Palm Beach.

Long a believer in the power and utility of modern design, Embrey's work defines not only the way a space should look but also the way it should feel, turning rooms that are merely visible into places of comfort and distinction. Embrey's designs always reflect his vast knowledge of textiles, furnishings and art, as well as his ability to collaborate with clients while taking into account their needs and budget.

Embrey's work with small spaces, including baths and closets, is equally dramatic and functional. His simple mantra to "make the most of your space" reinforces design leadership that reflects not only the past but also the future.

See more projects at HandD.com/CraigEmbrey

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A dramatic open stair (left) greets visitors to a house designed in sleek, modern style. Flanked by Italian cabinetry, the kitchen (opposite, top) extends from front to rear, while a bold, custom rug in the living room (above) complements vibrant artwork; strips of wood paneling accent Murano-glass sconces and Barcelona coffee tables ensure the rug takes center stage. In the master bedroom (opposite, bottom), chiseled marble frames a see-through fireplace.

Katalin Farnady

Katalin Farnady believes that a home should be a reflection of its owners and their sensibilities, as well as a sanctuary. This philosophy has guided her since she launched her award-winning interior-design firm in 2004.

Farnady's own design sensibilities were formed by her experiences growing up in Hungary and living in multiple countries. She still travels frequently for inspiration and as a method of discovering new perspectives. "Intuition plays a huge role in all my projects," she observes. "I like to combine new and old and I enjoy mixing textures, patterns and materials. I strive to deliver something unexpected in each project."

Close, detailed interviews with clients are the first step in Farnady's design process. "I am a listener, a creator and an interpreter, all at the same time," she observes. "It starts with the interview. As a designer, I have found that if I listen well, I can achieve all my clients' goals."

Throughout each project, the designer collaborates with her clients and educates them to ensure success—while at the same time making sure to keep an open mind herself. "I know I have succeeded when I have given my clients a place they are happy to come home to and can be proud of," Farnady says.

See more projects at HandD.com/KatalinFarnady

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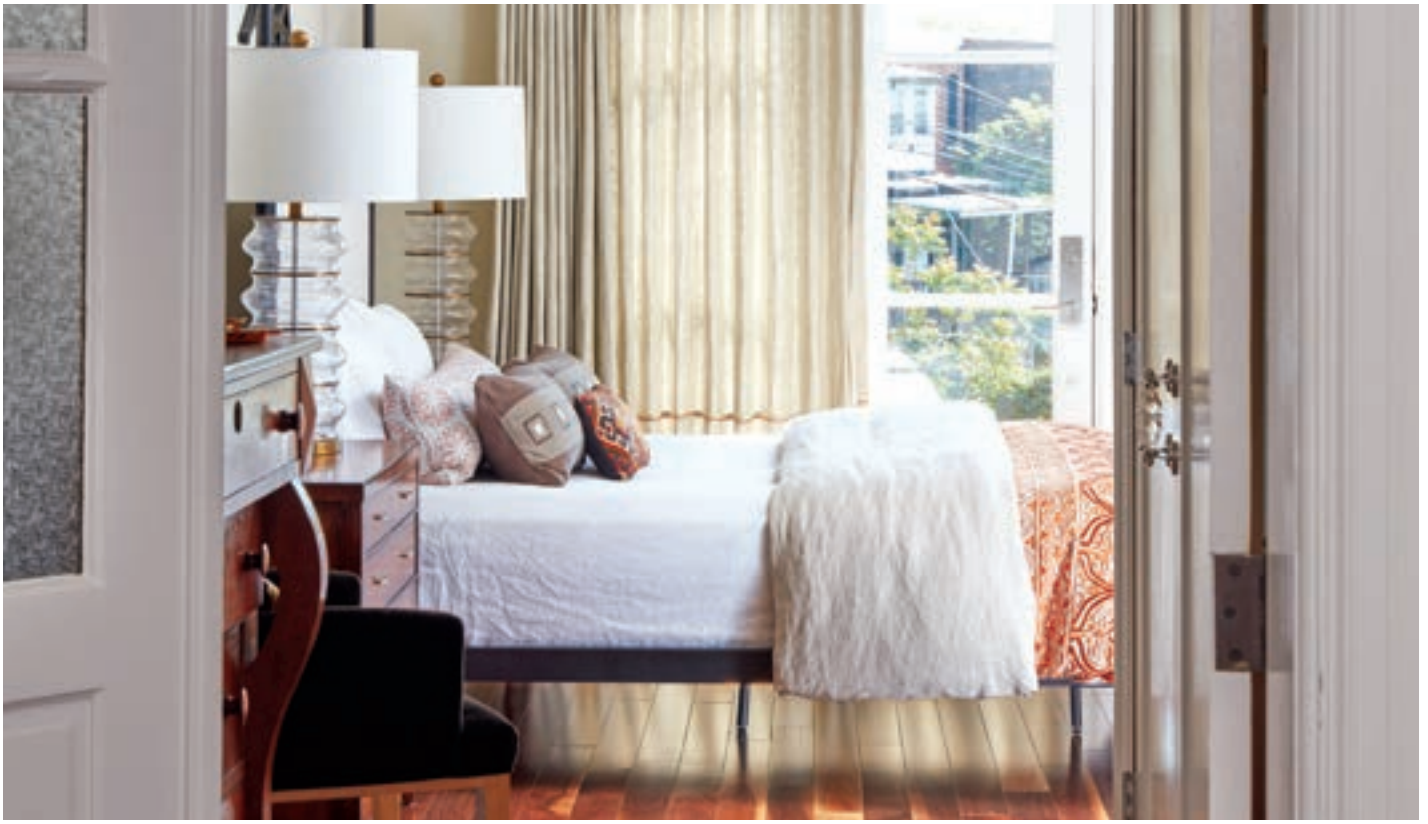
PHOTOS: GWIN HUNT

Clockwise from opposite, top: In a master bedroom, a Bernhardt bedstead is paired with a SHO Modern nightstand. An original print by Art Nouveau illustrator Walter Crane hangs above an Art Deco chaise. A master bath features Waterworks fixtures, a multi-hued stone floor and walls clad in swirling marble. Farnady grouped a Vladimir Kagan sofa and Milo Baughman chairs around an Art Deco coffee table in a living room with a Murano glass chandelier and art by Jeff Huntington. An eye-catching entry boasts an antique table on a cowhide rug.

Joanne Fitzgerald



Joanne Fitzgerald founded Gatéga Interior Design in 1996, bringing to her firm a background in civil engineering and architecture that sets her apart from many of her industry peers. "I offer a very strong element of technical capability," Fitzgerald says. "I'm knowledgeable about building practices, which makes me an excellent advocate for clients who may have trouble understanding the technical aspects of design."

An approach based on careful listening yields creative designs that address clients' lifestyle, aesthetic, functionality and budget. "I don't go into any project with preconceived notions," Fitzgerald notes. "And I encourage my new clients to empty their heads of preconceptions in order to give me the latitude to offer something different that they may not have thought of."

Fitzgerald subscribes to the philosophy that visual interest and modern comfort are the benchmarks of a well-designed home. "Rooms that look as though they've evolved lovingly over time are most interesting and comfortable," she explains. She pushes the envelope with respect to scale, color palette and style, creating challenging yet complementary juxtapositions—but also leaves clients with the sense that their space reflects who they are and how they want to live.

See more projects at HandD.com/JoanneFitzgerald

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PHOTOS: DAVID BURROUGHS

Fitzgerald and her husband transformed a Capitol Hill row house into an urban sanctuary. Clockwise from above: The light-filled living room occupies a 23-foot addition at the back of the house; it holds a Tomlinson sectional, Baker chair and art by Francie Hester. The kitchen was renovated with clean-lined bamboo cabinets and a marble-tile wall accented with a bold glass-tile backsplash. A mosaic-stone floor and large-scale wallpaper add drama to the home's only original bathroom. Fitzgerald retained exterior French doors that now open to the master bedroom, part of the addition.

Gina Fitzsimmons, ASID

With 75 percent of her clientele living on the water, designing waterfront homes has become a specialty of Gina Fitzsimmons. Principal of Annapolis-based Fitzsimmons Design Associates, she has been creating beautiful spaces on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay for more than 25 years—always ensuring that the views take center stage. "It's important not to detract from the focal point of the waterfront as you frame the view with furnishings," she explains.

Fitzsimmons describes her style as "Chesapeake cozy." It's a natural, harmonious and tailored look that is comfortable, functional, unpretentious and easy-going. She and her team begin by gathering information about their clients' functional needs, aesthetic preferences, budget and time frame, and helping them set priorities. They then customize a style to fit the clients' vision. From presentation to final installation, they painstakingly study how each piece interacts with the design, making selections that will lead to the best possible results.

Gina Fitzsimmons is a professional member of ASID and is NCIDQ-qualified. ASID recently awarded her first place for kitchen and show house design and second place for residential design. Her work has appeared in *Chesapeake Views*, *Annapolis Home*, *Home & Design* and *The Baltimore Sun*.

See more projects at HandD.com/GinaFitzsimmons

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PHOTOS: GWIN HUNT

Fitzsimmons Design, which specializes in waterfront residences, designed a home in Epping Forest featuring (clockwise from opposite, top) an open-plan great room/kitchen/dining area; a seating area with natural-wood elements that conveys the feel of a forest; a kitchen with linen-and-stone-gray cabinetry; and a freestanding tub with a view.

PHOTOS: GWIN HUNT

A winding path (top) leads to a home with a guest cottage on the Severn River, designed and furnished by Fitzsimmons. The main house boasts an inviting dining room (above) and a cozy living room (right) with a Craftsman-inspired fireplace.

Stephanie Gamble

Inspired by her lifelong love for design, Stephanie Gamble opened her own interiors studio, as well as a furniture showroom, The House Downtown, in Baltimore in 2003. Since then, her shop has expanded to a larger location in Charm City's Belvedere Square and she now employs four staff members who collaborate to create spaces for clients that are, in her words, "functional as well as beautiful."

Gamble focuses on designing interiors so they will have the greatest impact, working closely with clients to give them a full understanding of the scope and timing of a project. She tries to decorate every home so that it reflects her clients' lifestyle and aesthetic, selecting unique items that have special meaning to the homeowners to bring "soul" to a space.

Interior architecture also helps make a statement. "Always start with good architecture," she says. "If you have that, then you don't need to do a lot of decorating. "

Gamble says her shop's array of furniture, lighting and accessories is an extension of the design aesthetic she brings to clients' homes. "We are always classic but with a bit of an edge," she explains. "I use fabrics and luxurious finishes in ways that are practical. But comfort is paramount."

See more projects at HandD.com/StephanieGamble

LEFT, TOP LEFT & OPPOSITE: JENNIFER HUGHES; TOP, RIGHT: KRISTA JONES

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Clockwise from opposite, left: Gamble reworked the fireplace and millwork in a chic living room remodel. She combined handmade ceramic tile and a Mystery White marble countertop in a kitchen renovation. In a kitchen addition, an arched window creates architectural interest over a fireclay farmhouse sink; handmade custom tiles grace the backslash. The dining room in a modern farmhouse features Lee Industries chairs and double chandeliers.

Alison Giese, CID

Prior to founding her eponymous design firm in 2013, Alison Giese wore a range of hats, from registered dietician to law-school graduate. She believes these disparate experiences have given her a leg up, allowing her to communicate with people on a variety of levels. "Interior design is very personal," she notes. "The best designer-client collaborations happen when you have something more in common than just wanting to create a beautiful space."

Giese and her staff of three focus on bringing timelessness to their designs. "Our philosophy is built around the notion that your home should tell your story," Giese explains. "You can have beauty, warmth and a sense of welcome without a space feeling overly decorated. We achieve depth by mixing items with age and character with new pieces."

Giese believes that a well-designed home is functional, consistent, comfortable and stylish. She spends time talking with clients about how they can achieve improved function in a way that suits their style and her aesthetic. "I am truly enthusiastic about design," Giese says. "I have an entrepreneurial spirit and am engaged in the business of design as well as in its creativity."

