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INNOVATION IN DESIGN AWARDS

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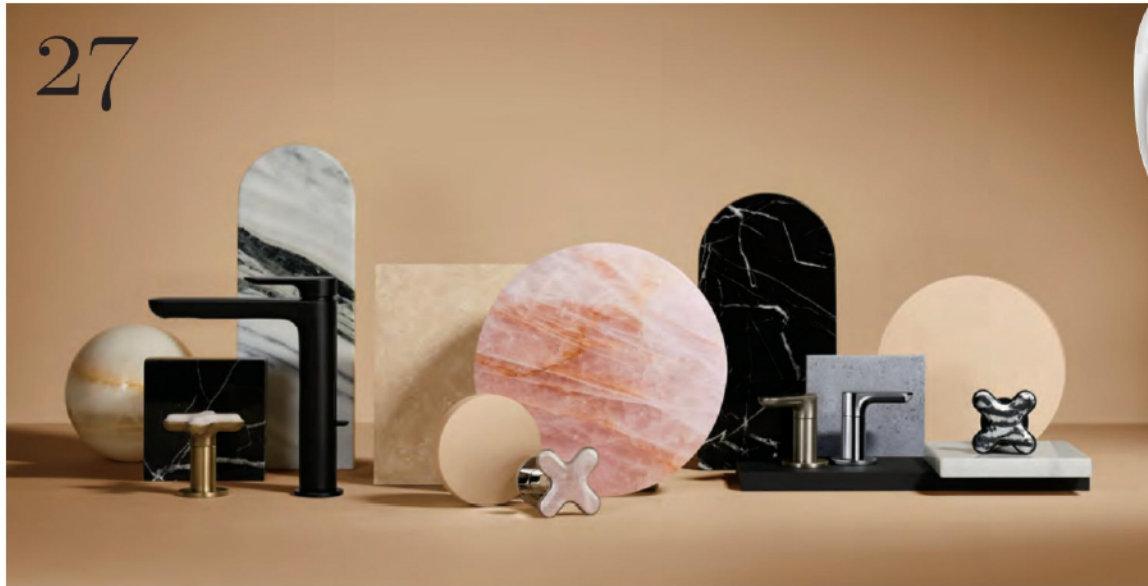
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*From "Architecture Winner"
page 70. Photograph by Nicole Franzen*

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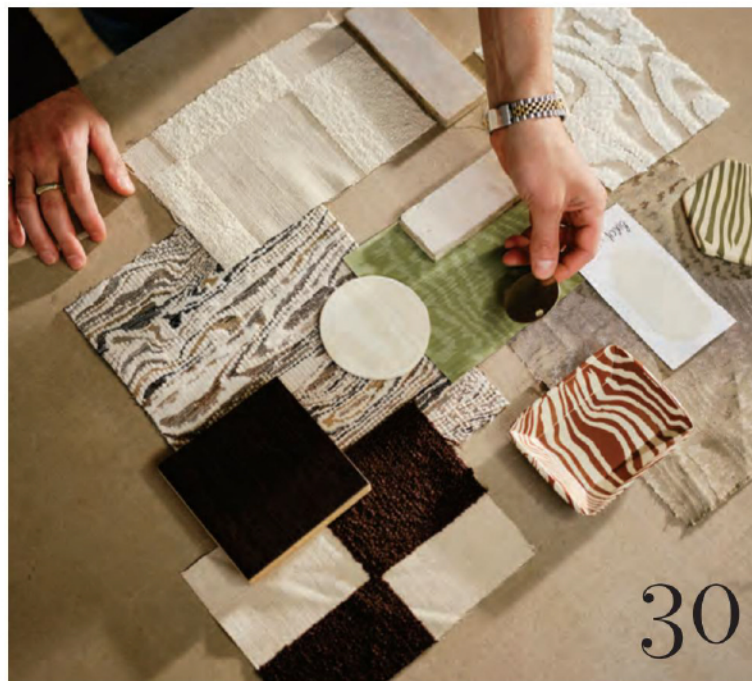
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CTC&G asked the IDA judges for their insights on this year's winners

