

NKBA

30 Under 30

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ANDREW SALADINO
Kitchen Cabinet Kings, New York, NY

Andrew Saladino is a member of the Young Entrepreneur Council and was recognized in 2011 by President Obama as a top young entrepreneur on the Empact100 America under 30 List. Saladino is co-founder and COO of Kitchen Cabinet Kings, a leading distributor of kitchen and bathroom cabinetry on the Internet. Saladino has three years of kitchen and bath experience and is passionate about learning everything the industry has to offer. Specializing in Internet marketing skills including search engine optimization, pay-per-click, display ads, social media, and email, Saladino has elevated his company to the level of success it enjoys today. When Andrew isn't working on improving Kitchen Cabinet Kings, you can find him at the gym, playing basketball, or cooking delicious Italian food.



ANGELA VICTORIA RASMUSSEN
House 2 Home Design & Build, San Jose, CA

Angela started her career by winning multiple 1st place national and local awards. She got her start by attending the highly acclaimed design program of West Valley College in Saratoga, CA where she consistently earned top honors. Angela and her husband established their own design/build firm which specializes in kitchen and bathroom remodeling. She is dedicated to building personal relationships with her clients while utilizing her creative abilities to surpass their expectations. Her current role as an officer for the Northern California NKBA Chapter has only enhanced her leadership in business and in design. Angela and her team are on their way to becoming locally recognized as a quality brand.



ASHLEY AVERY
Kitchen Cabinet Kings, New York, NY

Ashley Avery is a designer with a proven track record for excelling in positions of high responsibility. She is commended for her proactive personality and unsurpassed work ethic. Born and raised in Chicago, IL. She graduated from William Rainey Harper College in 2010 with a degree in Interior Design, specializing in Kitchen and Bath. Here she served as her class NKBA Student Chapter President. Ashley strives everyday developing strong relationships with her clients. Design is her passion and she never gives up on reaching for a new solution for all of her clients. She intends to use her knowledge to further herself in this industry in the years to come by working up the NKBA professional chapter ladder. She has hopes of one day being awarded and honored for her work and leadership abilities. "It's Not Just an Interior... It is a Reflection of You."



ASHLEY KULESA
Lowe's Home Improvement, Penacola, FL

At 23 years old, with four years of experience designing kitchens and baths, Ashley Kulesa is a young rising star for Lowe's Home Improvement. She is known for her attention to detail and her ability to translate a client's dreams into reality. Ashley feels that her success is due to the relationships and trust she builds with her clients. From project conception to completion she is there every step of the way. She has demonstrated great technical knowledge and creativity as she finishes her Associates Degree from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh Online Division this year. Ashley is currently a member of the NKBA and is working towards her AKBD certification.



BEN NELSON
Nexus Group, Canada

Ben was born and raised in a small Southwest Saskatchewan town called Shaunavon where he learned at an early age that politeness and teamwork plays a major part in becoming successful. He was surrounded by a construction oriented family dating back to his Scandinavian and German roots. He excelled in high school sports and continued on to play College Football in Regina, SK where he again found that teamwork goes a long way. After attending Paramedic school in Regina, Ben moved to Red Deer, Alberta, Canada where he began his construction career. Ben worked for a major residential developer for several years before returning back to his home province of Saskatchewan to continue furthering his construction knowledge in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to gain experience in large-scale commercial construction. In 2008 Ben lived in Florida for 12 months to explore the construction industry and several other avenues before taking a 4 month excursion overseas to Norway to experience the European construction industry firsthand and develop his customer relations aspect of the job. After 4 months, he returned to Regina, SK to put his knowledge and customer appreciation to work. He did this by beginning project management for a large-scale residential renovation company while also operating his own construction company at the same time. While expanding his own business and enjoying direct involvement with all customers, he joined forces with 3 more local businessmen to develop one of the most respectful, community involved, honest renovation companies on the Canadian Prairies. The result is Nexus Group, which has 2 divisions so far, Bathrooms by Nexus, and Basements by Nexus, with more divisions to come. Ben is a Partner and the General Manager with all of the construction experience to push this company in the right direction for success. In 2012 he was nominated for a Paragon Business Award for "Young Entrepreneur of the Year" by the Regina Chamber of Commerce. Ben believes in integrity, honesty, and quality and is extremely thankful for the opportunity to represent the Kitchen and Bath industry of Saskatchewan, Canada.