Projects by Alison Giese Interiors have appeared in *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Northern Virginia* and *The Cottage Journal*.

See more projects at HandD.com/AlisonGiese

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THIS PAGE: ROBERT RADIFERA; OPPOSITE: JENNIFER HUGHES. LEFT AND TOP, RIGHT: STYLED BY CHARLOTTE SAFAVI

Clockwise from opposite, top: A refined-rustic master bathroom with a quarter-sawn white-oak vanity and a concrete-look Silestone counter and marble mosaic backsplash. A crisp and timeless kitchen with Shaker-style cabinetry, Silestone counters and a West Elm pendant. A living room with Lee Industries chairs in a Schumacher print and a vintage Oushak rug. An Art Deco-style dining table paired with leather guest chairs and host chairs custom-designed by Alison Giese Interiors in a citron zebra print.

Paula Grace, MBA, MSW, Allied ASID, Allied AIA, IFDA, IDS, Design Trust

After earning graduate degrees and working in the fields of clinical social work and business administration, Paula Grace discovered a new passion: interior design. She had taken time off to raise her daughter and decorate her own house when she had the epiphany. "I really enjoyed what I was doing," she recalls. "Plus, my mom was an interior decorator so design is in my DNA." Grace went back to school and studied interior design.

"My background has well-equipped me to marry the art and science of interior design," she says. Her business acumen helped her develop an efficient process that drives all her projects from start to finish. And her psychology experience helps her understand clients and their needs. "Exceptional interior design must be, by definition, intensely personal and specific to the client," she explains, adding, "My signature style is 'modern classic elegance.' You don't need to compromise on comfort or functionality to have elegance. With today's finishes and fabrics, your home can be sophisticated and durable; regal and comfortable; chic and livable."

Grace's furniture line, Signature Grace, debuted to rave reviews at the April 2015 High Point Market and has since been featured in print, online and in showrooms.

See more projects at HandD.com/PaulaGrace

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LEFT: HELEN NORMAN; STYLED BY CHARLOTTE SAFAVI. TOP & OPPOSITE: GEOFFREY HODGDON

Clockwise from opposite, top: In an elegant living room, cabinets from Grace's furniture collection flank an off-white sofa; plum accents enliven the space. The designer surrounded silk upholstered pieces with shimmering wall covering, custom rugs and unique lighting in a modern living room. Blue and cream fabrics in soft patterns and textures create a soothing environment in a master bedroom.

Clockwise from above: A grand kitchen marries form and function; the custom backsplash mural is by Conestoga Tile. A table from Signature Grace by Paula Grace Designs makes a regal statement in a dining room featuring a chandelier by Fine Art Lamps. Custom cabinetry and a limestone mantel take center stage in a welcoming family room, where leather ottomans and stain-resistant fabrics are both practical and attractive.

PHOTOS HELEN NORMAN; STYLED BY CHARLOTTE SAFAVI.

Lorna Gross, ASID, NCIDQ, NEWH

Founded in 2006, Lorna Gross Interior Design is a global, full-service design firm with specialties in new construction, renovations and furnishings. Principal Lorna Gross subscribes to the philosophy that good design must be aesthetically appealing, but also livable and functional. "By incorporating unique details and elements, we create dynamic and sophisticated interiors," she explains. "We enjoy layering elements so that spaces appeal to many senses and are beautiful, tactile and experiential."

The firm's designs are highly individualized for each client. "I am meticulous about sourcing unique items that give a space individuality," Gross says. "And I think strategically when it comes to selecting more permanent elements that may be long-term investments."

With an MBA and degrees in business administration and interior design, Gross utilizes strong business practices via tools such as milestone timelines and project-management software to streamline the design process. Growing up in both New York and Louisiana has imbued in her a mix of Northern and Southern sensibilities, while extensive travel has imparted a heightened appreciation for varied cultures and styles. Accolades include an ASID Designer of Distinction Award, an ASID Award for Detail/Unique Space and membership in the International Women's Forum.

See more projects at HandD.com/LornaGross

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PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

Textures, art and unique details create interest and warmth in a study (above) with walls finished in metallic suede, original artwork and doses of royal blue. In a condo's living room (opposite, top), a geometric metallic wall covering is the backdrop to hair-on-hide chairs with faux-bone frames and an acrylic coffee table that accents the textured rug. Tall draperies add drama and height to a cupola niche (opposite, bottom) with a comfy daybed.

Susan Gulick, ASID

"I provide a needed service that enhances people's lives," says Susan Gulick, who brings a fine arts degree and more than 30 years of design experience to her work. Gulick's firm handles residential and light commercial projects, and Gulick emphasizes the importance of exceptional materials, craftsmanship and insight during every project. She and her team "listen to the client and work together to discover what they really want," Gulick explains. "Our philosophy focuses on understanding and implementing the client's vision."

The award-winning designer works in a range of styles, but her goal remains the same on every project: to attain a fresh, uncluttered look and a balanced, unified whole. She considers every detail, from the clients' lifestyle to the way they dress, in order to create a design that will satisfy the desired function, aesthetic and vision for the project. "I believe in the power of easygoing elegance in an interior space," she says. "I bring this vision to life in my work."

Gulick is always careful to marry her crisp, signature designs with functionality. "I love a look that's clean," she says. "But I'm also a realist. Life is about whirlwind schedules and all kinds of lifestyles. Homes must work. Aesthetics must also yield to practicality."

See more projects at HandD.com/SusanGulick

PHOTOS: JUDY DAVIS/HOACHLANDER DAVIS PHOTOGRAPHY

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A master bedroom (above) offers calming water views as well as space for lounging on a Holly Hunt sofa, delineated by a Tibetan circle rug. High-backed loveseats and original art set the tone in an elegant foyer (opposite, top left). Prussian-blue chairs are framed by full-height draperies in a Great Falls family room (opposite, bottom). A pool house (opposite, top right) features a wall of folding doors and colorful performance fabrics that satisfy the practicalities of outdoor living.

Therese Baron Gurney, ASID

Therese Baron Gurney launched her career as an interior designer working for several prominent Washington, DC, design and architecture firms, including that of internationally acclaimed modern architect Hugh Newell Jacobsen. In 1985, she established her own firm. "I design with a modern aesthetic and tailor interiors to harmoniously integrate with the architecture," she explains. "My firm is small so I can be involved in all aspects of my projects."

Baron Gurney's expertise lies in space-planning, lighting design, graphics, custom furniture, millwork design and furniture specifications. She also consults clients on art selection and installment; audio/video and computer coordination; and furniture system installations. Throughout her career, she has frequently collaborated with architect Robert M. Gurney, FAIA.

Baron Gurney has been recognized with numerous design awards over the years, including multiple Awards of Excellence from the Washington Metro Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers. In 2002, the chapter named her a Designer of Distinction. Her work has appeared in many local and national publications, as well as in the architectural book series *Modern Order,* and in *Robert M. Gurney: Master Architect.*

See more projects at HandD.com/BaronGurney

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TOP, LEFT: ANICE HOACHLANDER; LEFT AND TOP, RIGHT: MAXWELL MACKENZIE

TOP: ANICE HOACHLANDER; LEFT: MAXWELL MACKENZIE

Therese Baron Gurney designs interiors that naturally integrate with a home's architecture. Clockwise from opposite, top: A living room features "interlacing" seating groups. Furnishings in a living/music room are seamlessly integrated with aerial views of the Potomac River and Key Bridge. Artwork is prominently displayed in a family room with sliding doors that open to a garden. A 500-million-year-old fossil is fastidiously displayed in a slate wall in a living/dining/music room, while an "origami" ceiling lifts the space towards the light. A master bedroom features translucent glass tables and lofty finishes.

Mona Hajj

For the past two decades, Mona Hajj has crafted interiors that marry a global vision with an American emphasis on elegance, comfort and simplicity. She launched her firm in 1990 and today employs a staff of six creating designs that are grounded in classical style yet influenced by the contemporary.

Hajj grew up in a Mediterranean culture rich in architecture, history and antiquities, from textiles to art. "My years of traveling and exposure to different cultures taught me to appreciate beauty all over the world, not just where I live," she reflects. "I think it liberated me in terms of design and style."

A sensitivity to her clients' needs combines with an ability to follow her instincts rather than popular trends. "I believe beauty and comfort are equally important," Hajj says. "I like upholstered pieces to be modern and comfortable while side tables, chairs, lighting, accessories, rugs and drapery are sewn together to create a cohesive end result."

Hajj's international upbringing is evidenced by exceptional rugs, antiques and fixtures. "I truly believe in excellent design and quality," she avers. "When you do it right the first time, it becomes timeless." Hajj has been listed in *Architectural Digest*'s Top 100 and on *Luxe*'s Gold List.

See more projects at HandD.com/MonaHajj

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LEFT: ERIK KVALSVIK; TOP: ROGER DAVIES; OPPOSITE: SCOTT FRANCES

Clockwise from opposite, top: A luxurious master bath features an Art Deco cabinet repurposed as a vanity by MHInteriors; fixtures are by Waterworks and architecture is by Marc Appleton. In an eclectic foyer, an antique Italian table, an antique chair from Syria and a Tiffany lamp are complementary. Dessin Fournir sofas and custom chairs by MHInteriors create a space for gathering; architecture by Wayne Good.

LEFT: PIETER ESTERSOHN; TOP AND RIGHT: SCOTT FRANCES

Clockwise from top: A kitchen combines antique tile, a Bagues chandelier and a 19th-century rug. An embassy library in DC boasts an Egyptian hand-blown glass chandelier, antiques and upholstered pieces; architecture by Allan Greenberg. A Jacobsen chair and Nancy Corzine chest occupy an eclectic family room.

Pamela Harvey

Pamela Harvey's interest in home design grew out of a background in fashion—and she still remembers the first room she designed at age 12. "I used a fresh, green-and-white bamboo print with white walls. It could still be relevant today," she jokes. Established in 1999, Harvey's full-service design firm now includes three designers and support staff. She opened a second studio in St. Petersburg, Florida, in 2017.

Pamela Harvey Interiors' signature style is distinctive and classic with fresh twists of color that are flawlessly woven into each space. Harvey combines formal training in interior design with a fashion-forward aesthetic. "We love to create rooms that are on-trend but never trendy," Harvey says. "I believe in mixing luxury with livability. Our primary goal is to deliver a gorgeous project that meets the needs of everyday living."

Understanding her clients' lifestyle is integral to Harvey's design process. "I believe my clients deserve the best professional interior design at the best value," she says with unfailing common sense. Her clientele ranges from young families to empty nesters.

Projects by Harvey have appeared most recently in *Virginia Living Magazine*, *Home & Design* and *Arlington Magazine*. She designed rooms in the 2010, 2015 and 2016 DC Design Houses.

See more projects at HandD.com/PamelaHarvey

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LEFT AND TOP: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG; OPPOSITE: ROBERT RADIFERA

Clockwise from opposite, top: A classic and timeless master bath features a roomy, well-appointed shower with a complementary mix of patterns and textures. A geometric seagrass area rug grounds an airy living room punctuated with shades of coral and watery blue; vintage Louis XV chairs were lacquered and reupholstered. Traditional and modern elements combine in a master suite with a statement velvet bedstead and his-and-her bedside tables. Soothing neutrals and wood tones create a transitional breakfast room that is both elegant and practical.

Barbara Hawthorn

Barbara Hawthorn's career has been informed by life experience. Growing up in New York, Los Angeles, London and Paris exposed her to the best in design, architecture and the arts. Working in her father's engineering firm taught her drafting skills and about alternative energy sources. A background as an artist instilled an understanding of color, light and composition.

"Good taste is about quality, value and knowledge—with a nod to the classics and an eye to what is fresh and 'today,'" observes Hawthorn. "We create spaces that will provide lasting value with comfort and durability. Functional opulence is our mantra."