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TOP LEFT: COURTESY OF KALLISTA; MIDDLE: AERIAL360 SOLUTIONS; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF HARLEQUIN X HENRY HOLLAND

The Best CT Design

WELCOME TO THE 17TH *CTC&G* Innovation in Design Awards (IDAs) issue. The IDAs were created to celebrate the breadth of great work of design professionals in our state, and we have published more than 350 projects, launched many careers and discovered many innovative products. ■ Each year, reviewing all the entries is always a bit surprising. Often you see projects from designers you don't know or something different from someone you do know. I always hope for a huge number of entries, but honestly, I prefer quality over quantity. This year, I was amazed by some of the entries, and that always makes the process exciting. ■ As you all know, the IDAs are judged by professionals. I have always felt that it is more meaningful to be judged by your peers. This year I would like to thank architect Job Moore; interior designers Jamie Drake, Wesley Moon and Matthew Patrick Smyth; garden designer Wambui Ippolito; and kitchen designer Sarah Robertson. Opinions this year varied greatly and lots of discussion followed. These are the moments I wish I could share, since often these designers see what I don't! Our product category judging was just as chatty as local interior designers discussed the merits of using a product. Again, it was a memorable and useful conversation for an editor to hear. My thanks go to Lis Arcos, Karen Bow, Meghan De Maria, William Lyon, Elena Phillips and Liz Slutzky. Thank you all for being such an important part of the IDAs. ■ This year, the recipient of the *CTC&G* 2024 Innovator Award is the person writing this letter! I am beyond thrilled to join the list of past Innovators and am truly honored. While I am not a designer, architect or landscape designer or builder, I am an editor who creates inspiration and awareness of the design industry in our state. I like to think that I was the first editor to create a magazine with a sophisticated design focus for Connecticut. I am proud of the work I have accomplished with my team and with all of you. Thank you so much for this honor.



DJ Carey

DJ CAREY
 Editorial Director
 djcarey@candg.com



And The IDA Goes To... The annual Innovation in Design Awards celebrate top design in Connecticut with top three winners in each category receiving acrylic Plexi-Craft trophies.



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LETTER FROM THE CEO

A Year of Design

THE YEAR 2024 HAS BEEN A STELLAR one in design, with *CTC&G* showcasing a plethora of exciting projects and innovations. A standout moment was the transformative “203 Project” at the Darien Community Association. Here, a group of 18 designers—plus numerous sponsors—revitalized the historic building, marrying modern aesthetics with its storied past. This year also featured the launch of Thom Filicia’s exquisite designs for Accurate Lock & Hardware, marking another high point in contemporary design. ■ The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the Innovation in Design Awards (IDAs) held in Greenwich. This prestigious event celebrated the best in design, where winners received their trophies and accolades for their visionary contributions. Following the awards—and timed for the day that the December issue reaches Connecticut—a special winners’ circle luncheon will be hosted at Valbella by Waterware. In the past, this gathering has been particularly memorable as it’s the first time all winners meet and see the published issue featuring their work. Winners eagerly peruse the magazine, delighted to see their projects and stories come to life in print. ■ It is only fitting that we conclude the year with extensive coverage of the



2024 Innovation in Design Awards, presented by Design Within Reach. This issue not only highlights the outstanding achievements in our field, but also sets the stage for the innovative paths we will explore in the future.



MARIANNE HOWATSON
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Design Icons The 2024 Innovator Award went to C&G Media Group Editorial Director DJ Carey, shown here with Christopher Peacock.

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IDA Winners

CTC&G is proud to present the winners of our 17th Innovation in Design Awards. These individuals embody the future of design in each of their fields.



