We at K+B proudly announce our 2014 Design Award competition winners! The esteemed judges critiqued more than 55 project submissions on aesthetics, functionality and efficiency, solutions to challenges and fresh thinking. The panel chose a Kitchen, Bath and Showroom of the Year, as well as two Honorable Mentions in both the bath and kitchen categories and one for showrooms. Congratulations to this year’s outstanding winners! — Section by Chelsie Butler
From Dull and Stock to WOW

Boring space gets a makeover with eye-catching design elements and a surprise in the shower

A young couple had set their sights on a contemporary, unique and fully functional master bathroom—something that reflected their aesthetic tastes. They were tired of the existing space with its small, standalone shower and a small tub with a divider wall and bland materials. The older wood vanity, slab mirrors and light fixtures fitted the modest countertops, white walls and limited storage.

Enter Suzanne Lazy, 5 Interior Design in Scottsdale, Ariz., who completely transformed the space with such elements as custom-designed floating vanities of rift-cut oak stained a rich, dark brown with ample storage and built-in, hidden outlets. She also managed to include a claw-foot tub in the design plan.

Decorative mirrors flanked by wall-mounted light sconces brightened up the space, along with an in-ceiling LED lights strategically placed throughout the bathroom. The new platinum wall color complements the decorative tile cabinets and countertops, which are made from soft, gray quartz. Lazy incorporated a tall storage cabinet with a bottom section designed to hold the toilet paper roll, and she replaced the standard entry door with a frosted-glass, barn door style that doesn’t take up any soil-diffused space.

Instead of an enclosed shower, Lazy designed a wall oven in the space that is incorporated into a larger soaking tub and shower where the couple can relax and use it together.

So how did she get everything to fit?

“Space from the unused room on the other side of the plumbing wall that the existing tub and shower were against was brought in to give us an extra 3½ ft., or at least 3 ft. to work with,” said Lazy. “Not the space was used for a new, walk-in closet for the husband who wanted the master suite.”

Aside from finding a way to increase the space, there was only one other major challenge during the project: Because Lazy and her team were specifications out doing any plumbing work, they needed to design a solution for the oversized tub they were using. They instead installed a lift to accommodate the plumbing for the tub. The lift is placed on the top and side with the same beautiful mosaic tile used on the floor of the shower area. A column that holds the plumbing coming down from the ceiling and services not only the clients but the residents below, which is covered in the same tile that is used on the bathroom floors and also holds towel hooks and glass shelves for extra storage.

According to the photos, they were impressed by the amazing function Lazy was able to create in such a small space, and according to Lazy, her clients are thrilled with the results.

SOURCES