Hawthorn was named Hall of Fame Designer by *Home & Design* in 2009 and has been recognized by numerous publications as one of DC's best designers. In January 2018, she was honored by the Women's Leadership Group of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington as their "Fearless Woman" for her contributions to the lives of at-risk children in the region. She was named Professional Woman of the Year 2011-2012 by the National Association of Professional Women.

Projects by Barbara Hawthorn Interiors, Ltd., have appeared in both national and local publications and have been featured on network and cable TV.

See more projects at HandD.com/BarbaraHawthorn

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PHOTOS: KENNETH M. WYNER

In a grand entry (above), a graphic rug from Holly Hunt makes a bold statement, while matching consoles by Keith Fritz are paired with mirrors by Niermann Weeks. Drapes in fabric by Lelièvre complement a dramatic Keith Fritz table and Niermann Weeks chairs in a dining room (opposite, top) with a chandelier by Allan Knight. A light-filled sitting room (opposite, bottom) features chairs and an ottoman by Niermann Weeks, covered in Cowtan & Tout fabric.

Josh Hildreth

Josh Hildreth lives his passion as an interior designer. After founding a commercial-interiors firm, DMG Interiors, in 2005, he branched out in 2016 with the residential-design firm Josh Hildreth Interiors. His team includes interior architects, project managers and procurement specialists who provide turnkey support from the first meeting to the final installation.

At the heart of Hildreth's residential practice is a belief in the power of design to uplift. He has extensively studied decorative arts, from classical antiquity to 20th-century modernism. "I draw on these rich cultural perspectives to help clients reimagine their homes," he explains.

Before beginning a project, Hildreth gets to know his clients and the way they use their home. The first step is assessing the interior architecture. From there, he designs spaces using layers of texture, finishes, art and fine furnishings. He sources custom and period pieces: Old and new, rough and smooth, all live together. The perfection of imperfection is understood.

The result achieves clients' practical needs while broadening their notion of what's possible. "I see my role in the creative process as genial guide," Hildreth says, "revealing new ideas that allow my clients to realize the living potential of their homes."

See more projects at HandD.com/JoshHildreth

TOP, LEFT & OPPOSITE: ANGIE SECKINGER; LEFT & TOP, RIGHT: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

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In a library (left and opposite, top left), Hildreth layered contemporary and classic elements, from a 1760 French tapestry to modern photographs. Walls covered in Kravet grass cloth distinguish another library (opposite, top right) with harmonizing patterns, treasured books and art. An antique Chinese screen is flanked by sculptural floor lamps and modern paintings in a grand salon (above). An 18th-century, burl-veneer desk accents one corner of a guest room (opposite, bottom) adorned with Penny Morrison draperies.

Andrea Houck, ASID, IFDA

Andrea Houck's portfolio offers proof of her dexterity with a range of styles, yet only tells part of the story behind her success. "The skill lies in interpreting the client's aspirations and bringing them to life," reveals Houck. "'Creating spaces you will love…traditional, modern or somewhere in between' has been our mantra for the past 18 years."

The design process is an "imaginative, fun journey" Houck and her client take together. That journey often extends to interior architecture. "We can walk into a space and see the possibilities for improving livability and aesthetics," says Houck. "It might be shifting a doorway or reimagining a fireplace, but we like to take a holistic approach."

A. Houck Designs frequently collaborates with architects and builders on the selections process for new construction, renovations and additions. "We narrow down the sea of choices and develop a cohesive package—while keeping the process moving smoothly," Houck explains.

Houck's work has appeared in numerous publications, including *Home & Design*, *The Washington Post* and *Arlington Magazine*. She has participated in show houses for Children's National Health System and shares her passion on her blog, *Creating Spaces*.

See more projects at HandD.com/AndreaHouck

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PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Houck eschewed the traditional chandelier in favor of oversized, bronze pendants for unexpected drama in a worldly, eclectic dining room (opposite, top). Warm wood tones offset light countertops and backsplash tiles in a reimagined, fully renovated Bethesda kitchen (opposite, bottom). Chosen with the clients' lifestyle in mind, a rosewood-and-ebony bar cabinet (above) stands ready to welcome dinner guests.

PHOTOS: JESSIE SNYDER

Pops of pink, fresh florals and plenty of bling combine in a dreamy bedroom Houck created for the 2016 DC Design House (these pages). The muse for the girly-yet-glamorous design was an imagined French ingénue, transplanted to DC with her diplomat parents.

Dolly Howarth, IFDA, IDS

A love of design in all its forms, along with what she describes as "the desire to avenge inhumane interiors," inspired Dolly Howarth to become an interior designer. Formally trained in economics, she brings an analytical approach to her residential and commercial projects. "Combining my problem-solving skills with unconventional creativity, I believe I offer my clients a fresh perspective," she explains.

Howarth focuses on creating original designs that enhance her clients' lives. "I enjoy working with homeowners to transform ineffective spaces into functional, harmonious environments with comfort, style and charm," she says.

When embarking on a new project, Howarth listens to clients to develop an understanding of their interests, priorities and preferences. These details inform her conceptual designs. "The results," she says, "are personalized and innovative interiors to be enjoyed by clients every day.

"Projects that excite me most," she continues, "involve intermixing elements—sophisticated and rustic, vintage and new, modern and classical, warm and cool and so on."

According to Howarth, the process requires diligence, trust and a sense of humor. "A project is a success," she concludes, "when a home radiates my client's personality once the work is done."

See more projects at HandD.com/DollyHowarth

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PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

The cornerstone of a sunroom addition (above) is the dual-sided fireplace, with its limestone surround; furnishings from ABC Home and Palecek, a one-of-a-kind rug and a photograph by Angie Seckinger convey serene comfort. A kitchen/dining area redesign (opposite, top) features bold artwork, a table paired with Thonet chairs, a handmade rug and an industrial chandelier. A custom chandelier by Canopy Designs was inspired by fixtures that hung in New York's original Penn Station.

Deborah Kalkstein

Deborah Kalkstein fell in love with design during childhood visits to construction sites with her uncle, an acclaimed modern architect in her native Peru. Today as a designer and the owner of Contemporaria, a furnishings and accessories showroom in DC's Cady's Alley, Kalkstein brings a modern aesthetic to her work. "I see design in every shape and form, and recognize the value or the lack of it," she says. "It's a lifestyle, a passion...I think it's something I was born with."

Kalkstein feels that a home should respect and represent its owner above all—but avoids designing in every style. "I can't go beyond my aesthetic comfort zone, but I can incorporate other harmonious and beautiful styles," she explains. "I encourage my clients to see art as part of the interior architecture—it all has to come together."

Contemporaria offers complete design services; its in-house team includes Kalkstein, architect Sophia Hass and interior designer Hayley Hartner. The showroom represents Minotti, Molteni, Vitra, Cappellini, MDF and Paola Lenti, among many other furniture lines.

Kalkstein's design work has been featured in *Home & Design*, *Metropolitan Home*, *Washingtonian*, *DC Modern Luxury* and more. Contemporaria was named 2018 Best of Washington, DC, by *Washingtonian* and *DC Modern Luxury*.

See more projects at HandD.com/DeborahKalkstein

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PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Concrete walls and pipes are the backdrop for a refined collection of furniture, rugs and accessories at Contemporaria (opposite, top). "Exposing materials in their natural forms is very much part of what I do," Kalkstein says of a living room (above) that combines steel, wood and refined elements like leather and glass. Textures and shapes create a subtle mix in a room (opposite, bottom) featuring Minotti furniture, a lamp by Oluce and a Yerra rug.

Clockwise from above: Art plays an important role in a living room that assembles furniture by Minotti and a Mies van der Rohe daybed in white leather. Kalkstein created a beautiful, practical kitchen with Cesar cabinetry and seating by Vitra. Industrial-style windows create a geometric backdrop in a living room combining Minotti furniture, a coffee table by MDF and an antique rug dyed gray. Books become art in an inviting library combining MDF bookcases, seating by Zanotta and a Moooi rug.

PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

VANITY FAIR 100 YEARS

Kirsten Anthony Kaplan

Kirsten Kaplan started her career in design 20 years ago in San Francisco, and carried her clean, unfussy, light-filled aesthetic with her to DC, where she founded Haus Interior Design in 2005. She brings an unusual combination of skills to every project: an MBA from Yale, experience in construction and a childhood spent surrounded by iconic furnishings and art. "Which means I adeptly handle all phases of a comprehensive design project, from overall vision-casting to detailed implementation," she notes.

Though she has several employees on staff, Kaplan oversees every aspect of each project. "Thousands of decisions need to be made that require immediate response during any project," she explains. "We are committed to acting quickly and in the best interests of our clients, while professionally accomplishing the goals we set forth from the start."

Kaplan creates bespoke interiors with expertise and professionalism, ensuring that each space always reflects its owner. "From traditional elegance to classic simplicity, we have a broad range of design capabilities and creative talent," she avers. "Whether a project involves renovation or turnkey furnishing, our clients are confident knowing we will oversee every detail and decision, from the initial consultation to the final reveal."

See more projects at HandD.com/KirstenKaplan

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PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Navy blue, pure white and brushed brass anchor a beautiful baker's kitchen (opposite, top), with plenty of counter space for rolling out dough; an oversized linen-and-brushed-brass pendant hangs over a hand-finished pedestal table in the breakfast nook (above). Chic, striped chairs in deep purple and gray lend softness to a crisp-white dining room (opposite, bottom) accented with apple green.

CLINT
THE KING OF STYLE
ANDY GOLDSWORTHY

Kaplan paired iron and brushed brass with silky-soft textiles and vibrant geometric patterns in an industrial-style loft in Georgetown.

STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Charlene Kennerknecht

The interior design firm Monarch Design DC was created by Charlene Kennerknecht over 20 years ago. Monarch Design frequently collaborates with the design-build firm Monarch Homes, founded by Charlene's husband, Jim Kennerknecht. Monarch Design DC creates timeless, well-crafted, one-of-a-kind homes where strong architectural elements meet thoughtful interior design.

Charlene is inspired by her love of travel and a life-long exploration of the broader and intimate environments where people live. She is driven by color and texture; other senior designers in the firm focus on architectural history and classic design. The firm is bicoastal, with Charlene in Virginia and design partners in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Salt Lake City. These origins are reflected in Monarch's work, as it seamlessly combines a casual West Coast vibe with a traditional East Coast sensibility.

"The biggest compliment is when our clients tell us they love spending time at home," says Charlene.

Monarch homes stand the test of time, which is a hallmark of great design. "We choose comfortable, quality furnishings. We aren't overly trendy, though our work is on trend. Above all, we bring extensive expertise to grant our clients' deepest wishes for how they choose to live," reflects Charlene.

See more projects at HandD.com/CharleneKennerknecht

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PHOTOS: LYDIA CUTTER

Clockwise from opposite, top: In a recent renovation, the dining room showcases a Napa table and Malibu chairs from Los Angeles-based Formations beneath a glass-droplet chandelier from Studio Bel Vetro. An A. Rudin sectional offers ample seating in the great room; a landscape photograph by Ben Ham presides over the space. The luxuriously proportioned master suite stars a Marcali Designs bed in a comfortable yet chic tableau. Niermann Weeks étagères display accessories in the living room.

PHOTOS: LYDIA CUTTER

Clockwise from top: A fireplace beckons in the master bedroom. The living room's hand-woven rug from J.H. Minassian & Co. started the blue thread that continues throughout the home; a console from Ironies anchors the seating arrangement. Walls painted in Farrow & Ball's Down Pipe add drama to the powder room.

Sharon Kleinman

The daughter of an architect, Sharon Kleinman grew up with an appreciation for scale and proportion. She launched her design career in 1997, inspired by friends and neighbors who admired how she decorated her own home. Today, most of Kleinman's projects are new construction, major renovations and whole-home makeovers. Collaborating with architects and builders, she works to ensure her clients' vision is maintained from start to finish, tailoring her work to reflect their aesthetic and personality and striving to make the process enjoyable. "Large projects can be overwhelming," she admits. "I create a cohesive plan that gives clients greater ease in making informed decisions."