ANDREW BARTOLOTTA
STUDIO BARTOLOTTA
ARCHITECTURE
SMALL SPACE DESIGN



BRIAN HYLA
APEX PROJECTS
BUILDER RECOGNITION



ALICIA ORRICK
ORRICK & COMPANY
INTERIOR DESIGN



WESLEY STOUT
WESLEY STOUT ASSOCIATES
GARDEN DESIGN



STEWART SKOLNICK
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KITCHEN DESIGN



KAREN BOW
KAREN BOW INTERIORS
BATH DESIGN



DOUGLAS GRANETO
DOUGLAS GRANETO DESIGN
PRODUCT DESIGN



GARDEN DESIGN

Wesley Stout Associates, Photograph by Neil Landino, Jr.



KITCHEN DESIGN

Haver & Skolnik Architects, Photograph by Robert Benson



INTERIOR DESIGN

Orrick & Company, Photograph by Ellen McDermott



BATH DESIGN

Karen Bow Interiors, Photograph by Amy Vischio



SMALL SPACE DESIGN

Studio Bartolotta, Photograph by Andrew Bartolotta



ARCHITECTURE

Studio Bartolotta, Photograph by Nicole Franzen



BUILDER RECOGNITION

Apex Projects, Photograph by Nicole Franzen

2024 WINNERS

This past October, *CTC&G* presented its 17th Innovation in Design Awards honoring outstanding projects in the categories of **garden, kitchen, interior, bath and small space design**, plus **architecture** and a special shout-out to **builders**. Our panel of judges — garden designer Wambui Ippolito; kitchen designer Sarah Robertson; interior designers Jamie Drake, Wesley Moon and Matthew Patrick Smyth; and architect Joeb Moore — pored over stacks of entries to select the best of the best in Connecticut. Read on for who took the top three spots in each category.

TEXT BY **DAVID MASELLO**

IDAAs

INNOVATION IN DESIGN AWARDS

↳ To see more, visit cgidas.com.

SMALL SPACE DESIGN



For more information, see Resources.



winner
**STUDIO
BARTOLOTTA**

When walking into this residential, restaurant-quality kitchen, visitors find something that looks akin to a surfaced submarine, complete with windowed portholes and a riveted steel exterior. What proudly takes its place in this room is a circular two-story, metal-armored wine silo able to hold 2,000-plus bottles. Upon entering through a fortified, arched doorway, you encounter an 18-foot-high space ringed by a curved steel and bronze wine rack. A custom ladder rotates around the space on a bronze ring track, mortised into a vertical grain, industrial wood block floor. When accessing the upper bottles, a three-bottle funicular-like mechanism allows for bottles at the top to be safely brought down mechanically. Meanwhile, a curved staircase on the outside circles the silo's top for a view to the inside, which also includes a sommelier tasting space. Affixed to one end of the structure is a four-bottle wine dispenser and storage for wine accessories. Here, at once, is a whimsical, yet practical architectural element within the architectural envelope of a private home.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY NICOLE FRANZEN (FAR LEFT),
ALL OTHERS BY ANDREW BARTOLOTTA





ARCHITECTURE



winner
**STUDIO
BARTOLOTTA**
PHOTOGRAPHY BY NICOLE FRANZEN

For more information, see Resources.



ARCHITECTURE

winner STUDIO BARTOLOTTA

The repurposing of former industrial buildings into residences is not a new phenomenon. But the building of a new house that assumes the profile of a former factory is a unique design solution, and that is what Studio Bartolotta achieved with this residence in the Canfield Island community. A kind of 19th-century English factory appears on the site, complete with bifurcated 50-foot chimney stacks, open steel trusses, and an interplay of seemingly independent structures that harken to different industrial uses. Inside, though, this is purely a new home that merely references the scale and vigor of an industrial building. For a couple who entertain frequently, the dining room is noted for its full-height bronze windows that are geared to open to views of Long Island Sound. A catwalk edges the living room while a sculptural winding staircase leads from the primary bedroom to a sauna/gym. Charcoal-colored brick, board-form concrete, vertical cedar siding treated in the ancient Japanese method of Shou Sugi Ban work in concert to define a home that appears to be of the past, but which is completely of the present.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY NICOLE FRANZEN





For more information, see Resources.



