

MODERN LUXURY

Interiors

CHICAGO

+

6 NEW SHOWROOMS,
4 JAW-DROPPING HOME
PROJECTS & MORE!

FRESH
LOOKS

KITCHEN & BATH
TRENDS TO INSPIRE



THE LIST

Courtney Shoudis

Diana Wagenbach

Mike Shively

Sarah Vaile

Peter Harris

Jessica LaGrange

Alexandra Kaehler

Mia Rao

Douglas Becht

Jason Trotter

Linda Ann Weber

Steve Kadlec

Antoine Roset

Nate Berkus

Paula Rodriguez

Summer Thornton

Lucy Slivinski

Laura O'Brien

Suzanne Lovell

Shea Soucie

Barbara Barry

Lincoln Schatz

Lucas Goldbach

Tyler Shields

Joan Lurie

Cynthia Weese

Olivier Roset

Celeste Robbins

Ginny Sykes

Julie Novy

Eileen Braun

Martin Horner

Orren Pickell

KITCHEN CONFIDENTIAL



Kate Marker Interiors brought dynamic life to this new construction suburban home.

Some say you can learn everything you need to know about a person by seeing what's on their bookshelves. Me, I head straight for the kitchen. Is it brimming with exotic spices? Filled with gadgets, or spartan and simple? Is it the place where everyone gravitates or just a space defined by its function? The choices we make in our kitchens—whether it's the color of the cabinets, the flavors of a simmering stew, or the carefully curated collection of cookbooks—reveal the essence of who we are and how we approach life's most flavorful moments.

In this annual Refresh Issue of *Interiors Chicago*, we dive deep into both kitchens and baths, exploring the buzziest new trends shaping these transformative spaces in the Windy City and beyond, from bluestone to hotel-inspired powder rooms. Every kitchen is a canvas, and every bathroom can be a haven

of serenity and style; our goal is to inspire you to follow your own muse to create spaces that make you and yours feel perfectly at home.

Also inside the issue, we shine a spotlight on four stunning local home projects,

including a Bucktown stunner by Taryn Bickley, a serene oasis on Crystal Lake by O'Brien Harris and more. Each is an example of seriously smart, stylishly executed design—and further proof of the incredible wealth of talent to be found across Chicagoland today. Whether you're kitchen-obsessed, passionate about baths or just an aficionado of all things interiors, I hope you find much inside these pages to surprise, delight and inspire your own creativity in the home and beyond.

J.P. Anderson

Editor-in-Chief

j panderson@modernluxury.com

Instagram: @interiors_chicago; @jpanders

HOME ENTERTAINMENT

Frequent entertainers with a large extended family realize their dream home in northwest suburb Lakewood with the help of bespoke cabinetry and design pros O'Brien Harris.

By Lauren Brocato // Photographed by Tony Soluri

The kitchen is appointed with an iceberg quartzite backsplash slab and countertops, with an island handpainted by O'Brien Harris.

THE CLIENT

"While working on their previous home, I couldn't have been more thrilled to pivot when one day, the client walked in to say, 'Wrap it up—I just bought my childhood dream spot on Crystal Lake,'"

explains interior designer Julie Novy of Crystal Lake-based JWN Designs (jwndesigns.com). "I was hooked and anxious to help the dream come to life." The clients are Rich and Muggs Waters, empty nesters in the wine industry; and the spot is a waterfront

property along a cherished walking path on the lake. When it came time to design the abode, Novy and the clients brought in River North-based O'Brien Harris (obrienharris.com) to work their magic on the kitchen and cabinetry design and fabrication.



THE PROJECT

With four children and 15 siblings between them, the Waters needed to be able to accommodate groups large and small. “We wanted our home to exude the feeling of a serene, casual, barefoot-friendly-home-meets-sophisticated-elegant-gathering place,” Muggs says. “The expectation for fun and laughter were imperative outcomes.” The design team’s mission was clear: bring the clients’ vision to fruition and creating a sanctuary for the next generation of their family.

THE KITCHEN

In the heart of the home, the open-plan kitchen with two islands and custom-stained cabinets flows into the dining room and bar, making entertaining a cohesive experience. “It was important for the home to be approachable and comfortable while being highly functional,” adds Ann Stockard, OBH kitchen and cabinetry designer. “Every stored item was carefully thought through and assigned a home.” From a rising TV mechanism in the island stone top to a hidden liquor pullout at the dining room



Clockwise from top left: The stainless steel kitchen hood is custom OBH; in the primary bathroom, Visual Comfort lighting pairs with Presidio Classics window coverings; striped penny round flooring was custom designed by Novy for the laundry room, which can be closed off while entertaining with sliding barn doors courtesy of OBH; sleek dovetail drawers with walnut interiors maximize functionality.



From top: Designed and fabricated by OBH, the artful wine storage holds more than 150 bottles; the guest closets features OBH cabinetry with RH hardware and a stool in Stroheim fabric.

bar, OBH crafted a space that balances design and function—with a few features the clients were particularly excited about. “Our favorite stemware and wine bottles are displayed in backlit, temperature-controlled cabinets expertly engineered by O’Brien Harris,” says Muggs of one of her favorite design moments in the home. “We believe it was a challenge for O’Brien Harris, but it was accomplished with extreme attention to detail...We also appreciated that our cabinets were sourced and constructed locally.”

THE BATH

Equally important for frequent

entertainers like the Waters is a space to retreat to when the guests go home. In the primary suite bathroom, OBH set a serene scene with sleek gray flannel cabinetry with a natural maple interior and polished stainless steel inlay at the door. Complemented by a Kohler Underscore rectangular tub topped with an Artistic Tile tub deck and sink cabinets with nickel banding, it’s a haven of relaxation. “Ann Stockard at O’Brien Harris rocked this cabinetry,” raves Novy. “I couldn’t be more pleased.”

THE OUTCOME

It’s safe to say the space checks all of the clients’ boxes. “[It is] beyond my expectations,” Muggs says. “[It] still takes my breath away every day. We will be forever grateful for the unmatched professionalism of our team of designers.” ■