BRANDY HANEY
Hansgrohe, Alpharetta, GA

A self-starter with a drive to succeed, Brandy L. Haney has been a Hansgrohe employee since July 2011—just two months after graduating from North Georgia College & State University, where she received a marketing degree. Only five months after joining the company she was promoted from Inside Sales Specialist to her current role of Inside Account Manager. In this position, she handles three of Hansgrohe's major accounts, adeptly working with them to garner excellent results. Assisting with product forecasting and training are also a few of her many responsibilities at the company. With an appreciation for design and a desire to learn, Brandy enjoys attending local networking events. She is also inspired by her colleagues who specialize in K&B product trend and industry education and is interested in exploring that specialty. A recipient of the prestigious HOPE academic scholarship and a regular on the President's, Dean's, and Merit lists, Brandy has been a high achiever from the very start. She would like to continue to leverage her industriousness and skills in marketing, communications and business, as well as expand her areas of expertise in the years to come.



CARI BOLTE
Lifestyle Kitchen Designs, Cincinnati, OH

Cari Bolte is a kitchen and bath designer with Lifestyle Kitchen Designs, a Nisbet Brower company; one of the region's most influential and versatile full service- kitchen and bath showrooms. With an interior design degree and over 10 years of applied experience in the kitchen and bath industry; Cari, continues today with a portfolio of creative interiors that are fashionable and functional. Cari has the passion and skill to visualize her client's wants, needs, and desires and apply them to an innovative solution for each project. She can be reached at cari.bolte@lifestylekd.com.



CARLY NEMTEAN
Carriage Lane Design Build, Inc., Canada

A graduate from Sheridan College for Interior Design in 2006, Carly has forged her way in the industry and come up favorable. In 2011 she co-founded Toronto based Firm Carriage Lane Design Build Inc. where she focuses on Custom Renovation and Design projects. Carly also shares her time working as a lead designer on large television renovation shows that showcase on HGTV and W Network. Carly also writes a monthly design column for a Canada wide monthly newspaper, The Jewish Tribune. When Carly is not working, she spends her time being active outdoors, as well as traveling to captivating destinations in search of inspiration for her eclectic mix of projects back home.



CHELSEA DUNBAR
Chelsea Dunbar Interiors, Smyrna, GA

Chelsea Dunbar is an NCIDQ certified Interior Designer in Atlanta, Georgia. She received her Bachelors of Fine Arts in Interior Design with honors from the Savannah College of Art and Design. She began Chelsea Dunbar Interiors in 2009 after working for several highly influential architecture and design firms. Her growing company has quickly turned into a well-recognized, full-service interior design firm specializing in comprehensive interior detailing and space planning for both residential and commercial design projects throughout the Southeast.



CHRISTINA "NINA" GREEN
NGD Interiors, Churchville, PA

Nina Green is the President and Principal Designer at NGD Interiors in Churchville, Pennsylvania. A graduate of Harrington College of Design, Nina is an experienced interior designer in both commercial and residential design. Currently located just outside Philadelphia in historic Bucks County, Nina specializes in kitchen and bath design for unique restoration projects as well as complete interior design projects. Her creativity and capabilities continue to earn her the respect of her peers and clients. She is a proud NKBA member and is looking forward to serving in her NKBA chapter. Additional Bio information can be found at: www.ngdinteriors.com/team-view/nina-green/