BUILDER RECOGNITION

winner APEX PROJECTS

Living on an island—in this case, Canfield Island on Long Island Sound—can be magical, but building a house on such a spit of land is a challenge. Brian Hyla, president of Apex Projects, and his teams of subcontractors needed to figure out ways to literally get materials on to Canfield. “The island is linked by a small causeway bridge,” he says, “and when that was rebuilt many years ago after Hurricane Sandy, the resulting bridge was more of a temporary solution than a lasting one.” Given severe weight restrictions on the bridge, for instance, Hyla could only send concrete trucks with half loads; motorized windows that weighed

thousands of pounds each had to be brought piecemeal, or as he did at some points during construction, by barge. And because of the island’s topography, the house rests on a pile foundation, which requires its own engineering wizardry. But the house stands proud now. “We got to work with an incredible owner who had the means and the want to do amazing things. He made this project fun, interesting and cool,” recalls Hyla. “Looking back, it’s one of my all-time favorite projects to have built.”

PHOTOGRAPHY BY NICOLE FRANZEN

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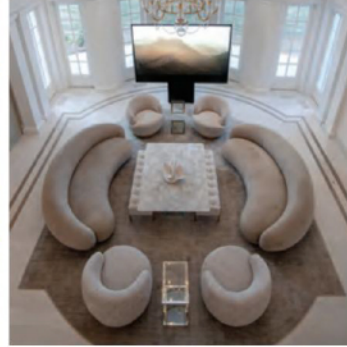
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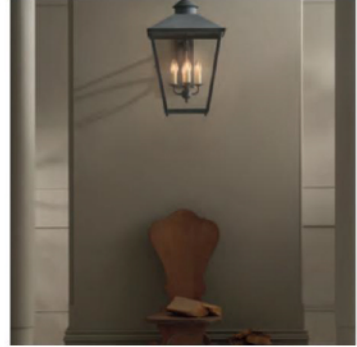
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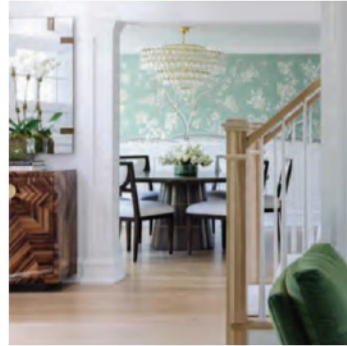
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Small Space Design



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HERE'S WHERE TO FIND THE DESIGN PROFESSIONALS AND PRODUCTS FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE



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KITCHEN DESIGN FINALIST
LAUREN VALLARIO DESIGNS

IDA WINNERS

INNOVATOR

Pages 40–41: DJ Carey, C&G Media Group, cottagesgardens.com.

Pages 44–47: Garden Design WINNER, Wesley Stout Associates, wesleystout.com. **Architect**, Cardello Architects, cardelloarchitects.com. **Builder**, John Desmond Builders, johndesmondbuilders.com. **Interior design/outdoor furniture**, Liotta design, 203-454-7683. **Civil engineer**, Landtech, landtechconsult.com. **Masonry and water feature**, Oceanview Pool

and Patio, oceanviewpoolandpatio.com. **Landscaping**, KDJ Botanica, kdjbotanica.com. **Glass**, Ridgefield Glass, ridgefieldglass.com.