Clear and open communication is a foundation of Kleinman's approach; she builds upon concepts to help homeowners reach a high level of understanding. "I want clients to feel confident about their own personal style and taste," she says.

Kleinman employs a small but efficient administrative staff. "This frees me to devote my creative energy to each client," explains the designer, who takes pride in focusing on every detail in a home. "Whether it's the height of a chair rail or a splash of color added with pillows," she concludes, "it's the little details that make the difference between ordinary and sensational."

See more projects at HandD.com/SharonKleinman

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PHOTOS: GWIN HUNT

Sharon Kleinman and her husband recently downsized to a home with an open plan. The designer created a cohesive look with a palette of warm grays and pops of orange. Clockwise from opposite, top left: iron balusters update the traditional staircase; Klismos chairs from Baker surround the custom kitchen table from J. Lambeth; concrete tile and chiseled stone clad the fireplace surround in the family room, with furniture by Holly Hunt; and fabrics play off a painting by artist Kay Sutherland in the living room.

Charles Krewson

Charles Krewson practiced interior design in New York City for 20 years before relocating to DC, where he had spent part of his childhood. He brought with him extensive experience and a fascination with art, artists and design gleaned from years living in Europe. "As my unique practice requires, I collaborate with a select group of artisans, experts and high-end vendors to express my clients' taste and vision," he says. "My work blends European sophistication with American ease."

Krewson engages closely with clients to create beautiful, unique and delightful environments that address their practical needs. By incorporating personal collections and thoughtful elements such as custom palettes and sophisticated lighting, he crafts nuanced design compositions that are ultimately livable. Drawing on his expertise in fine art and antiques, he develops schematics and groupings that incorporate his clients' collections and reflect their passions. "Context is key," he explains. "It takes a trained eye (and clever installation know-how) to create the perfect environment that will evoke the most interaction and interest.

"I design all my projects for the individual and never recycle concepts or materials between projects," he continues. "I like getting to know clients, finding their personal style and then amplifying it."

See more projects at HandD.com/CharlesKrewson

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TOP AND OPPOSITE: LAURA DANTE; LEFT: ROBERT RADIFERA

Clockwise from opposite, top: Krewson showcased paintings, English antiques and rare Giacometti furniture in a living room painted a warm blue offset by Zimmer+Rohde textiles and a beloved antique Oriental rug. A blood-orange carpet floats on bleached-oak floors in a living room with vintage printed-velvet by Stephen Sprouse for Knoll on the valance and club chair. A custom-colored Beauvais Carpet stair runner provides a contrast to terracotta-hued English moiré striped wallpaper.

Vicky Lal

Though Vicky Lal earned formal degrees in technology, a lifelong passion for interiors eventually inspired her to switch gears and pursue a certificate in interior design. In 2000, she launched her own firm, Vicky Lal Design LLC, which specializes in designing interiors for residential and commercial renovations and new construction.

One of Lal's earliest accomplishments was her own custom home. "When I built and designed my own home 18 years ago, the process allowed me to recognize that I had a natural flair for design, color, textures and fabrics," she says. "After this inspirational experience, I immersed myself in my new goal of making interior design a full-time pursuit."

Lal has completed 300 projects since then. She and her team evaluate every job in terms of function, mood and harmony. "We start with a detailed client interview during which we assess their likes and dislikes," she explains. "This process allows us to get a sense of the clients' style while also providing us with insight into what they are envisioning.

"My ultimate goal," she continues, "is to understand my clients' needs and wants, and to ensure that every space is a reflection of who they are."

See more projects at HandD.com/VickyLal

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LEFT: JESSE SNYDER PHOTOGRAPHY; ABOVE: LYDIA CUTTER

Clockwise from opposite, top: Lal enhanced a traditional kitchen with a Crystorama light fi xture above a granite-topped island and Bernhardt stools. A living room combines transitional furnishings from Marge Carson and accessories from Uttermost. A luxurious basement entertainment space boasts a full bar with Bernhardt stools and lighting from ET2. A detail reveals a plush sofa from Marge Carson.

LEFT: LYDIA CUTTER; ABOVE: JESSE SNYDER PHOTOGRAPHY

J. Paul Lobkovich

An early infatuation with automobile and industrial design inspired J. Paul Lobkovich to become a designer. Later, he studied architecture in Italy, an experience that shapes his perspective to this day. "Scale and proportion are paramount in my work," he says.

Lobkovich worked as a residential and commercial architect for several years before shifting his focus to a new specialty: kitchen and bath design. He currently has more than 25 years of experience creating one-of-a-kind kitchens in locations such as New York City, The Hamptons, Chicago, Florida, California and, of course, Washington, DC.

A Lobkovich kitchen is defined by elegant, straightforward design, with luxurious touches such as custom metalwork—including gorgeous hoods of mixed metal and metal-cabinetry accents. "We try to incorporate unique elements in every design, so that no two projects are exactly alike," Lobkovich says. "Capturing the spirit of the house—whether it is a new, modern structure or a historic home full of character—is important. The kitchen should be a logical transition to the other living spaces of the home."

Lobkovich Kitchen Designs was named *Home & Design*'s Designers' Choice award-winner for favorite kitchen design firm in both 2016 and 2017.

See more projects at HandD.com/JPaulLobkovich

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Clockwise from opposite, top: Sleek kitchen and modern art gallery meet in a stylish riverfront home; a transitional kitchen boasts clean lines and contemporary accents; unexpected Spanish flair creates drama in a traditional kitchen; and a classic New England-style kitchen offers a few modern twists.

Jodi Macklin

Jodi Macklin is known for her original approach to design, which deftly combines texture and color to create elegant, harmonious spaces. Her work reflects her clients' lifestyles, employing luxurious materials and furnishings that are lovely, functional and easy to maintain. With her associate, Lauren Sparber, Macklin designs rooms that convey beauty in isolation and warmth when they are filled with family and friends.

"We approach each project holistically," she explains. "We listen carefully to our clients and work hard to gain an understanding of their needs and wants. We do this by maintaining an open dialog—and we strive to manage expectations throughout each project."

Macklin is equally skilled at interpreting a client's wishes for an intimate bedroom or a sophisticated living room, and consistently translates each vision into a beautiful, livable environment. "With 20-plus years of experience in the industry, I understand that each client is unique," she observes. "Everyone requires their own approach for success."

Projects by Jodi Macklin Interior Design have been published locally in *Home & Design, Washingtonian* and *The Washington Post.* Macklin's work has also appeared nationally in *House Beautiful* and *Southern Living.*

See more projects at HandD.com/JodiMacklin

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PHOTOS: GORDON BEALL

In a contemporary home, Macklin introduced eclectic furnishings to create comfortable, welcoming spaces. Textured wallpaper and framed artwork give the powder room (opposite, bottom) depth. A light, airy palette and minimal furnishings impart softness to the living room (opposite, top). The clean-lined kitchen (above) features a traditional chandelier and dining table.

Todd Martz

After starting out as a graphic designer, Todd Martz delved into his studies when he decided to pursue interior design instead. He worked for a commercial architectural firm while attending design school at the University of Maryland. Later, as the owner of a decorative-painting company, he mastered the art of using color. Eventually, Martz developed a deep knowledge of furniture styles as a former owner of AmericanEye in the Washington Design Center. As he reflects, "I consider my years at AmericanEye to be my Master's program. I was able to work with the best designers in the area and understand how they created spaces."

Each of these varied experiences has informed Martz's interior design practice today. He focuses on interpreting client feedback into projects that reflect their personalities. "It's not enough to understand form and function," he says. "Our goal is to make you smile when you come home."

In 2017, Martz and designer Susan Nelson co-founded Home on Cameron—an Old Town Alexandria showroom offering furniture and accessories, including its own private-label collection, as well as design consultations. "Our job," explains Martz, "is to help you understand the possibilities of your space, based on your needs and personal style."

See more projects at HandD.com/ToddMartz

Home on Cameron
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PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Opposite page, clockwise from left: In his renovation of a DC row house, Martz reused ceiling tiles from another room in the house as a kitchen backsplash and added a ladder to reach upper cabinets; selected a period hall tree and Barry Dixon's Vervain Mysore wall covering to grace the foyer; and kept the master bathroom's original skylight, using the light shaft for the shower. He transformed the entire bath, adding custom tiles, a vintage vanity, a decorator sink and Wisteria wallpaper by Farrow & Ball. This page: In a cheerful Potomac, Maryland, family room in the 2017 DC Design House, a handmade coffee table tops an antique rug; the wall covering is China Seas Sigourney in a mustard colorway.

Cindy Grossmueller McClure, ASID, MCR, CKD, GCP

Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc. was created to give clients one complete source for their remodeling and interior-design needs. With more than 20 years of experience, the company serves homeowners who are looking to improve their living spaces, whether this means simply rearranging the current layout or expanding. Organizing and leading all parts of a strong team, customized for each project and supporting the end goal, is their specialty.

"Our philosophy is to handle both complex and simple design projects with equal care, while providing the highest-quality work to develop spaces that are both useful and unique," explains the firm's principal, designer Cindy Grossmueller McClure, who takes a collaborative approach with her team. "We take into consideration family activities, the functionality of the space and its current furnishings, then tailor spaces to meet the needs and tastes of our clients."

Grossmueller's Design Consultants has received numerous awards from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry and has been featured in NKBA design manuals. Grossmueller McClure and her team most recently participated in the 10th annual DC Design House. She is an NCIDQ-certified interior designer, a past president of NARI Metro DC and currently serves as an ASID committee member.

See more projects at HandD.com/CindyGrossmuellerMcClure

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TOP, LEFT: ANGIE SECKINGER; ALL OTHERS: JOHN TSANTES

Clockwise from opposite, top: Grossmueller McClure enhanced the barrel-vault ceiling in a corridor of the DC Design House, installing textured wallpaper, a custom nail-head treatment and LED lighting above the crown molding. Seashells inspired a serene master-bath oasis with a luxurious soaking tub. The room beside a newly remodeled kitchen feels airy, with recessed lights in the coffered ceiling and frosted-glass French doors. A beam in the floor necessitated a step in a master bath, which boasts his-and-her floating vanities. A traditional fireplace was replaced with a sleek wall of honed granite and diamond fire glass.

Grossmueller McClure and her team designed three kitchens utilizing Shaker-style cabinetry, but created a different look for each. Clockwise from above: modern farmhouse, Parisian bistro and urban contemporary. Features include two-tone cabinets, mixed countertops, waterfall islands and custom patterned floors. Each space is tailored to the clients' individual taste.

PHOTOS: JOHN TSANTES

Jamie Merida

Amanda Friend » Denise Perkins » Carol Wheeler

Jamie Merida, whose parents ran a thriving gallery and furniture business, grew up surrounded by art and antiques. So it was not a reach for him to found Bountiful, his own home-furnishings store, on Maryland's Eastern Shore in 2000.

Clients began to ask for design help, so Merida subsequently launched an interiors practice, creating spaces that reflect home-owners' interests, personalities and lifestyles. "We spend a lot of time getting to know clients before the process begins," he says. "That helps us incorporate personal touches that make every design unique and special."

Today, Merida's staff of 18 includes three interior designers. "Our approach could be described as 'traditional made modern,'" he explains. "We have a deep appreciation for classic design, but love finding ways to make it feel fresh." He and his team not only focus on overall aesthetics, but also on small details that can make or break a project. "There are so many moving parts that need to come together perfectly," he remarks.

Merida recently launched his own furniture line, the Tidewater Collection for Chelsea House, and also opened a second store that focuses on flooring, stone and tile. His work has been widely published locally and nationally.

See more projects at HandD.com/JamieMerida

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PHOTOS: ROBERT RADIFERA; PRODUCED BY CHARLOTTE SAFAVI

Lead designer Amanda Friend captured the "traditional made modern" aesthetic in a waterfront home on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Clockwise from opposite, top: A palette of cool blues and soft neutrals is woven throughout the dining room, with its antique table and Hickory White chairs; the great room, which combines Wesley Hall furniture with fabrics by Kravet and Lee Jofa; and the foyer, featuring a rug by Lee Jofa.

