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kitchen & bath DESIGN NEWS[®]

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Veronika Miller

Industry veteran forges new path for sharing information, inspiration

Veronika Miller is a multitasking design, marketing and social media pro who has literally changed how designers communicate. As founder of Modenus Media and the creative mind behind BlogTour, Designhounds and Designtrail, she brings together designers and manufac-

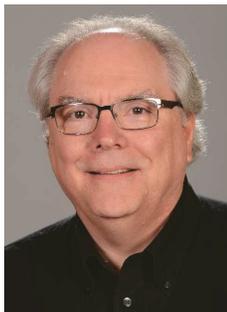
turers in partnerships that allow for the dissemination of design information and inspiration from North America, Europe and beyond.

With a mission of connecting industry influencers, specifiers and brands in the interiors and kitchen and bath industries, this social and digital marketing visionary is always exploring collaborative opportunities – whether heading up Designhounds trips to major design shows, hosting talks on design and business or consulting directly with brands on influencer campaigns.

She started her career in marketing before returning to school to study interior design and kitchen/bath design, later opening a successful kitchen/bath and interior design studio in Winter Park, FL.

After struggling with the lack of modern Eurostyle cabinetry, she developed a marketing collaboration with two German cabinet manufacturers and garnered the exclusive distribution rights for the U.S. for both in 2006.

The recession caused her to rethink her career, and realizing how the rapidly advancing digital age would impact design marketing, she conceived the Modenus.com platform, which would ultimately evolve into Modenus Media.



Lynn Monson

Award-winning designer shares his expertise

From the time he and Sandy Monson founded the Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-based Monson Interior Design in 1980, Lynn Monson has made innovation an essential part of his business. Whether pushing the envelope with creative designs, gaining certifications in areas ranging from Universal Design to Lead-Safe Design from

the EPA, being active with various professional associations, creating a training program for his staff so they could reach their greatest potential or speaking to university students, his passion for the kitchen and bath industry continues to shine through.

Monson, who added DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen to his business in 1997 to acquire a production staff and a showroom for a complete design/build experience, has won 87 local and national awards and been featured in 108 local, national and international publications. One of his most notable projects, a small condo kitchen that was opened up into the living/dining area to maximize the beautiful city views, had such broad-based appeal it won first place in four different competitions (NKBA, ASID, NARI and NAHB-RCTC).

A leader in Universal Design long before it was in vogue, he designed his first accessible bathroom in 1994, and has studied and implemented the concepts of UD ever since, earning his CAPS certification and continuing to move the field forward.



Heidi Piron

Award-winning designer strives to go beyond expectations

Since founding her Chatham, NJ business in 2004, Heidi Piron has created a name for herself as an adaptable, thoughtful designer with a knack for crafting spaces specifically tailored to her clients' needs and wants. Her work has received plenty of attention from top brands and industry publications over the years – she is a two-time

regional winner of the Sub-Zero and Wolf Kitchen Design Contest, and has also received nods from the BlueStar Kitchen Design Competition and KBDN's Kitchen and Bath Design Awards. Additionally, her work has been featured in *House Beautiful*, *Luxe*, *Veranda* and more.

Perhaps even more than her impressive history of accolades, what makes Piron an innovator in the industry is her careful consideration of state-of-the-art appliances and indefatigable experimentation with new materials, techniques and innovations. She exclusively works with Premier Custom Built, chosen, she says, for its precision engineering and cutting-edge craftsmanship, and this collaboration is one built on mutual passion for customization. Piron is passionate about discovering new cabinetry and countertop materials, as well as developing custom finishes to utilize in her designs. "It is exciting and deeply rewarding to be in an industry that is constantly evolving," says Piron. "A favorite saying of mine is, 'Move forward against all odds, because if you are standing still, you are going backwards.'"



Toni Sabatino

New York designer takes on leadership roles

To say Toni Sabatino paid her dues before striking out on her own is an understatement. Working with a kitchen cabinet manufacturer and then a distributor in house, the designer amassed a portfolio of over 1,000 kitchens before starting her own Long Island, NY-based firm Toni Sabatino Style.

An award-winning kitchen designer, Sabatino has designed residential and commercial projects on Long Island as well as in Brooklyn and Manhattan, and beyond New York's borders to resort destinations including Vermont, Palm Beach and Las Vegas. Her style is a mix of high and low design elements, with a focus on distinctive details, large-scale, rich colors and sophisticated patterns.

Sabatino's expertise goes beyond standard kitchen design, with her interest piqued by the idea of creating safe, accessible spaces for everyone, regardless of physical, cognitive, developmental or mobile levels of functioning. She has earned a CLIPP certification as a Certified Living in Place Professional.

A recipient of several Best of Houzz Awards and an Interior Design Society Designer of the Year Award for Kitchens, Sabatino has extended her reach as a designer, collaborating with Baden Haus Spa to create The Retro Collection, a line of Italian-crafted bath furniture.

As president of the Manhattan Chapter of NKBA for 2018-2019, the designer is displaying her skills as an industry leader. Sabatino is also an active member of the Interior Design Society and the Sustainable Furnishings Council. She travels as a blogger and DesignHound with Modenus, and continues to be a featured speaker at industry events.