Page 48: Garden Design FINALIST, Brook Clark Landscape Architects, brookclark.com. **Architect**, Doyle Coffin Architecture, doylecoffinarchitecture.com. **Interior design**, Daher Interior Design, daherinteriordesign.com. **Builder**, Pyramid Custom Homes, pyramidcustomhomes.com. **Excavation**, Carroll Construction Corporation, carrollconstructioncorporation.com. **Planting and masonry**, Nyconn

Landscaping & Design, 203-312-0037. **Spool spa/pool**, J. Cipriano & Sons, 203-232-7431. **Fence**, Riverside Fence, riversidefence.net. **Landscape maintenance**, Stone Bridge Associates, stonebridgeassociates.net.

Page 49: Garden Design FINALIST, Rosalia Sanni Design, rosaliasanni.com. **Architect**, Neil Hauck Architects, neilhauckarchitects.com. **Builder**, TC Builders General Contractors, tcbuildersgc.com. **Pool and spa**, Regal Blu Pool & Spa, regalblu.com. **Landscaping services**, ENB Landscaping, 203-617-7959. **Fencing**, J&J Fence Service, 203-975-8864.

Pages 50–53: Kitchen Design WINNER, Haver & Skolnick Architects, haverskolnickarchitects.com. **Contractor**, CDS Contracting, cds-contracting.com. **Engineer**, DeStefano & Chamberlain, dcstructural.com. **Windows**, Tischler Und Sohn. **Appliances**, Sub-Zero, Wolf, and Bosch. **Plumbing fixtures**, Waterworks. **Flooring**, Paris Ceramics. **Furnishings**, Holly Hunt, Paul Ferrante and Grant Trick.

Page 54: Kitchen Design FINALIST, Mark P. Finlay Architects, markfinlay.com. **Builder**, Auburn Landing, auburnlanding.com. **Engineer**, J. Edwards & Associates, jedwardassoc.

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com. **Stylist**, Helen Crowther, helencrowther.com. **Timber Frame**, New Energy Works, newenergyworks.com. **Windows**, Revival Sash, @revivalsash. **Iron balustrades**, Artisans of the Anvil, artisansoftheanvil.com.

Page 55: Kitchen Design FINALIST, Lauren Vallario Designs, laurenvallariodesigns.com. **Lighting**, Visual Comfort and Currey & Company. **Plumbing fixtures**, Kohler, Brizo, Elkay and Native Trails through Waterware Showrooms. **Appliances**, Thermador and Zip Water through Aitoro Appliance. **Stone**, ABC Stone. **Custom cabinetry**, Highland Custom Cabinetry.

Pages 56–59: Interior Design WINNER, Orrick & Company, orrickandcompany.com. **Architect for second floor interior**, Rebecca Sterling, studioste.com. **Barn architect**, Anthony Minichetti, 203-992-1922. **Contractor**, Noble Construction & Management,

nobleconstructionct.com. **Kitchen bar construction**: TD Woodwork, tdugganwoodworking.com. **Mudroom: Rug**, Elizabeth Eakins. **Family room: Rug**, Kebabian's. **Lighting system**, Patdo. **Bar area: Cabinetry**, TD Woodwork. **Cabinet hardware**, Rocky Mountain Hardware through Canaan Distributors Corp. **Dining area: Dining banquette upholstery**, Yardstick Décor. **Kitchen: Cabinetry**, TD Woodwork. **Hardware**, Canaan Distributors. **Stone and tile**, Fordham Marble. **Plumbing and fittings**, Waterworks. **Appliances**, Thermador. **Lighting pendants**, Visual Comfort. **Wine cellar: Construction**, Noble Construction & Management. **Cabinetry**, TD Woodwork.

Page 60: Interior Design FINALIST, Douglas Graneto Design, douglasgraneto.com. **Architect**, Shope Reno Wharton, shoperenowharton.com. **Builder**, Premier Home Builders, phblc.com. **Stone and marble**, Dushi Marble.

Custom stone, Point Rock Surfaces. **Plaster**, L'Artigiano. **Fire screen**, Wiseman Studio. **Furnishings**, Caleb Woodard Furniture, Cannon Bullock, Matthews & Parker, Grzegorz Majka. **Art objects**, Carpenters Workshop Gallery. **Embroidery**, Maison Lesage. **Upholstery**, Classic Upholstery. **Fabric**, Dedar.