Crisp whites and nautical blues enliven a family room (above) by designer Denise Perkins; kitchen by Barclay Designs. Designer Carol Wheeler created a red-white-and-blue seating area in an Eastern Shore cottage (right) and centered a stunning dining room (opposite) on a Currey & Company chandelier and a rug by Jaipur Living.

PHOTOS: ROBERT RADIFERA; PRODUCED BY CHARLOTTE SAFAVI

Sandra Meyers

When Sandra Meyers was growing up, she loved helping her father with projects around the house—and to this day, she finds the start of a new project exciting. "I learned the essentials for building a home from start to finish," she recalls. "Now when I begin a project, all I can think about are the challenges and how I'm going to solve them."

Sandra Meyers Design Studio focuses on residential and light commercial interior design. Meyers brings a trained eye and a thorough knowledge of architecture, scale and proportion to her work, and is adept at blending exquisite fabrics, distinctive furniture and functional floor plans into a cohesive whole. She enhances her clients' unique vision, bringing it vibrantly to life.

Meyers takes pains to make it clear to clients from the start that she is there to help them achieve the style that is right for them—whether it be contemporary, transitional or traditional. Once clients' needs have been made clear through extensive discussion, she suggests the changes or additions that will have the greatest impact on the space.

Meyers received a "Ones to Watch" award from the Washington Design Center in 2010. Her work has appeared in *Home & Design*, *The Washington Post* and *Washingtonian*.

See more projects at HandD.com/SandraMeyers

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PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

Meyers designed the interiors of an open and welcoming custom home for family of six, working with the homeowner from the project's inception to create a functional design that doesn't sacrifice style. Custom details like wide-plank, white-oak floors convey warmth and comfort—from the kitchen (above and opposite, bottom) to the master bedroom (opposite, top).

Penny Mickum

As a former real estate agent, Penny Mickum was more interested in the interiors of homes than she was in selling them. She began practicing her decorating skills on the homes of friends, co-workers, and relatives—even giving her mother-in-law's home an impromptu makeover while she was away on vacation (with positive results). Her efforts were well received. She eventually followed her passion and launched her career as a design professional. For more than 25 years, she has been principal of her own firm.

Mickum always works to achieve an aesthetic that is current, but not trendy, incorporating classic elements that have a timeless appeal, while carefully considering her clients' lifestyles, tastes, passions and proclivities. "The right design should create an emotional connection to the space that brings joy to everyday living," says the designer.

"I approach every project with an open mind, an open ear, and enthusiasm," she continues, adding that she finds the "collaborative journeys" and long-term relationships she shares with her clients to be the most rewarding aspect of her work. While based in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, Penny Mickum has also completed projects in St. Michaels, Manhattan, the Adirondacks, Florida and Switzerland.

See more projects at HandD.com/PennyMickum

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PHOTOS: TIMOTHY BELL

Clockwise from opposite, top: An oil painting of hydrangeas in the living room inspired Mickum's transformation of a renovated Sears bungalow in Chevy Chase, DC. The sunny breakfast area opens to a screened porch; three stylized plates on the wall are a nod to the client's family of three. Phillip Jeffries raffia wall covering, a Visual Comfort "Paris Flea Market" chandelier and cotton slipcovers lend an air of relaxed sophistication to the dining room. Visible from the kitchen, the client's Creamware collection is displayed on the dining room wall.

Haleh Niroo

Haleh Design practices a unique, sustainable approach to luxury design that marries the culture and elegance of European living with environmentally sensitive choices. While grounded in classicism, principal Haleh Niroo's stately projects make sustainability, functionality and comfort integral to their design. She guides her clients towards sustainable materials and makes green choices for turnkey programs that exemplify both sophistication and quality of life.

Haleh was born into the world of design, with an aesthetic sensibility that was shaped by a European education, extensive travel, design study and experience with all elements of business management, finance, sustainable construction and energy conservation.

For more than 25 years, Haleh has been an interior designer, new-construction planner and manager and renovation consultant, conceiving and executing projects from inception to installation throughout the Eastern Seaboard, Southern California and abroad. She assembles interior designers, architects, builders and engineers; an extensive network of experts and artisans further streamlines the process.

Haleh Design collaborates with Niroo Construction on estate projects built with cutting-edge construction techniques and materials, and resource-conserving systems. Haleh Design is a dealer in handmade French, Italian and American furnishings and accessories.

See more projects at HandD.com/HalehNiroo

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PHOTOS: CHRIS LITTLE PHOTOGRAPH

These pages: A suite of rooms at the Four Seasons Residence in Atlanta, designed by Haleh Design.

Kristin Peake

Kristin Peake Interiors has evolved since it was founded in 2000, but the humble approach developed by principal Kristin Peake in the beginning, based on trust and respect, has not changed. The firm completes projects ranging from one-room redesigns to whole custom homes. "Our goal is to provide a concierge level of service, to exceed expectations from the initial consult to the final walk-through," Peake says. "We create a special place where children can grow and family members can play out the stories of their lives."

Peake and her team feel that the most important qualities of a well-designed home are day-to-day functionality; a layered material palette; and a sense of who lives there. "In the first meeting, I pay attention to what the clients want, how they live, what is important to them," Peake explains. "As a mother of teenage girls, I understand how the needs of families transition over time. I stress the importance of each family member having his or her own space, and of there being 'family' space where everyone can interact."

Peake's designs often reflect a tone-on-tone, neutral, less-is-more aesthetic that is both practical and beautiful. "Every room is designed with thought and detail," she observes. "The details are what make the difference."

See more projects at HandD.com/KristinPeake

PHOTOS: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Kristin Peake Interiors
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Peake emphasized a textured, layered effect in a Potomac project encompassing a large, multi-functional great room. Clockwise from opposite, top: The coffee table is adorned with boxes, books, trays and greenery; a seating arrangement features four blue-leather swivel chairs against a backdrop of subtly striped draperies; black hardware, a light fixture edged in black and upper windows detailed in graphite paint unite the space. Custom-milled shiplap siding enhances a fireplace detail.

The lounge area of the great room combines a sectional in soft blue layered with throw pillows, dark-blue poufs and a soft, neutral area rug. The black-edged light fixture matches the one at the other end of the room.

STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

THE LOUVRE
YACHT RACES

Charlene Petersen

Lauren Jaques » Whitney Wallin

According to its principal, the interior design team of Cashmere Interior was not so much inspired as "called" to the profession. "Our common denominator is a passion for design," says owner Charlene Petersen. "We all feel fortunate to have found this within ourselves—and to have an amazing outlet for practicing our art."

Founded in 2010, the firm now has a staff of seven. Petersen and her senior designers each bring something different to the mix: Lauren Jaques offers an eclectic-modern sensibility with a twist of "boho" style, while Whitney Wallin creates a naturally textured, transitional-meets-modern-farmhouse vibe. Petersen combines these with her own global-rustic-modern aesthetic. "Our superpower strength? Collaboration," Petersen avers.

Petersen and her staff feel that a well-designed home is functional first. "We believe that a successful project not only looks great but works even better," Petersen notes. "When we create floor plans, specify finishes, pull fabrics...we make sure we know the who, what, when, where and why of how a space will be used."

Cashmere Interior espouses the philosophy that clients should be able to walk into their homes and feel their personalities are represented. "Aesthetic and function are not mutually exclusive," Petersen observes. "Both can be accomplished 100 percent of the time."

See more projects at HandD.com/CharlenePetersen

PHOTOS: ALAN GILBERT

Cashmere Interior
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Strong patterns and textures combine with vibrant art and colorful materials in eclectic spaces by Cashmere Interior. Clockwise from opposite, top left: a kitchen with a La Cornue range and lively tile backsplash; a powder room with Peter Fasano wallpaper and a distinctive Bradley sink; a living room housing a Verellen sofa, an antique Oushak rug, coffee table and an abstract canvas by Michael Goldberg; and a nursery with a Mansour Modern rug, artwork from Natural Curiosities and cribs by Oeuf.

TOP: WILLIAM WALDRON; LEFT AND RIGHT: AUDREY HALL PHOTOGRAPHY

Clockwise from top: a bedroom boasts beds designed by Cashmere Interior, Andrew Martin sofas and a framed antique Suzani. An antique bookcase made in India is a focal point in a library that features a deep window seat piled with cushions and a Restoration Hardware chair. A bold Ann Sacks tile backsplash complements hammered-zinc island counters in a colorful kitchen.

ELEPHANT REFLECTIONS

Kelley Proxmire

Since founding Kelley Proxmire, Inc., 20 years ago, principal Kelley Proxmire has been creating pretty yet practical spaces that reflect the way her clients live. Today, she practices her craft with a staff of four assistant designers.

From an early age, Proxmire was fascinated by interior design—by the interplay of color, scale of furniture and the mixing of fabrics. "I was an avid reader of shelter publications and loved seeing the transformation of rooms," she recalls. She studied the work of Billy Baldwin, Mark Hampton, Frances Elkins and Michael Taylor; these icons laid the foundation for her beautiful and enduring style.

Adept at mixing traditional pieces with unexpected finds, Proxmire creates environments that are faithful to the architecture and setting of the home. By listening to clients, she learns about their passions, favorite color combinations, furniture styles and treasured heirlooms. She infuses each project with warmth and personality as well as balance, proportion and scale.

Proxmire was named Hall of Fame Designer in *Home & Design*'s 2016 Designers' Choice Awards, and was inducted into the Washington Design Center Hall of Fame in 2009. She has participated in 25 show houses during the past 16 years.

See more projects at HandD.com/KelleyProxmire

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THIS PAGE & OPPOSITE, TOP: KIP DAWKINS; OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: ANGIE SECKINGER

Clockwise from opposite, top: Proxmire incorporated her clients' beloved collection of graphic caricatures into a dramatic, yellow-and-black garden room. Phillip Jeffries' Amalfi Silk on the walls and Nobilis linen on the sofa provide a neutral backdrop for the 12-foot-tall living room in this c. 1918 Beaux Arts residence. A room in the 2017 DC Design House was inspired by socialite Brooke Astor's iconic, Albert Hadley-designed library, updated with bold blue accents. Complementary fabric, patterns and colors create an inviting dining room with a mirror reflecting natural light into the space.

Lisa Puchalla

Lisa Puchalla founded her boutique design firm, LilyMae Design, LLC, in 2007 after renovating her own 1907 Dutch colonial home from top to bottom. "I was inspired by the transformative process of watching this old historic home give way to a new chapter," she recalls. "I had to maintain the home's period charm while integrating the practical needs of my husband and three children. That's how my 'relaxed elegance' design philosophy was born."

Puchalla defines "relaxed elegance" as a look that integrates the client's personality and lifestyle with refined materials and sophisticated colors to create beautiful, functional interiors. "My approach is driven by an understanding of my clients," she says. "I ask questions, questions and more questions and observe how the family interacts with their various spaces. They will be living in the space so I make sure they have as much hand in the process as possible."

LilyMae Design, LLC, was named a Best of Houzz award-winner from 2014 through 2017. Lisa Puchalla's designs have been featured in prominent publications including *Home & Design* and *The Washington Post*, and have appeared in blogs including *House of Turquoise* and *Home Bunch*.

See more projects at HandD.com/LisaPuchalla

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PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

Lisa Puchalla of LilyMae Design integrates her clients' personalities and lifestyles into beautiful, timeless spaces. Clockwise from opposite, top left: Original art sets a dining room apart; lighting from Circa. A living room boasts a custom-upholstered chair. A calming hue from Farrow & Ball is the backdrop for neutral furnishings. Countertops in Carrara marble complement taupe subway tile in a kitchen. Clean lines and the interplay between fine textures and color create a sophisticated and functional living environment.