COURTNEY FOSTER
Inspirations Kitchen & Bath, Stone Mountain, GA

Atlanta based kitchen and bath designer Courtney Foster has been working in the kitchen and bath industry for over 4 1/2 years. She is a graduate of The University of Georgia's Furnishings & Interiors program and is employed by Bell Kitchen & Bath Studio, a design firm located in Metro Atlanta. Courtney is very active in NKBA; she currently serves as Vice President of Academic Relations for the NKBA Georgia Chapter. In 2011 Courtney was awarded the Calla Award for Large Kitchen with Jim Meloy. Courtney began her design blog, The Cow Spot in 2011 and writes weekly posts detailing current and upcoming projects, trends and design concepts. Courtney's blog was a finalist for "Best New Design Blog" for the 2012 Design Bloggers Hall of Fame and was recently nominated for a "Homie" award by Apartment Therapy.

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DARREN LYNCH

Nexus Group, Canada

At 23 years of age Darren left the world of sports as a professional hockey player and entered the bathroom remodeling industry. What he brought to the Industry was professionalism, dedication, positive ethical practices and a constant desire to evolve. After six years of service for one of Saskatchewan's leading bathroom remodeling companies, Darren is now 29 and is continuing to push his evolution within the industry. As CEO of Leveled Edge Contracting Darren has partnered with 4 local successful business professionals to develop a bathroom specific franchise and division of Nexus Construction Ltd. Darren is dedicated to the promotion of good ethical business practices and the latest industry innovations. With the support of his partners, the NKBA and all of its members Darren believes he will be well equipped to lead and inspire current and future bathroom professionals.

DEENA CASTELLO

Cabochoch Tile & Stone, La Jolla, CA

Recognized as a leader in her field, Deena Castello is the dedicated owner of kitchen and bath showrooms; Cabochoch Surfaces & Fixtures as well as newly opened, Lav•ish The Bath Gallery. Deena's lifelong passion for style and design is characterized by the curation of her first-class showrooms. She is a hands-on designer known for her commitment to providing customers with unique products and superior services. Deena is regularly invited to guest lecture for the Design Institute of San Diego to share her vast knowledge, experience and showrooms with aspiring students. Deena has guided the design on many award winning projects and is a respected asset to homeowners and other trade professionals in the design community.

DONNA TRAN, AKBD

Borrelli Design + Cabinetry, San Diego, CA

Passionate, detail oriented and creative, Donna Tran, AKBD has been a designer at Borrelli Design+Cabinetry since graduating from San Diego Mesa College in 2009. She enjoys the uniqueness of every project and finds the level of detail involved in cabinetry to be one of the most exciting parts of her career. Tran has been on the NKBA San Diego Board for several years and is a recipient of the NKBA Chapter Growth Award. Her involvement with NKBA includes assisting the VP Academic Relations and VP Communications (creating chapter meeting flyers and other related marketing material), as well as chairing the NKBA San Diego Kitchen and Bath Tour in 2012. Tran currently serves as the Secretary of the San Diego Chapter and looks forward to continuing her involvement with NKBA while pursuing her goals as a designer in the Kitchen and Bath Industry.

ELLICE CAYER

Eagle Tile & Home Center, Inc., New York, NY

Ellice Cayer is a Manhattan based Design Consultant. Her career in the industry started in 2004 in Florida. In 2009 she relocated to New York, NY where she took her current position with Eagle Home Center, a full service design center and contracting company. She is their lead kitchen and bath designer and the showroom manager of their East Harlem Design Studio.

FARES ELSABBAGH

Vancouver General Contractors, Canada

As one of the founders of Vancouver General Contractors, Fares Elsabbagh is a very dedicated and passionate person who leads a team of young energetic individuals in the fast paced and high pressure, design & build industry. Vancouver General Contractors is part of Canada General Contractors Group, the only national design & build firm in Canada with branch offices in Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver and (this Fall) Calgary. He is the President of Business Development for the CGC Group and, undoubtedly, the driving force behind the "Action by Teamwork" motto held by what has become one of Canada's fastest growing construction companies. A natural leader, Fares, is known for being an inspiration to his team. He leads and motivates by example yet is approachable and personable to all his team members. Fares balances his fast paced career with community involvement as an active member of the Greater Vancouver Home Builders Association and the Vancouver Urban Rec Soccer League. Leading one of British Columbia's most innovative construction companies is not an easy task but Fares has shown the extra ordinary skills that have made Vancouver General Contractors the top design & build firm in the Province.