Page 61: Interior Design FINALIST, Elizabeth Bolognino Interiors, elizabethbolognino.com. **Architecture**, Brooks & Falotico, brooksandfalotico.com. **Contractor**, Yankee Custom Builders, yankeecustombuilders.com. **Painting**, Shoreline Painting, shorelinepaintingct.com. **Dining room: Chairs**, Essential Home. **Table**, Atra. **Chandelier**, Jeff Zimmerman. **Rug**, Bloomingdale's. **Living room: Bench**, Espasso. **Side tables**, Withers Studio. **Lamps**, Ecart International. **Sofas**, Egg Collective. **Sofa fabric**, Ralph Lauren. **Chairs**, Maison Gerard. **Coffee tables**,

Maria Wettergren Galerie. **Chandelier**, The Urban Electric Company. **Rug**, Jan Kath.

Pages 62–63: Bath Design WINNER, Karen Bow Interiors, karenbow.com. **Contractor**, Evolve Building Group, 646-246-8499. **Wallpaper installation**, Andre Correa, 914-525-3000. **Marble**, Stepping Stones Marble & Granite.

Page 64: Bath Design FINALIST, Deane, deaneinc.com. **Bath designer**, Ingrid Becker, Deane, deaneinc.com. **Interior design**, Meredith Pakman, Saltbox Home Design, saltboxhomedesign.squarespace.com. **Stylist**, Anna Molvik, annamolvik.com. **Paint**, Benjamin Moore.

Page 65: Bath Design FINALIST, Roughan Interiors, roughaninteriors.com. **Contractor**, Silva Contracting, 203-268-1375. **Paint**, Farrow & Ball.

Pages 66–67: Small Space WINNER, Studio Bartolotta, studiobartolotta.archi. **Builder**, Apex Projects, apexpps.com. **Interior design**, Jesse Parris-Lamb, jesseparris-lamb.com. **Lighting design**, Orsman Design, orsmandesign.com. **Custom wine rack and ladder**, Turner Exhibits, turnerexhibits.com. **Architectural millwork/metalwork**, Cottingham Ltd, cottingham.ltd. **Flooring**, Kaswell Flooring Systems. **Fan**, Fanimation. **Finishes**, Ressource. **Wine Server**, Enomatic. **Cabinet Hardware**, Turnstyle.

Page 68: Small Space FINALIST, Beinfield Architecture, beinfield.com. **Construction**, A. Pappajohn Construction, apappajohn.com.

Page 69: Small Space FINALIST, Alisberg Parker Architects, alisbergparker.com. **Architect**, Shaun Gotterbarn of Alisberg Parker Architects, alisbergparker.com. **Interior design**, Jackie Chase of Alisberg Parker Architects, alisbergparker.com. **General contractor**, JefLyn Construction, jeflynconstruction.com. **Structural Engineer**, Sound View Engineers & Land Surveyors, soundviewengineers.com. **Surveyor/civil engineer**, S.E. Minor & Co., seminor.com. **Landscape architect**, Gro Pro Landscaping, groprogardens.com. **Pool installer**, Haggerty Pools, haggertypools.com. **Window curtain wall**, Kolbe, kolbewindows.com. **Millwork**, JJM Building & Woodwork, 203-994-5735. **Living Room: Sofa**, The Tac Room. **Table**, Palecek. **Chair**, Four Hands. **Light**, A. Rudin. **Kitchen: Stools**, McGee & Co. **Pendants**, Visual Comfort. **Bathroom: Sconces**, Regina Andrew. **Wallpaper**, Brook Perdigon Textiles. **Faucet**, Brizo. **Bedroom: Bed**, Maiden Home. **Light**, Currey & Company. **Sconces**, Triple Seven Home.