Jennifer Wagner Schmidt

After an initial career in public relations, Jennifer Wagner Schmidt decided to switch gears and pursue a lifelong passion for interior design. She worked at the Washington Design Center, then founded JWS Interiors in 2006.

Today, Schmidt focuses on creating "timeless, beautiful and practical" residential projects for clients who include politicos, entrepreneurs and business owners. "I translate great design into sophisticated interiors that reflect my clients' lifestyles," she says.

In a city known for its classic aesthetic, Schmidt prides herself on pushing her projects in bolder directions. "Clients call me when they want to get away from traditional style and move to a more transitional or modern feel with cleaner lines," she reveals.

Her public relations background not only prepared the designer to be organized and detail-oriented, but also helped hone her expert communication skills. "I listen first and then implement designs based on my conversations with clients," says Schmidt, who loves getting to know homeowners at the outset of a project. "It's always exciting to start a collaboration and begin researching fantastic pieces that will 'make' a space while ensuring that everything is cohesive."

Schmidt's work has been featured in national publications including *Elle Decor*, *HGTV Magazine*, *Veranda* and *The Washington Post*.

See more projects at HandD.com/JenniferWagnerSchmidt

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LEFT & OPPOSITE, TOP: ALYSSA ROSENHECK; TOP & OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Clockwise from opposite, top: In a sophisticated, modern bedroom, Schmidt combined a gray-velvet Jonathan Adler bed and Schumacher grass-cloth wallpaper. A low sofa and coffee table help emphasize the height and openness of a living space where whites and grays create a serene stage. In a complete overhaul of a client's outdated kitchen, Schmidt incorporated two waterfall-edge islands designed for entertaining family and friends. A modern home office features bold photography, vintage lighting and a burlwood stool sourced through Kravet.

Stephanie Simmons, Allied ASID | Karen Osborne, CID, NCIDQ

Karen Renée Interior Design was founded in 1992 and today encompasses a staff of six, including designers Stephanie Simmons and Karen Osborne. The firm is committed to providing exceptional service, fresh talent and partnership, and to exceeding clients' expectations. "We orchestrate seamless projects to give clients first-rate experiences and extraordinary results," says Osborne, the firm's president.

While Osborne brings more than 25 years' experience in model-home merchandising to her work, Simmons has cultivated an expertise in residential waterfront design. "I am able to work across a wide variety of styles," she notes. "Renovating the historic house I live in has provided me with insight and experience—and working in the Severna Park/Annapolis area for the past seven years has increased my appreciation for coastal design."

The team at Karen Renée Interior Design begins each project by listening. "We learn about the client's lifestyle and aesthetic and how each space will be used," Simmons observes. "Space-planning is one of the first steps, followed by millwork, lighting, furniture selections and palette." Each design is tailored to the client. As Simmons says, "We enjoy seeing a project through from start to finish. The finishing touches make all the difference."

See more projects at HandD.com/SimmonsOsborne

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PHOTOS: DAVID BURROUGHS

When transforming an outmoded 1936 colonial into an Eastern Shore retreat, Simmons created classic interiors with a current vibe. Clockwise from opposite, top: The kitchen combines Lyndon Heath cabinetry, a custom table and Charles Stewart host chairs in a Sanderson fabric. The sun room is distinguished by honed-marble floors, Kravet chairs and Romo drapery. Printed grass cloth from Stroheim graces the powder room. Fixtures from Visual Comfort hang in both the sun room and dining area.

Clockwise from above: Metallic grass cloth from Hartmann & Forbes papers a niche in the master bedroom, framing a custom upholstered bed by Jonathan Wesley. A dining room boasts geometric grass-cloth wallpaper from Thibaut, a Drexel Heritage table, Hickory White chairs and a Currey & Company chandelier. Romo sheers, a wool geometric rug from Masland and furniture from Lexington Home complete an inviting living room with water views.

PHOTOS: GEOFFREY HODGDON

Skip Sroka, ASID, CID

Liz Bausch

For Skip Sroka, the world of interior design transcends the everyday. "I create a sense of place called home," says the designer. "The right home creates the right life for our clients and the people with whom they share it."

Sroka founded his firm in 1987 after studying fine arts and industrial design. A lifelong approach to learning inspires him to keep abreast of new innovations and continue his education through travel. This global perspective has enabled him and his nine-person team to carefully curate each project around the clients' lifestyles. "We act as a gyroscope to balance information and choices, so what we create is tailored to the needs and aspirations of the homeowners," Sroka explains. "Our finished interiors are always in context with their surroundings and look as if they have always been there."

Sroka is adept at finding novel solutions to some of the most vexing design challenges. "Observing things as they are and being able to imagine them in totally different ways in order to improve their function, beauty and relevance—this is part of my toolbox," he remarks. "We create wonderful spaces that recharge our clients."

Sroka is currently president of Design Trust Ltd. and the Phillips Park Architectural Review Board.

See more projects at HandD.com/SkipSroka

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LEFT: GREG POWERS; TOP: HOLGER OBENAUS; OPPOSITE: GEOFFREY

Clockwise from opposite, top: An inviting family room in grays and blues doubles as an out-of-town office in a coastal home. Homeowners gather around a round table to work or dine; a handy file drawer in the stacker bookcase stows unwanted papers out of sight. An interplay of contrasts—light and dark, textured and smooth—defines the perfect bathroom.

PHOTOS: GEOFFREY HODGDON

A grand rotunda (above), embellished with scenes of the Maryland countryside painted on its walls, is marvelous to behold. The perfect spot for the perfect martini, an Art Deco-style bar in a lower-level space (opposite) tells its own story.

LEFT: HOLGER OBENAUS; ABOVE & RIGHT: TIMOTHY BELL

Clockwise from top: A coastal retreat with gray-stained wood ceilings features a curved, bar-height banquette that overlooks the water. A sophisticated guest room with built-in storage and office components proves homeowners can balance work and style. A light-filled kitchen with Sunbrella bar-stool fabric lets the good times roll.

PHOTOS: TIMOTHY BELL

Low-slung seating and a glass-topped cocktail table play up the height of a modern family room (above). A lower-level entry foyer (opposite) sets an elaborate stage for a grand event.

Patrick Sutton

The son of a travel journalist father and fashion model mother, Patrick Sutton grew up traveling around the globe—and his experiences inspired his love of beauty and design. After training as an architect, he founded his eponymous interior design firm in 1994, focusing on luxury residences and signature hospitality projects.

"I treat each project like a story that is unfolding," Sutton explains. "Our mission is to tell that story through design, attention to detail and quality of execution." Not only does he approach his work with a strong design vision, but he also brings technical expertise and seasoned communication skills to the table. "I believe my ability to empathize allows me to understand what my clients are looking for and make their projects about them—not about me," he reflects.

Sutton, who leads a staff of nine, contends that a well-designed home should reflect its owner's personality, and should balance comfort with invention and cleverness. "The best homes feel warm and engaging while also pushing us out of our comfort zones," he observes. Among many recent accolades, Sutton received a 2017 John Russell Pope Award for Interior Design and was named a Hall of Fame interior designer in *Home & Design*'s 2018 Designers' Choice Awards.

See more projects at HandD.com/PatrickSutton

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TOP: GORDON BEALL; LEFT AND OPPOSITE: ROGER DAVIES

Clockwise from opposite, top: Patrick Sutton designed a garden room that was inspired by the orangeries of Europe. The foyer of an urban townhome combines collected objects and organic textures. A romantic dining room graces a wooded country home.

PHOTOS: ROGER DAVIES

Clockwise from top: A neutral, textural palette provides a serene foundation for a complete kitchen redesign. Stone and wood offer a warm backdrop to an eclectic furniture palette in a family gathering space. Rich colors and textures transform an outdated room into a cozy family retreat.

Margery Wedderburn

Margery Wedderburn Interiors creates beautiful spaces in both high-end homes and small commercial settings throughout the Washington, DC, metro area and around the country. Principal Margery Wedderburn launched the fi rm in 2000, after years of working with top area designers. Today, she and her staff of four translate and transform homeowners' thoughts and ideas into timeless, elegant spaces that reflect their sensibilities and personalities.

"We are very open to our clients. We listen from the start, developing deep trust and communication—which are essential to something as intimate as the interior design of a home," Wedderburn observes. "We ask clients to fill out forms, and look at magazine and interior images together and discuss their likes and dislikes. The rest is intuitive."

Creative arts are in Wedderburn's blood: Before receiving a master's degree in interior design, she was a harpist and dancer. She also holds an undergraduate degree in international business—so owning her own company comes naturally.

"A client's home is so personal," she says. "One of its most important aspects is the memories it holds. We are not about telling someone to get rid of everything and start over. For us, success is making sure our clients love the results we have created together."

See more projects at HandD.com/MargeryWedderburn

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PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

Wedderburn designed the living room of the 2017 DC Design House (above and opposite, top left) in airy, French Moderne style with a Niermann Weeks settee and cocktail table at one end and art by David Bell and a custom screen by Wedderburn and Niermann Weeks at the other. A dining room (opposite, top right) was refreshed with a Barbara Barry area rug and a Baker table and chairs. Wedderburn updated a 1940s home (left) in transitional style. A cocktail table with aqua accessories (opposite, bottom) conveys warmth and elegance.

Celia Welch

Celia Welch's full-service interior design firm is founded on the belief that when design is grounded in simplicity it leads to ease of living. Known for designing homes that reach out and welcome us in, Welch achieves this feeling through interiors that capture quiet warmth balanced by breezy formality.

With equal emphasis on high-end service and devotion to detail, Celia Welch Interiors offers clients an exquisite level of care and attention. Integral to the design process for Welch and her team is a creative and honest collaboration with clients. This leads to a discovery of tastes, preferences and passions. "In every project, I strive to create a home where my clients show up everywhere, and in every gesture," says the designer. "With the results come the rewards: living in spaces that reflect them and meet their singular needs."

The firm was launched in 1997 and Welch has been included in *Washingtonian*'s list of Top 20 interior designers. Her projects have been featured in publications such as *The Washington Post*, *Luxe* and *Home & Design*.

With a chic and sophisticated point of view that is expressed through calming simplicity, Celia Welch pursues the design of interiors that say to us, "Come sit and enjoy—come use this space."

See more projects at HandD.com/CeliaWelch

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PHOTOS: ANGIE SECKINGER

Punctuated by a mix of textures, a serene bedroom (above) is both warm and comfortable. Neutral fabrics and clean-lined furniture enhance the simplicity of a light-filled living room (opposite, top). Welch designed a unique pattern for the tile backsplash, adding character to a streamlined kitchen (opposite, bottom).

Landscape Design

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE I DESIGN

An elaborate backyard by Surrounds Landscape Architecture + Construction (opposite) maximizes a narrow space with stone walls, fireplace, grill and bar; photo by Bob Narod. In a scenic riverfront project by Campion Hruby Landscape Architects (above), native grasses surround an outdoor sculpture and a fire element; photo by David Burroughs.

Kevin Campion, ASLA | Bob Hruby, ASLA

Founded in 2010, Campion Hruby is a family of passionate landscape architects rooted in the natural and cultural beauty of the Chesapeake Bay. "CHLA works in urban and rural areas on both private and public commissions," says Kevin Campion. "We use modern, sustainable methods to amplify the unique character of each landscape, to forge a meaningful connection between people and nature."

A team of 17 associates, designers and administrative staff works together to create exceptional designs in a collaborative process. "We find bold and imaginative solutions to complex landscape problems," notes Bob Hruby. "A good design demands a great team, from owner to architect to craftsman. We value relationships and respect the commitment of everyone involved."

Campion Hruby believes that a great garden reflects the lives of those who live in and care for it. "A garden is a declaration of style and art, an acknowledgment of time and place," Campion observes. "It is a statement of environmental understanding and an act of stewardship. A great garden should change you in the moment, improve your general well-being and enhance the quality of your days."

Campion Hruby received three awards from the American Society of Landscape Architects during 2017.

