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Magazine

LEVEL BEST AWARDS

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2011 NARI *Level Best Awards*

By Ashley Beyer and Alison Fiebig

In this year's Level Best Awards, we received a record number of projects from the local chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). After a thorough study of each submission, the judges selected the 2011 winners.



*A sincere thank you to our judges:
Terry Ellenbecker, senior project manager, Hoffman LLC;
Marge Stammer, broker associate, Coldwell Banker;
Bob McKenny, interior design instructor, Fox Valley Technical College.*



“Now Playing”

RESIDENTIAL INTERIOR \$100,000 AND OVER
Mosquito Creek LLC Home Renovations

GOAL: Transform the homeowners’ basement workshop into an intimate home theater elegant enough to entertain groups of all sizes.

In harmony with the deep burgundy walls, the client decided on cherry wood for the cabinetry, countertops, columns and crown molding and a hand-scraped walnut for the flooring. Gold-colored curtains on a motorized track were installed to conceal a widescreen television, which are controlled along with lighting, audio/visual and mechanical operations by an iPad.

From a fully furnished bar area reminiscent of a speakeasy to a functional ticket booth and marquee, the judges were enamored by the practical components of a theater while achieving the perfect balance of old world craftsmanship and modern technology.

needs without losing the integrity of the home’s original design, Timber Innovations chose materials and design elements true to Williamson’s aesthetic.

The completed renovation created a comfortable living space and a multipurpose room for entertaining family, friends and colleagues. In addition to hidden storage and appliances, updates included granite countertops, stone back splashes, Philippine mahogany cabinetry and embossed copper artwork.

The result is an efficient blend of earthy, existing architecture and newly incorporated technology that is extravagant, yet functional and allows the homeowners to enjoy the view of Lake Michigan while preparing meals, dining and watching television.

“The contractor maintained the aesthetic of the original house,” Bob McKenny noted. Marge Stammer appreciated the clean lines of the design.

“Making Do”

RESIDENTIAL BATH UNDER \$30,000

Welhouse Construction Services

GOAL: Add a contemporary first floor full bathroom for an aging resident.

Originally built by the owner 45 years ago, the home features one full bathroom upstairs, a second in the basement and a half bath on the main floor. The problem was not the number of bathrooms, but the location of them.

The client wanted a walk-in shower, a new toilet with an overhead cabinet and a vanity with as much storage space as possible.

Without the space from an existing shower, the only option was to utilize space from another area of the home. The Welhouse team created an area large enough to fit a shower as per the client’s wishes. The homeowner ultimately compromised drawer and cabinet space for the walk-in shower, but a customized drawer was designed to fit around the sink and applicable plumbing. Now that’s making the most out of what you’ve got!



“Absolute Aesthetics”

KITCHEN OVER \$120,000

Timber Innovations

GOAL: Expand the kitchen space in this 1959 home to allow more room for family interaction.

Built by Russell Barr Williamson, pupil of renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright and known for his Prairie-style architecture, the home had considerable character that the homeowners wanted to preserve. With the ultimate goal of updating the kitchen to their

Close.