Pages 70–73: Architecture WINNER, Studio Bartolotta, studiobartolotta.



ERIC PIASECKI/OTTO

archi. **Builder**, Apex Projects, apexpps.com. **Interior design**, Jesse Parris-Lamb, jesseparris-lamb.com. **Lighting design**, Orsman Design, orsmandesign.com. **Kinetic and interactive design builders**, Turner Exhibits, turnerexhibits.com. **Architectural millwork/metalwork**, Cottingham Ltd, cottingham.ltd. **Landscape design**, Janice Parker Landscape Architects, janiceparker.com.

Page 74: Architecture FINALIST, Mark P. Finlay Architects, markfinlay.com. **Builder**, Auburn Landing, auburnlanding.com. **Landscape architect**, Susie Aldrich, Surrey Style Design, susiealdrich.com. **Engineers**, J. Edwards & Associates, jedwardsassoc.com. **Stylist**, Helen Crowther, helencrowther.com. **Timber framing**, New Energy Works, newenergyworks.com. **Windows**, Revival Sash, @revivalsash. **Iron balustrades**, Artisan of the Anvil, artisansoftheanvil.com.

Page 75: Architecture FINALIST, Doyle Coffin Architecture, doylecoffinarchitecture.com. **Builder**, Cornerstone Contracting, cornerstone-builders.com.

Page 76: Builder Recognition WINNER, Apex Projects, apexpps.com.

Page 77: Builder Recognition FINALIST, Auburn Landing, auburnlanding.com.

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 Maria Wettergren Galerie, mariawettergren.com
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 Wiseman Studio, dwiseman.com
 Withers Studio, withersstudio.com
 Wolf, subzero-wolf.com
 Yardstick Décor, 203-330-0360
 Zip Water, us.zipwater.com



Photos by Abby Cole Photography

The Community Fund of Darien

Inspiring Impact Together

The Community Fund of Darien sends a heartfelt thank you to our 2024 Designed to Dine guests, tablescap designers, dedicated volunteers, generous sponsors, and media sponsor, CTC&G. To learn about the mission of The Community Fund of Darien and view event photos, visit communityfunddarien.org.

CTC&G
 Connecticut Cottages and Gardens

Meet the Judges

OUR PANEL OF JUDGES WEIGHED IN ON THE IDA WINNERS AT A BREAKFAST HOSTED BY GAULT STONE & LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

“The Interior Design winner submitted by Orrick & Company [page 56] is a successful mix of design and comfort.”

MATTHEW PATRICK SMYTH
Matthew Patrick Smyth Interior Design
matthewsmyth.com



“In the powder room designed by Karen Bow Interiors [page 62], the onyx takes center stage with its dramatic movement and rich colors.”

WESLEY MOON
Wesley Moon Inc. Design and Decoration
wesleymoon.com



“The attention to detail creates a fabulous experience in the Small Space Design winner by Studio Bartolotta [page 66].”

JAMIE DRAKE
Drake/Anderson
drakeanderson.com



“The Architecture winner by Studio Bartolotta [page 70] is a careful study and contrast between a group of concrete and brick industrial-style buildings combined with landscape and hardscape to make an inventive new kind of home and living space.”

JOEB MOORE
Jobb Moore & Partners
joebmoore.com



“I love the minimalist aesthetic of Brook Clark’s landscape design [page 46]. The lines and spatial arrangement, plus the limited plant palette, work so well in this space. Sometimes, way less is best.”

WAMBUI IPPOLITO
Wambui Design
wambuidesign.com



“We loved the kitchen designed by Haver & Skolnick Architects [page 50] with its use of authentic materials, the unexpected twist of lighter finishes and the injection of some stainless for reflectivity. The Tudor arches are beautifully woven into the overall design.”

SARAH ROBERTSON
Studio Dearborn
studiodearborn.com



STUDIO BARTOLOTTA

ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