See more projects at HandD.com/CampionHruby

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PHOTOS: DAVID BURROUGHS

Clockwise from opposite, top: Site matters, as exemplified by the way the warmth of materials—including stone, steel, fire and grasses—creates mood during a quiet summer evening on the Magothy River. Architecture matters, as in a Northwest DC abode where the house, garden and pool are inextricably linked to create perfect harmony. Detail matters, as shown by three stainless-steel scuppers in a stacked-slate wall, which provide delicate, appealing sound in a modern Bethesda garden.

Howard Cohen, PLA | Chad Talton, PLA

Barry Schneider and landscape architect Howard Cohen founded Surrounds Landscape Architecture + Construction in 2002 with the mission to develop and nurture environments that positively change the way their clients live and experience the outdoors. In 2006, landscape architect Chad Talton joined the firm.

Today, Surrounds is a unique company comprised not only of landscape architects but also of skilled craftsmen such as stone masons and carpenters. "We collaborate as a team to create award-winning projects while seeking creative solutions to meet every budget," says Cohen. "Our designs are inspired by the personal style of the homeowner, making each project unique while complementing the character of the home and surrounding landscape."

With more than 50 years combined of design/build experience, the principals of Surrounds bring a high degree of professionalism and expertise to each job. "All of our projects are evaluated and studied by the entire Surrounds team to ensure that we deliver an outstanding experience for our customers," says Talton. Recent projects have created one-of-a-kind outdoor amenities, from a thatch-roofed tiki hut to an arbor with a massive stone fireplace.

Since 2002, Surrounds has won numerous local and national Grand awards from the Landscape Contractors Association.

See more projects at HandD.com/CohenTalton

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TOP & OPPOSITE: MORGAN HOWARTH; LEFT: BOB NAROD

Clockwise from opposite, top: A French Country-inspired pool scape boasts a travertine patio, custom pool house and lush plants. A Craftsman-style pool house features a stone fireplace and cedar beams adjacent to an expansive pool deck and a custom granite water feature. A free-form pool and raised spa boast spillways clad in mosaic tile and flanked by raised beam walls. A narrow backyard maximizes its space with stone walls, a fireplace, a grill and a bar.

Jeff Gunther | Lance Gunther

With artists and a master carpenter in the family, Jeff Gunther and his son Lance know how to appreciate good design. "I was blessed with creative genes and I dream in three dimensions," reflects Lance. Father and son are outdoorsmen and share an affinity for what they call nature's "uncontrived beauty." Jeff Gunther founded Great Falls Landscapes in 1985 and Lance joined the company in 2012.

Today as principals of the company, they focus on designing and building outdoor spaces that are architecturally compatible with their clients' homes. "We place an emphasis on scale, proportion and properly identifying and improving positive spaces with functional considerations," says Jeff. "Our hardscapes with enhancement plantings are investments that inarguably increase a home's value."

Both Jeff and Lance Gunther take pride in listening to clients so they can make their vision a reality. On every project, they carefully consider the architectural style, sunlight exposures and materials that seamlessly complement the house, and spaces that will encourage clients to relax. "When my clients tell me the reason their house sold so quickly is because of my work," says Jeff, "that invariably is the most rewarding compliment."

See more projects at HandD.com/JeffGunther

Great Falls Landscapes
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Clockwise from opposite, left: a fire pit and water feature grace a flagstone patio; a flagstone walkway is flanked by boxwoods and tree-form hydrangea; a terrace boasts a stone fireplace and colonnade; a custom pergola shelters a dining area on a flagstone patio with a custom fireplace; rustic stone walls envelop a patio.

Donald Gwiz

The principals of Lewis Aquatech understand that people live and work in fast-paced environments and need a place to get away from it all. "We provide a space for our clients to relax and truly enjoy an intimate getaway in their own backyards," says company director Donald Gwiz. The firm specializes in high-end landscape projects that often focus on dramatic water features—from streams and waterfalls that mimic nature to elaborate pools, fountains and spas.

The most important factor is fostering an open dialog between designer and client. "A lot of clients have an idea of what they want, but don't know how to express it," observes Gwiz. "Open communication allows a client's thoughts to develop. Their personality and intentions should be reflected in their outdoor space."

Recently, Lewis Aquatech designed a 10-acre landscape with six fountains, a 60-foot reflection pool, a custom koi pond, a woodland stream and more. The project exemplified the attention to detail that Gwiz attributes to a truly successful project.

"This is what separates a good design from an exceptional design," he explains. "The flow of a space, the hand-selected natural materials, the location of joints, the proper plantings—it all creates an unforgettable environment."

See more projects at HandD.com/DonaldGwiz

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In a private woodland garden (these pages), many of the original plantings were preserved and new elements added. Lewis Aquatech installed a picturesque stream that runs throughout the property and conveys a peaceful sensibility.

A secluded poolside hardscape offers plenty of space for entertaining.

An expansive backyard (opposite) offers areas for entertaining on different levels. A sleek, modern pergola creates a shaded poolside retreat (right). A backyard oasis (above) integrates an elevated spa and a waterfall.

Reflecting the classical design of the client's main residence, an open-air pavilion houses a custom-designed, wood-burning fireplace and a built-in entertainment system. The pool deck consists of natural Tuscan travertine set in a French pattern.

Joel Hafner | Judith Petersen | Bernie Mihm

Fine Earth Landscape was founded more than 40 years ago and today employs 60 year-round staff members. "All three of our senior designers chose the landscape-design profession because we were inspired by our love of plants and our desire to help our clients enjoy their own 'great outdoors,'" says founder Bernie Mihm. Company president Joel Hafner adds, "We all know that we have achieved clients' design goals when they are absolutely thrilled with the results."

The senior designers at Fine Earth are Joel Hafner, who has mastered the ability to design and manage large, complicated hardscape projects; Judith Petersen, who combines a garden design background developed in England with more than 40 years of experience; and Bernie Mihm, who has catered to thousands of clients with a wide range of tastes and budgets over the past 40 years. Mihm reflects, "We all believe that our biggest strengths are our dependability and our commitment to customer service."

In 2017, Fine Earth Landscape was the recipient of three National Grand Awards, as well as eight regional awards. These were added to the more than 150 awards the company has received over the past 40 years.

See more projects at HandD.com/HafnerPetersenMihm

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LEFT, TOP AND OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: HILARY SCHWAB; OPPOSITE, TOP: ANGIE SECKINGER

A Bethesda project (opposite, top and bottom) includes an inviting entryway and resort-like pool. Another Bethesda project (above) features a swimming pool with a swim-up bar, an outdoor kitchen shaded by a retractable-top pergola and a stone fireplace; both projects won national Grand awards. The Vice President's Family Heritage Garden (left) boasts an entrance framed by an Azek arbor, a delightful fountain and an irregular flagstone patio interplanted with mazus ground cover.

Jennifer Horn, RLA

Reuben Herrera » Mike Molkenthin » Elisabeth Doughty

"More and more, people are tapping into the potential of their garden spaces," observes Jennifer Horn. "People recognize that a garden is not just something to view from within the house, but it is an extension of the house—both in style and use."

Horn, who launched her firm in 2009, toggles between modern and traditional, taking cues from the architecture of the home as well as the client's lifestyle. "Clients are interested in maximizing the time they can spend in a garden and as a result, elements like fireplaces, fire pits, spas and outdoor kitchens are routinely part of our designs," she explains.

Each project begins with a dialog between designer and client. "There are countless small details to consider when beginning a project," Horn observes. "Finding a client's style can be easy, but incorporating that into their daily life can require more problem-solving."

Ultimately, she prefers her projects "not to look overdesigned. I'm not so sure good design is created so much as discovered, or uncovered. If the garden looks like it was inevitable, then we have done a good job."

Washingtonian named Horn a "Woman to Watch" in its 2017 Powerful Women issue.

See more projects at HandD.com/JenniferHorn

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THIS PAGE: ANICE HOACHLANDER; OPPOSITE PAGE: ALLEN RUSS

Clockwise from opposite, top: In a modern Rehoboth Beach garden, brick walls conceal a pool courtyard and further define the modern lines of the house. A raised plant bed and water rill organize a small Kalorama garden, keeping blooms out of reach of an enthusiastic pup. A home abutting the St. Marys River boasts a meadow of wildflowers that attracts birds and butterflies. A narrow lap pool doubles as a water element in this Wesley Heights home.

Clockwise from above: A terrace of reclaimed flagstone decorated with purple mazus surrounds a pool and pool house in St. Mary's. A focal point of a Kalorama garden is the fountain, planted at its base with evergreen herbs like lamb's ear and rosemary for year-round interest. Ground cover softens a reclaimed-flagstone garden path. A small bubbler and shade garden (right) are established at the edge of a woodland in this Bethesda home.

THIS PAGE TOP AND OPPOSITE: ALLEN RUSS

Josh Kane | Alan Blalack, RLA

Josh Kane began maintaining lawns at age 14 and launched Kane Landscapes in 1991. Today, he spearheads a 43-member team. They provide both landscape design/build services and detailed landscape maintenance. "We work with each site to understand how the owners will use it, and what will make a beautiful landscape for years to come," Kane says. "Our landscape designs are based on a thorough knowledge of which plants grow best in certain areas, how they mature over time and how much maintenance they'll require."

According to Kane, a well-designed and correctly installed landscape incorporates all the elements that make a home a sanctuary. "We create environments that homeowners look forward to coming home to," he explains. "We listen carefully to our clients' likes and dislikes and ensure that the landscape becomes as important a part the property as the house itself."

Kane Landscapes won *Northern Virginia Magazine's* award for best contractor in both 2017 and 2018, and received awards during 2017 and 2016 from *Virginia Living* and the Landscape Contractors Association. The company's goal is to build long-term, collaborative relationships with clients. Says Kane, "We want to be the one-source provider for all our clients' landscape needs."

See more projects at HandD.com/KaneBlalack

Kane Landscapes, Inc.
Potomac Falls, VA 20165 » 703-803-3146
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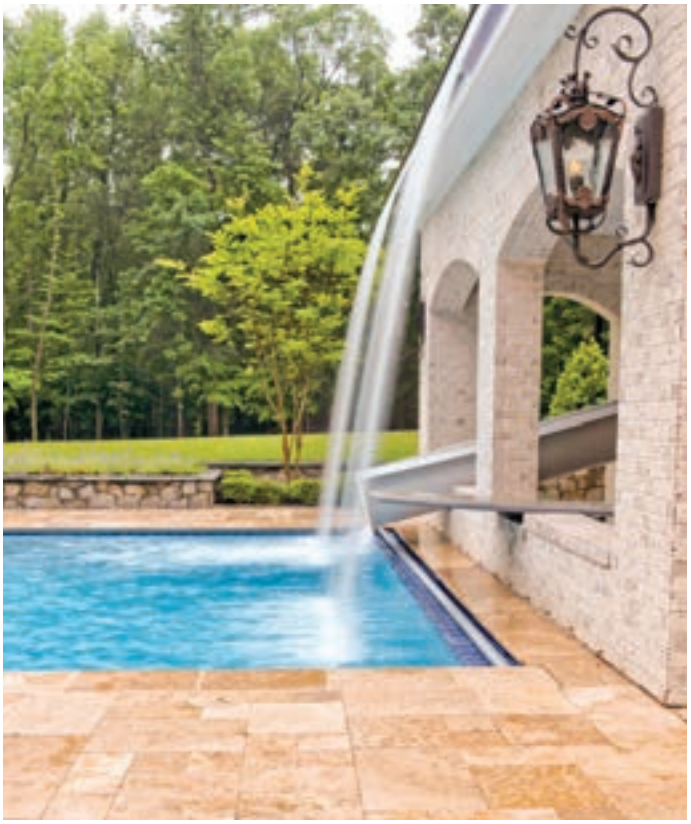

PHOTOS: BRIAN NEMIROFF

Clockwise from opposite, top: A bird's eye view of a property reveals a three-level indoor/outdoor living area and kitchen, a large pool with a fountain and jumping board and a fire pit; Crema Eda marble and Hartstone slabs enhance an extensive patio; lush, colorful plantings embellish a timber pergola; and a pool house accommodates a slide and diving board—both cleverly de-emphasized by seven-foot-wide water weirs that create a visual barrier and soothing waterfall sounds.

