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Connecticut Cottages and Gardens

COTTAGESGARDENS.COM | MARCH 2023



ARCHITECTURE!

BUILDING IS BOOMING

FIVE TOP WINNERS AT THE 2022 HOBI AWARDS
BY CATRIONA BRANCA

IN CELEBRATION OF BUILDERS, a record 780 housing-industry professionals gathered for the 28th Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Connecticut's Home Building Industry Awards (otherwise known as the HOBI Awards). The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the winning homes by HOBI Awards producer and dinner MC, Joanne Carroll. Awards were given in a wide variety of categories, including custom homes, spec homes, remodeled homes and much more. Here, we highlight a few of the best of the best. To see more of these projects, go to cottagesgardens.com/hobis2022. For a complete list of winners, go to hbact.org/hobiawards.



STEVE FREEMAN



HOBBS, INC.
2022 PROJECT OF THE YEAR, BEST CUSTOM HOME OVER 15,000 SF
This French Provincial-style estate on 26 Greenwich acres was built by Hobbs, Inc. and designed by Ralph Mackin of Mackin Architects with interiors by Alexa Hampton. The main house has granite lintels, limestone trim, bronze metal windows, a thick, graduated slate roof and botanical-detailed copper scuppers and leaders, and includes a four-car garage and an indoor pool. A two-story oak-paneled foyer features antique limestone imported from France, inlaid between oak accents. Exceptional features include an elegant breakfast room with layered cornice and wainscoting, timber-roof pool house with full length skylight, terraced gardens, pavilion and outdoor tennis courts. The rear terrace has fountains and stone steps that cascade to the field below. The home's state-of-the-art technological features garnered Advanced Home Audio a 2022 CTC&G IDA in Custom Smart Home Integration. Landscape design is by Janice Parker Landscape Architects.



HSL BUILDING COMPANY
2022 CUSTOM HOME OF THE YEAR, BEST
CUSTOM HOME 6,000-7,000 SF

This river retreat was built by Erno Bacso of HSL Building Company and designed by Peter Cadoux of Cadoux Architects with interiors by Diana Jonason Interior Design. A modern farmhouse in three building modules, it celebrates indoor-outdoor living with heated, lit walkways, an infinity-edge pool, a year-round outdoor spa and even green roofs. The entry is distinguished by an impressive walnut pivot door and floating staircase. A translucent indoor-outdoor fireplace highlights the family room, and the kitchen boasts a 12-foot-long waterfall island that's combined with walnut cabinetry. Landscape design is by Eckerson Design Associates.



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RIVERSIDE DESIGN + BUILD

2022 SPEC HOME OF THE YEAR, BEST ENTRY, BEST PRIMARY BATH

On a park-like site overlooking the New Canaan Reservoir, this project by Marc Vandenhoeck, president of Riverside Design + Build, and consulting architect Michele Rudolph, can best be defined as rustic barn meets midcentury modern. Although the stone-and-glass main entry appears to be a one-story house, in fact, it is two stories. An inverted plan's lower level serves as a retaining wall to hold the regraded hillside in place. The entry's 10-foot ceiling smoothly flows into the foyer before opening up to a classically proportioned double-height living room, where a linear see-through fireplace reveals a rear deck and water views. The beamed kitchen is built with a dramatic Compac "Unique Calacatta Black" backsplash and countertops. The primary bath, which won a 2022 CTC&G IDA for Bath Design, is equipped with a two-person steam shower and an oversized spa tub.





GATEHOUSE PARTNERS

BEST CUSTOM HOME 4,000–5,000 SF, BEST EXTERIOR & INTERIOR FEATURES, OUTSTANDING HOME OFFICE

Gatehouse Partners achieved an amazing contrast of traditional and modern for the exterior of this winning Greenwich custom home. Sided in Thermory ash with a dramatic three-story stone fireplace, the home is designed with a dual-sided rear staircase, leading to a pool with Jacuzzi. Inside, a floating white oak staircase wraps around a four-story glass elevator, which won Best Interior Feature. Other outstanding highlights include a steel-clad fireplace in the family room, a Thermory ash office adjacent to owner's bedroom, and an enormous roof deck. Architecture is by Wormser & Associates Architects



OPPOSITE: JANE BIELES THIS PAGE: KW PHOTOGRAPHY



DEROSA BUILDERS

BEST CUSTOM HOME 5,000–6,000 SF

DeRosa Builders joined forces with architect Tanner White of Tanner White Architects and interior designer Shawna Feeley for this custom home. An oak-beamed family room with black-framed Marvin windows and an indoor/outdoor fireplace opens to a kitchen with an oak-paneled range hood and quartz backsplash. The dining room boasts an oak ceiling and is surrounded with full-height windows, while a floating oak staircase with black iron balusters leads to the second floor bedrooms. Additional features include a high-gloss blue butler's pantry, a charcoal office and exceptional outdoor living provided by a covered wraparound patio, equipped with fireplace, TV, outdoor kitchen, ceiling heaters, fans and screens for year-round enjoyment.