GREG BUITRAGO JR.

Hammer Contractors, Inc. Olney, MD

Greg Buitrago Jr. has been active in the remodeling industry since 2002. Literally starting from the ground up, he began his career digging foundations and framing additions for his father's contracting company in Maryland, later moving to finish carpentry and site supervision. In 2006, Greg stepped out of his studies at the University of Maryland to take over the family business full time, due to a life-changing motorcycle accident involving his father. In the years after, the company has seen many blessings and growth, including the evolution into a true, turnkey design and build firm, along with partnering with another local firm to form Hammer Contractors: Design-Build. Greg continues today leading his company, along with co-owner Jorge Castellanos, and now serves as the firm's director of sales and design, assisting their clientele in "loving their remodel" -- from their first meeting with the Hammer team, through completion, and for years to come. Greg is passionate about delivering a professional remodeling experience built on excellence and integrity for all his clients, shareholders, and employees.

HOLLY MARIE PETERSON, CKD

Lifestyle Kitchen Studio, LLC, Grand Rapids, MI

Holly Marie Peterson, CKD is a designer and owner of Lifestyle Kitchen Studio, an accredited design firm in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Holly Marie graduated from Central Michigan University with a Bachelor of Applied Arts in Interior Design and a minor in Construction Management in Spring 2007. In the Fall 2010, Holly received her Certified Kitchen Designer (CKD) designation through the National Kitchen and Bath Association. Holly is also certified CAPS (Certified Aging in Place Specialist) by the National Home Builders Association, received while attending school as part of her Universal Design concentration. Serving on the West Michigan Chapter of NKBA as treasurer, Holly worked on projects including a Mackinac Island Educational Weekender and the first Signature Tour of Kitchens. In addition to design, Holly Marie continues to be co-president of the Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital Junior Guild, where she also sits on the hospital Guild board, a position she has held since 2010. Holly Marie's design theory is that spaces should enhance and enable. Drawing from a background of universal design practices, incorporating clients' dreams and her own expertise, she creates empowering spaces as unique as her clientele.

JENNIFER RUNNER, AKBD

Normandy Design Build Remodeling, Hinsdale, IL

Jennifer Runner is a graduate of the Illinois Institute of Art-Schaumburg where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Interior Design. Upon entering the design field, she was instantly drawn to all elements of kitchen and bathroom design. Jennifer most enjoys the challenge of creating a functional yet inviting space that incorporates her clients' needs and wishes. The most rewarding aspect of the process, however, is turning her clients' visions into reality. Her passion for design and commitment to an industry she loves has earned Jennifer an Associate of Kitchen and Bathroom Design Degree (AKBD) from the National Kitchen and Bath Association. She is dedicated to providing outstanding design service that ensures her clients are informed, comfortable and satisfied throughout their remodeling process.

JOHN NAPOLITANO

Royal Home Improvements, Canada

John's major roles within the company include sales, media buying/promotions, social media management and playing a big hand in the charity work the company does with the Sick kids foundation. In the spring of 2012 John completed the Green Renovator Project through Enerquality. John is well known and respected by his colleagues in both the marketing and construction side of his business. John continues to advance Royal's vision and direction through creative communication and implementation. Last year John brought in over \$1,000,000.00 CAD in business alone, the company did over \$6,000,000.00 CAD.

JUSTIN DEDIO

Designer Baths, Inc., Emerson, NJ

Justin specializes in the complete design and management of kitchen & bath remodeling projects at a full service showroom in Northern NJ. While earning his Bachelor of Architecture degree at New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2011, he spent several years working in residential remodeling/construction. Justin's unique combination of academic and practical skills equips him with a thorough understanding of all aspects of the industry. However, it is his passion for design that makes it all fun.



