

YOUR BUSINESS

Referral sales basics

YOUR CLIENTS

Predatory remodelers

YOUR TEAM

On-staff parts runner

YOUR PROJECTS

Door installation tips

remodeling

YOUR TOOLBOX FOR SUCCESS

Design Awards

The best remodeling projects of the year



remodeling Design Awards

For the five judges—architects, remodelers, and a consumer shelter magazine editor—poring over the 257 binders sent in by industry professionals from across the U.S. and Canada for the 2013 Remodeling Design Awards, “restraint” was the word of the day. The judges applauded projects that were “edited” in such a way as to make a statement—not too many elements competing for attention. What held their attention were spaces that bridged old and new, traditional, transitional, and modern. The judges also looked at livability: were the projects something that today’s homeowners or business owners would want to live in or work in? And, as always, presentation was important. Clear, attractive entry binders that really showed off the projects trumped those that didn’t present as effectively.

Work that “mixes too many styles, [making] the project look amateurish,” failed to move forward during the process. And, in the kitchen category in particular, several judges felt that many designs were “poorly laid out for use” or used “the same style: white, flat front ... with too much crown molding.”

The Judges

Tom Glass

Glass Construction,
Washington, D.C.

Karman Hotchkiss

Meredith Corp.,
Des Moines, Iowa

Charles Moore

Moore Architects,
Alexandria, Va.

John Rusk

Rusk Renovations,
New York

Jane Treacy

Treacy & Eagleburger,
Washington, D.C.

The Awards

Entries are organized into 12 categories, with an additional 45 subcategories based on price.

Judges are not required to award a winner in each category and have leeway in determining which projects show the highest degree of design expertise and craftsmanship.

Our judges selected 21 projects for distinction: one Best of the Year, 8 Grand Awards, and 12 Merit Awards. The whole-house category had the strongest competition with 48 entries. Other hotly contended categories: kitchen (39), bath (37), and historically sensitive renovation (25).

GREEN REMODELING OVER \$250,000

Sustainable History

PRIORITIES

- Renovate and build a sustainable addition
- Earn LEED certification

SOLUTIONS

The addition to this 100-year-old home connects the garage to the main building, houses a new mudroom and breakfast area, and adds space to the kitchen and upper master suite. The team took great care to preserve historical finishes and details. Green features include high-efficiency water fixtures, low-VOC finishes, and rainwater collection.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The judges praised the design of the home's exterior and the "crisp and clean" custom details throughout.

Architects: Treffle LaFleche & Andrew Hinterman, LDa Architecture & Interiors, Cambridge, Mass.
Contractor: Jeff Birnbaum, Pioneer Construction, Wellesley Hills, Mass.



HISTORICALLY SENSITIVE RENOVATION OVER \$300,000

Splendor Restored

PRIORITIES

- Redesign a 1924 Mediterranean revival house into a duplex with modern amenities
- Include additions that blend well with the building's historical character

SOLUTIONS

Crumbling from years of neglect and water infiltration, this house was purchased with the intent to create a lower-story apartment with a traditional aesthetic for the parents and a more modern, open upper-story apartment for the daughter, son-in-law, and granddaughter.

The designers repurposed the lower-level existing garages into bedrooms and designed three additions to create space for a mudroom, breakfast room, study, and rear porch. With a host of sustainable features, LEED Gold certification is pending.

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The judges called this remodel a "beautifully done project [with] great architectural details."



Architects: David Heide & Mark Nelson, David Heide Design Studio, Minneapolis
Contractor: David Heide Design Studio