Kevin McHale | Stephen McHale, RLA

Since 1981, brothers Kevin and Stephen McHale have designed, constructed and planted residential gardens throughout the mid-Atlantic region. Their versatile design-build firm—which encompasses landscaping, masonry, carpentry and maintenance divisions—constructs pool houses, cabanas and outdoor living spaces.

McHale Landscape Design, Inc., combines landscape architecture, horticulture knowledge and field experience, using a team-management approach throughout the design-build process. "Our strength is our ability to be the single source for the client," says Kevin McHale. "Our diverse staff works together to meet the clients' expectations and budget."

McHale's process includes the client as an important part of the team. "Our approach is collaborative" explains Steve McHale. "We listen to clients' needs and dreams, then transform them into functional and beautiful outdoor gardens and living spaces."

McHale Landscape Design, Inc., has received more than 300 Landscape Contractors Association (LCA) Excellence in Landscape Awards, 30 National Environmental Improvement Awards and four American Horticultural Society Awards. "Our focus is simple," says Kevin McHale: "To be the single source for a residential design/build project from inception to aftercare. McHale clients are clients for life."

See more projects at HandD.com/McHaleLandscapeDesign

McHale Landscape Design, Inc.
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PHOTOS: JOHN SPAULDING

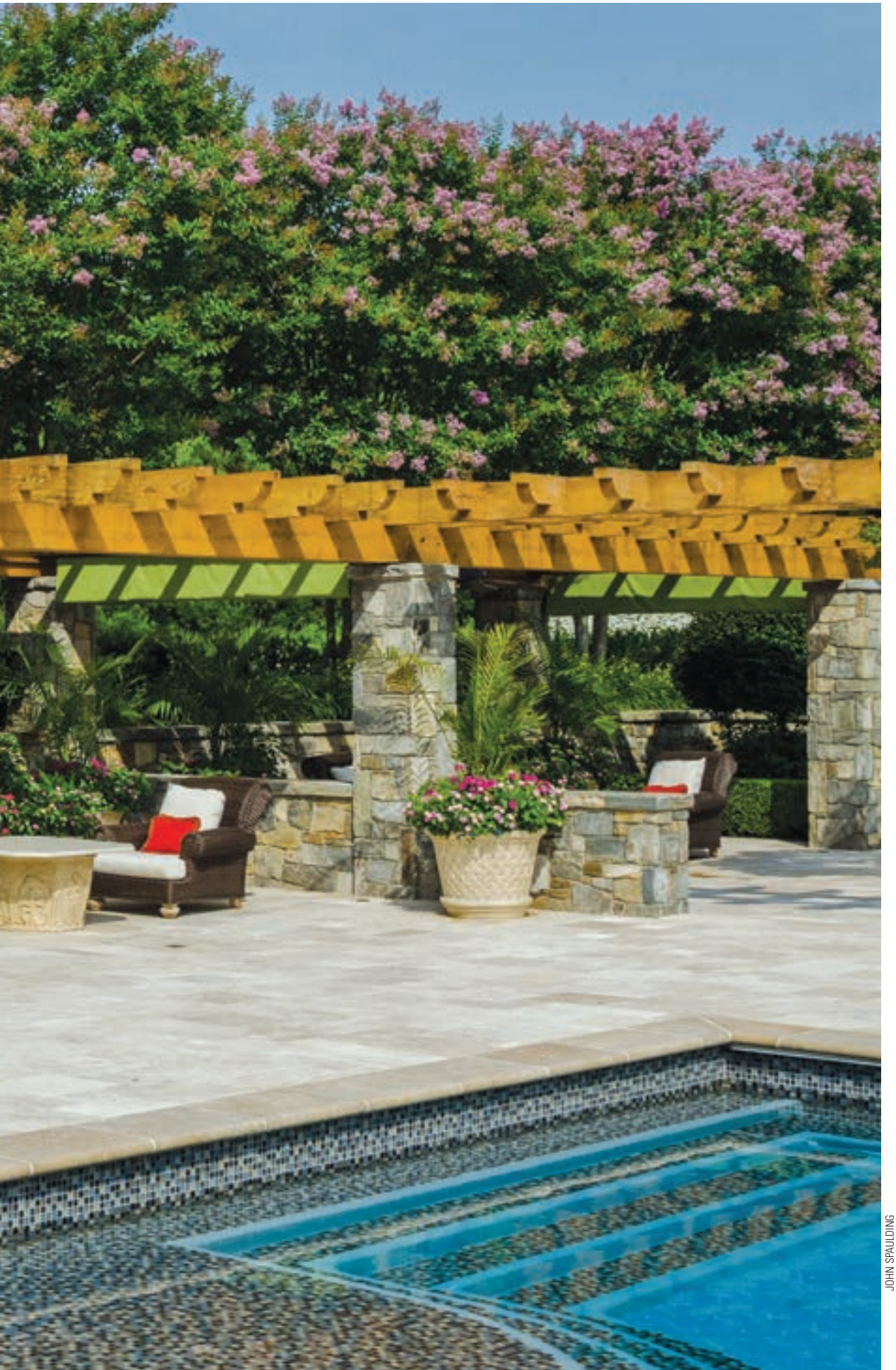
McHale created a grand but welcoming landscape for a home in Vienna, Virginia, pictured on these and the following pages. Clockwise from opposite, top: Beautifully layered plantings embrace the home's arrival court; nestled under a canopy of flowering crape myrtles, stone piers bookend a storage niche that holds wood for the fire pit; the balcony off the master suite offers a bird's eye view of the pool below; and columns clad in stone veneer flank a custom cedar entry gate leading to the backyard.

Clockwise from above: Colorful plantings soften the lines of a manicured boxwood hedge that borders a stone wall; perennials abound in the beds that rim an expansive lawn, offering seasonal contrast by the stone fire pit; spectacular potted annuals enliven the masonry patio with splashes of bright, bold color; and a cedar pergola with retractable shade screens provides a comfortable refuge from the hot summer sun.

PHOTOS: JOHN SPAULDING

PHOTOS: JOHN SPAULDING

Stone columns support a cedar pergola that shelters the spa (top); masonry stairs (above) extend from a stone retaining wall, providing a clean transition to a play area buffered by a crape-myrtle canopy. The loggia (right) adds another dimension to the outdoor-living space, with multiple areas for gathering, plus a fireplace and electric heaters recessed in the ceiling.



An extensive pergola frames the travertine pool deck, while large-scale planters add color and complement the blooming crape myrtles above.

JOHN SPAULDING

Charles Owen

Projects by Fine Landscapes reflect the client's aesthetic vision and complement the architecture of their homes. Founded in 1978, the firm employs 45 people and boasts a portfolio that represents a wide range of projects, from simple gardens to complex design/build installations.

As a child growing up in Paris and Madrid, principal Charles Owen cultivated an appreciation for European-influenced design that he brings to the landscapes he creates. He and his team study plant species to bring innovation and diversity to their work, and provide the essential factors to a properly designed landscape: balance and transitions between indoor and outdoor spaces.

Fine Landscapes has completed numerous high-profile projects in the mid-Atlantic region and abroad. The firm's expertise encompasses all facets of a project, including site design and planning, horticulture, hardscape, outdoor illumination, water works and pavilion design. "In many cases," Owen notes, " we are called on prior to construction to help site a house and its amenities, then lay out the overall design of the terrain."

Over the years, Fine Landscapes has received numerous industry awards. However, says Owen, "the greatest reward is the support of clients and their recommendations."

See more projects at HandD.com/CharlesOwen

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PHOTOS: FINE LANDSCAPES, LTD.

An aerial view of a private residence in Oakton, Virginia (above), showcases a free-form pool with an infinity edge and a timber pergola. A heavy timber pool pavilion (opposite, top) provides a focal point at the end of a pool. A boxwood parterre garden with Italian Cypress and a formal lawn give way to a fountain (opposite, bottom).

Clockwise from above: A koi pond and water wheel adorn a landscape with a pavilion and an infinity-edge pool. An extensive pool scape features pool, terraces, pavilion and fire pit. A pavilion boasts a full kitchen complete with an elaborate grill below a hammered-metal hood. A rain curtain cascades from a pergola into the spa below.

PHOTOS: FINE LANDSCAPES, LTD.

J.R. Peter, RLA

From an early age, J.R. Peter had an affinity for building things. While studying at Virginia Tech, he decided to combine a longtime passion for the outdoors with the field of landscape design. Today, as one of the principals of Colao & Peter Outdoor Environments, he says, "I have the ability to transform my clients' properties into something more functional and beautiful, bringing joy to their everyday lives."

Peter and his colleagues handle a wide array of projects, including landscape design and installation, pool construction, carpentry and masonry. In 2007, Peter joined forces with Colao Stone to bring high-end design and Old World-quality masonry work under one roof.

On every project, Peter listens to clients to understand their vision and solve problems while keeping the channels of communication open throughout the design and installation process. "Collaborating with clients on how they will use a space in all seasons and in the coming years is the most important first step," says the designer, who utilizes the latest technology. "Every project starts with a 3-D design, so clients can fully visualize the space prior to breaking ground.

"I believe it is important to work hand in hand with our clients," he continues. "I see myself as their conduit into making their vision turn out a reality."

See more projects at HandD.com/JRPeter

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sales@colaostone.com » colaostone.com

TOP AND OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: FRANÇOIS VERHOEVEN

Clockwise from opposite, top: A pool in Washington, DC, features a stone wall and three custom scuppers, softened by an elegant hydrangea backdrop. A natural stone retaining wall with ground cover creates a subtle but classic feature near a McLean driveway. The planting and stone design for a riverfront estate in Alexandria adds understated elegance to the property. A serpentine, infinity-edge pool in Aldie, Virginia, brings drama and beauty to an outdoor environment.

Clockwise from top: A serene sitting area in Great Falls is enhanced by a dazzling flower palette. A travertine terrace complete with a fire pit at the edge of a waterfall offers a relaxing destination in Loudoun, Virginia. A Great Falls pool was rehabbed to create a classic and intimate space using custom imported stone, water features and elegant plant material. Simplicity in design allows for the beauty of nature to shine through in a property on the Potomac.

Michael Prokopchak, ASLA

During high school, Michael Prokopchak took drafting classes and worked at a plant nursery. He became inspired when he discovered he could combine his love of plants and design within the field of landscape architecture, and launched Walnut Hill Landscape Company in 2006.

"We view landscape design and construction as both an art and a science," Prokopchak says. "Every great landscape begins with a vision, but it also comes with challenges. We view each challenge as a guide to the optimal design; just as no two people are the same, we believe no two landscapes should be identical."

Walnut Hill Landscape Company provides exceptional value by delivering unparalleled craftsmanship and service in the creation of custom landscapes designed to fit the clients' individual needs and tastes. Prokopchak and his team offer a strong understanding of landscape architecture, construction and horticulture that allows them to create timeless outdoor spaces that function for both the homeowner and the environment. During 2017, the firm received two Grand awards and one Judge's Choice award from the National Association of Landscape Professionals, as well as two Grand awards from the Landscape Contractors Association of Maryland, DC and Virginia.

See more projects at HandD.com/MichaelProkopchak

Walnut Hill Landscape Company
Locations in Annapolis, MD, 410-349-3105 and Easton, MD, 410-690-0977
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PHOTOS: MICHAEL PROKOPCHAK

Clockwise from opposite, top: Statuary framed by hydrangea and Sweetbay magnolia lend a sense of timelessness to a garden. A bright and tranquil seating area borders a raised pool with an infinity edge that visually connects the property to the river beyond. The commanding entry of a waterfront home is softened by lush plantings and delicately lit on a summer evening. A raised terrace is perfect for sunbathing, framed in swatches of fountain grasses.