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KELLY M. (CEZAT) MANAS, CKD
Hollywood Sierra Kitchens, Inc., Los Angeles, CA

Kelly Manas attended the University of Michigan where she attained a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree cum laude in 2006. Upon graduation, she relocated to Los Angeles to join Hollywood Sierra Kitchens as a design assistant. After six years of steadily increasing responsibilities and on site education, she attained her Certified Kitchen Designer (CKD) designation in 2012. As an active CKD and CAD operator, Kelly designs by implementing the latest trends and technologies through her internet savvy, impressive product knowledge and keen eye for color and detail. At 29, Kelly brings a fresh youthful approach to the design process and to the business.



LUCAS LIU
Design Element, Rancho Cucamong, CA

Like many students in 2005, Lucas Liu began the arduous task of finding work while in college. With little experience and years away from an International Business degree from Cal State Fullerton, employment that aligned with his field of study made the most sense. Liu began searching for companies to interview with. Before each meeting he would research the company, their product and business model. His hope was that his knowledge about the company and their products would give him an edge and a job. While weeks of interviews landed no job, Liu began to understand more about the process of importing and selling product online. While researching for another interview, he clicked on an online ad to re-sell products - bathroom vanities; the idea for Design Element was born that day. That first order of vanities shipped from a garage in 2005. Design Element products are now sold through more than 40 retailers including Homedepot and Sears, has grown into a 70,000 square foot facility with \$6 Million in revenue for 2012. With successful exhibition at both the KBIS 2011, 2012 and the IBS in 2013, Liu has an eye on the future researching sustainable materials, and working with contractors and builders on large scale projects. The key to success for Design Element, according to Liu, has been innovative design, a focus on quality and adaptability to market conditions.



MATTHEW McLEAN
Ferrarini Home Transformations, Elkins Park, PA

Started working for his Family's General Contracting Business at the age of 16 as a Simple Laborer. Matthew rapidly climbed the ranks becoming efficient in Carpentry, Plumbing, Tile, Masonry, eventually taking the role as Project Manager. After the family business closed down, Matthew at the age of 20 started Ferrarini Kitchen & Bath. While attending Temple University as a Full-Time Student Matthew worked, ran, and developed the company, in just 3 short years the business grew exponentially. Currently Ferrarini Kitchen & Bath is an Award Winning Full Service Firm offering design, products, and installation. Ferrarini launched their Showroom Grand Opening in late 2012 and acquired additional corporate office space in the beginning of 2013. Matthew plans to continue to build the company and gain further market-share in the kitchen & bath industry.

Credentials: Bachelor's Degree & Certification in Construction Management from Temple University
Experience: Kitchen & Bath Installations, Kitchen & Bath Design, Kitchen & Bath Sales, Kitchen & Bath Project Management, Kitchen & Bath Marketing, Kitchen & Bath Products



MEGAN CACACE
Megan Elise Décor, Austin, TX

Megan graduated from the University of North Texas in 2009 with a Bachelor's degree in Home Furnishings Merchandising from the School of Merchandising and Hospitality Management (SMHM). During her senior year she was invited enter two of her projects in the annual SMHM Design Competition in which her entries placed first and second. After graduation she worked as a designer for a local kitchen and bath remodeler in Dallas and later she relocated to Austin where she worked as a design consultant for a tile and stone showroom. In the summer of 2012 she accepted an opportunity to work as a design assistant to the production designer for the HGTV hit show Property Brothers. Currently Megan is an independent design consultant working with real estate agents and builders in the Austin area. She has been an active member of NKBA since she was in college and is the 2012-2014 Secretary of the Hill Country Chapter.



