

GPS
LIVING

STYLEBOOK:
INSPIRED
BY DECADES
OF GREAT
DESIGN

GENERAL PLUMBING SUPPLY KITCHEN • BATH • LIGHTING • CABINETS

KITCHENS AND **BATHS**

A PORTFOLIO OF IDEAS
FROM COLOR TO STYLE

A PERFECT BLEND

A TOWNHOME BY LC INTERIORS IS A MIX OF MODERN AND TRADITIONAL

TEXT **DEBORAH L. MARTIN**
PHOTOGRAPHY **MARINA STORM, PICTURE PERFECT HOUSE**

In the dining room, a built-in unit provides much needed storage, and also acts as a focal wall in a beautiful shade of Mediterranean blue from Sherwin-Williams. The dining room chairs, covered in Merlot velvet, add a pop of intense color.

The designers at LC Interiors—Danielle Chase and Lauren Collander—designed this newly-constructed home for a family that needed more space than their brownstone in Chicago provided.

The family's active lifestyle demanded private and independent spaces like a home office, children's playroom, and quiet bedrooms. In addition, they wanted a first floor and outdoor garden space that was conducive to entertaining. Coming up with a plan for the décor involved blending two distinct style aesthetics. Lauren Collander explains, "Creating a cohesive design for homeowners with very different personal styles was a challenge. The wife is from the South and values architectural details with traditional elements. The husband wanted modern all the way. During our presentations it was fun to see their reactions—a mix of excitement and surprise that we could make them both happy and balance their desires."

The designers also had to make the home kid-friendly, something that they consider to be a specialty of the firm. Chase shares, "Lauren's first career was designing boutique hotels all over the world, and most hotels are design forward, but durable and hold up to the constant use. The knowledge from her past helps create spaces where

parents can be carefree." She continues, "We want them to be the cool parents who are never saying 'Don't touch that!' and choosing the right materials and furnishings helped create the right solution for them."

The property was narrow so that presented its own design challenge. The designers selected furnishings that can expand as needed, such as the dining table which can be enlarged for gatherings. They used the same chairs in the breakfast area in coordinating colors, so that they could be used in the dining room as well. To add light to the lower level, the mudroom, which is at the back of the home on a split level between the basement and the first floor, has a window that is also visible above the basement bar. It allows natural light to stream down into the basement.

Both Collander and Chase say that their favorite part of the home is the dining room. "The aqua cabinets and merlot velvet chairs are a cheerful entry into the home. From the dining room you can see into the butler's pantry with a fun marble backsplash. Everyone at the table has a great view, each different," says Chase. The built-in wall was created because more storage was needed. Collander says, "The homeowner loves to cook so we had to dedicate all of the kitchen storage to food prep. This built-in wall holds all the



The open plan kitchen and great room are perfect for entertaining. The Tournant faucet by **Kohler** is centered on the island, surrounded by **Caesarstone** countertops and flanked by modern bar stools covered in white leather.



The master bath provides a private, spa-like retreat, with a deep soaking tub and a Margaux tub filler by **Kohler**, in polished nickel. A lantern-style chandelier illuminates the room.



The guest bath is outfitted in **Kohler's** Artifacts collection, with Mizu wallpaper by Schumacher, in Sky. In the master bedroom, the teal and neutral palette continues with a rug by Jaipur and a bed by RH.

finer items and provides extra countertop space.”

The kitchen island is a place for the couple's young son to sit while his mom cooks. The breakfast area includes two towers of cabinetry for more storage, and includes a cubbyhole where purse, briefcase, keys, and laptop can be stowed. To create character in this new construction, the clients requested exposed beams. Collander and Chase created a custom stain to match the floors.

Other areas of escape in the home in-

clude the luxurious master bath, and the downstairs bar area, which has a more masculine feel, with walnut cabinets and honed, quartzite countertops. The cohesive color scheme, including neutrals, blues, and greens, “were all mutually agreed upon colors by the homeowners. Bold tones allowed the transitional design to feel contemporary at the same time.” The designers suggested an elegant pop of color. “The merlot chairs were us pushing the envelope, and we're happy they trusted us.” ■



Custom walnut cabinetry and a live edge wood table add warmth to the basement bar. The **Delta** Trinsic bar faucet adds a graphic touch in matte black.

“CREATING A COHESIVE DESIGN FOR **HOMEOWNERS** WITH VERY DIFFERENT PERSONAL STYLES WAS A CHALLENGE.”—LAUREN COLLANDER



The great room is the picture of comfort, with a sectional and lounge chair anchored by a wood coffee table by Four Hands and a pair of green credenzas by Modshop.