

October 2021

# kitchen & bath DESIGN NEWS®

The leading business, design and product resource for the kitchen & bath trade



5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL • 36

## KBDN'S LEADING INNOVATORS

FALL BATH REPORT • 44

Bold Master Baths

READER SURVEY • 52

Interest in Tech Grows

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# THE INNOVATORS

*KBDN* celebrates the fifth annual Innovators class, recognizing leadership, mentoring, education, design and the ability to adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing world.

**FROM VIRTUAL COMMUNICATION** to safety protocols to material and labor shortages, members of the kitchen and bath design industry have had challenges in 2021 unlike any other year prior. Customers and projects abound as the country heads into a post-pandemic era, yet constraints and restrictions require a reliance on acquired knowledge and a constantly changing stream of information.

These challenges can knock even the top industry pros off balance. The key to regaining equilibrium and continuing on a successful path is to be flexible and adjust to circumstances as they arise. While many have weathered the storm of the past few years, others have risen above and not only carried their companies and employees through the mire, but have reached out and helped others in their journey, as well. Industry leaders continue to head committees and associations, educate and mentor professionals with less experience and expertise, and deliver high-quality and innovative design to their clients.

*Kitchen & Bath Design News* honors these industry leaders in its pages every year by naming The Innovators, a group of industry professionals who are setting the standard for excellence in the design industry. Nominated by their peers and then reviewed by the *KBDN* nominating committee, the 24 Innovators for 2021 are an exemplary group of individuals who are moving the kitchen and bath industry forward. On the next six pages, *Kitchen & Bath Design News* presents its fifth annual class of Innovators.

ARTICLE

# Jill Jarrett

*Engineering a boutique design firm through diligence*



Although she graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering, Jill Jarrett, CMKBD, CAPS, owner and principal designer, Jarrett Design LLC, in Emmaus, PA, decided to pursue her passion for design by taking classes with the NKBA and working for a local kitchen dealer.

Her engineering degree and experience were the groundwork for the technical and ergonomic challenges that are abundant in the kitchen and bath industry. She quickly became known for top-notch luxury kitchen and bath design through projects in the Lehigh Valley, Philadelphia's Main Line, the New Jersey shore and other long-distance locations.

When Jarrett began her career, her home was her showroom and her presentations consisted of hand-drawn elevations and perspectives. Her process has evolved into a full-service, comprehensive one that includes very detailed presentations featuring Chief Architect plans that communicate every detail to the homeowner and contractors. The designer takes the time to mentor local students in the NKBA-accredited program at the local community college by hosting information nights and offering shadowing opportunities and internships.

The company's commitment to client-centered design has garnered recognition from industry partners, including eight years of customer service awards from Houzz as well as Houzz's Best of Design for the category of most popular portfolios.

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