MEGAN JANSKY
Luxury Baths & Kitchens, Glendale Heights, IL

Immersing herself in Luxury Bath from the onset in October of 2010, Megan soon realized that her 7 years of experience in merchandising and marketing with Fortune 500 companies such as Microsoft and Walgreens gave her the experience necessary to reposition Luxury Bath as the leader in the one day acrylic bath remodeling industry. Assuming a myriad of responsibilities, including enhancing a consumer marketing platform, developing advanced web-based strategies and coordinating dealer development, Megan strives to deliver unsurpassed excellence to the Luxury Bath dealer network. Megan spends countless hours considering how mainstream media combines with web-based lead generation to better fit the ever-changing consumer landscape. Having her curiosity piqued while attending Purdue University, Megan consistently strives to pursue her passion, which is listening to and understanding the consumer. Her mantra is her job is easy, "consumers tell us what they want--we just need to listen." In the hours that Megan is able to escape the office she enjoys relaxing with her husband Trevor, and joining the greatest fans in America cheering on over 100 years of futility--better known as the Chicago Cubs! Megan is thrilled to be chosen to represent the Kitchen and Bath Industry's top 30 professionals under 30 and looks forward to meeting many of her peers at KBIS.



MEGHAN MURPHY
Trilogy Kitchens & Remodling, Inc., Arlington Heights, IL

Meghan Murphy is co-owner of Trilogy Kitchens and Remodeling, a full service design and build firm located in Arlington Heights, Illinois. The foundation of her business is customer education on innovative products. She believes that knowledge is power and regularly hosts seminars in the showroom to teach customers about the remodeling process, giving the customer the proper tools to make the best decisions. She highlights state of the art products that meet each customer's individual needs, and incorporates them in her designs to create custom solutions. Meghan actively strives to stay up to date on cutting edge technology by attending yearly SEN Design conferences and her local NKBA chapter meetings; she is always looking for new ways to evolve and grow.



MEGHAN H. FOX, AKBD
Intellectual Homes, LLC, McClean, VA

Meghan has been in the design field since 2007 after graduating from Virginia Polytechnic University and State University (Virginia Tech) where she graduated with a B.A. Apparel, Housing and Resource Management with a focus on Kitchen and Bath Design. While at Virginia Tech she helped create the Student NKBA chapter on campus. She is active with the Baltimore/Washington Chapter of the National Kitchen and Bath Association, and currently sits on the board as the Vice President of Communications and has served in other positions since joining. Meghan received her AKBD certification after graduation.



MIKE HALL
The Kitchen Showcase, Inc., Centennial, CO

Mike Hall has been a professional in the kitchen and bath industry since 2008. A graduate from the University of Kansas school of Industrial Design, Mike has made great strides in his young career. He was part of a design team at Regarding Kitchens in Kansas City, Kansas that received accolades including a 2011 NARI National Contractor of the Year Award, several regional and local NARI awards and published projects in KC Spaces Magazine and KC Home & Garden. Since relocating to Denver, Colorado, Mike has managed several large builder accounts, completed many impressive custom remodel projects and exceeded \$700,000 in cabinet sales in his first year at The Kitchen Showcase Inc.



RICHARD T. ANUSKIEWICZ
Ewing Cabinet Company, Blacksburg, VA

Passion for design and appreciation of style are two driving forces behind 24 yr. old Pittsburgh-native Richard T. Anuskiewicz's (Annaskev-ich) success. Chosen by Virginia Living magazine as a top kitchen designer in Virginia, Richard is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University's NKBA-accredited Residential Design Program. He interned with Olde World Cabinetry in Tampa, FL and is now the Executive Designer/Showroom Director at Ewing Cabinet Company in Blacksburg, VA. He played a vital role in developing and opening their new showroom. In 2012, they received the HBA's 'Design Excellence of the Year' award and were the first business in southwest VA to host an NKBA VA-chapter event. Richard serves his community as a Chamber of Commerce Ambassador and an Advisor Liaison to undergraduates at Virginia Tech. His portfolio can be viewed at www.Rta2z.com.