



For Immediate Release...

April 4, 2024

## ADAC ANNOUNCES...

### FINALISTS FOR THE 2024 SOUTHEAST DESIGNERS AND ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR AWARDS

*Three Categories, Four States, and 26 Finalists Recognized*

**ATLANTA:** The Atlanta Decorative Arts Center (ADAC) remains dedicated to uniting designers, architects, builders, and creatives from across the Southeast through annual events, notably through its annual Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Awards, co-sponsored by VERANDA. These prestigious accolades shine a spotlight on both established names and rising stars whose innovative ideas are reshaping the world of design in the Southeast and beyond.

This year, ADAC is proud to announce **26 finalists** from **four states** across **three categories**: residential design, contract design, and architecture. Entries poured in from nine states including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, showcasing the awards' regional reach. From these entries, finalists were meticulously selected by a distinguished panel of industry experts including VERANDA Executive Editor **Ellen McGauley**, Corey Damen Jenkins & Associates Founder and Principal, **Corey Damen Jenkins**, and Schafer Buccellato Architects Partner, **Aimee Buccellito**.

Due to the caliber of judges and the opportunity to be recognized in the great company of the most talented designers from across the Southeast, being named a finalist is something to celebrate on its own. Finalists are given unmatched networking and exposure opportunities through the Finalists Celebration and the Awards Gala, plus ADAC will promote all finalists and winners on its social channels to over 35K followers throughout the year.

As the prestige of the Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Awards continues to grow, it is exciting to see that entries were received from not only major metropolitan hubs but from smaller enclaves across the Southeast, such as Ridgeland, MS, Seacrest, FL, Charlottesville, VA, and beyond. The contract design category also experienced exponential growth, showcasing the appeal of the awards to a new category of designers as well. This interest and influx of entries underscores ADAC's regional influence, emphasizing the significance of nurturing connections and forging relationships beyond its Atlanta headquarters.

"I am deeply committed to the Southeast Designers and Architect of the Year Awards as more than just a celebration of talent, but as a testament to the power of fostering connections," said Katie Miner, ADAC General Manager. "By uniting designers, architects, and creatives from across the Southeast, we not only showcase excellence but ignite a spark of collaboration and innovation. These connections not only shape our industry but also redefine what's possible. Together, through these awards, we're forging a future where creativity knows no bounds."

Finalists will be celebrated at the Finalists Celebration on April 24 at Ernest Gaspard in Suite 109 as a part of the DESIGN ADAC annual spring market, inviting all to converge in Atlanta to celebrate, connect, and commemorate these outstanding achievements. Media interested in attending the celebration can RSVP to [rsvp@360media.net](mailto:rsvp@360media.net).

#### The 2024 Finalists for Residential, Contract and Architecture include:

##### Residential Design Finalists

- Brad Ramsey Interiors | *Nashville, TN*
- Charles H Chewing Interiors | *Savannah, GA*
- Dana Wolter of Dana Wolter Interiors | *Mountain Brook, AL*
- David Frazier | *West Point, GA*
- Ellerslie Interiors | *Nashville, TN*
- Fogarty Finger | *Atlanta, GA*
- Jared Hughes Design | *Atlanta, GA*
- Julie Terrell Interior Design | *Birmingham, AL*
- William Peace of Peace Design | *Atlanta, GA*
- Schilling & Co. | *Atlanta, GA*
- Suzanne Kasler Interiors | *Atlanta, GA*
- Connie Vernich of Vernich Interiors | *Nashville, TN*
- Williams Papadopoulos Design | *Atlanta, GA*

- Whitney Ray of Wyeth Ray Interiors | *Atlanta, GA*
- Yancey Seibert Shearouse of Yancey Seibert Interior Design | *Augusta, GA*

### **Contract Design Finalists**

- Anderson Design Studio | *Nashville, TN*
- Blackberry Farm Design | *Maryville, TN*
- Fogarty Finger | *Atlanta, GA*
- Harris Interiors | *Atlanta, GA*
- Tate Casper & Jordan Winston of Oxford Design | *Tampa, FL*
- Pixel Design Collaborative | *Decatur, GA*
- William Peace of Peace Design | *Atlanta, GA*
- Summer Williams Design | *Atlanta, GA*
- Square Feet Studio | *Atlanta, GA*
- The Johnson Studio at Cooper Carry | *Atlanta, GA*

### **Architecture Finalists**

- Linda MacArthur Architect | *Atlanta, GA*
- Summerour Architects | *Atlanta, GA*
- TS Adams Studio Architects | *Atlanta, GA*

### **About the 2024 Judges Panel:**

#### **Aimee Buccellato**, *Schafer Buccellato Architects, Partner*

Buccellato is a partner at Schafer Buccellato Architects, an award-winning, AD100 architecture firm known for designing traditional residences that are elegant, comfortable, and suited to modern living. She received her Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Notre Dame and earned a Master of Design Studies degree from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University, where she studied early Renaissance theories of composition. Early in her career, she joined her now business partner, Gil Schafer, at G. P. Schafer Architect, as the firm's very first employee. While at GPSA, Buccellato led several of the firm's first award-winning projects and was a formative part of the firm's development. In 2008, she accepted a position teaching at the University of Notre Dame's School of Architecture, where she received tenure in 2017. She founded Buccellato Design with her husband and business partner Kevin Buccellato in 2011, and the firm worked on projects around the country before joining forces with G. P. Schafer Architect, a "coming home" of sorts, in 2023 to create Schafer Buccellato Architects. In addition to having projects featured in an array of national media and winning a variety of awards for completed projects, Buccellato has authored and co-authored 28 academic papers and served as both a member and Vice President of the board of the City of South Bend Venues, Parks, and Arts Commission, appointed by Mayor Pete Buttigieg in 2015. She lives with her family in Essex County, New Jersey.

#### **Corey Damen Jenkins**, *Corey Damen Jenkins & Associates, Founder and Principal*

Founder and Principal at Corey Damen Jenkins & Associates, Jenkins is an award-winning and internationally acclaimed interior designer based in New York City. Jenkins is celebrated for mixing vivid colors with layered patterns to create inspired, iconic, and uplifting spaces, as well as designing furniture that brings the best of the classics into the present with panache and refined elegance. Jenkins is an inductee of Architectural Digest's AD100, ELLE Decor's A-List, 1st Dibs 50, and is a celebrated instructor of Interior Design on the MasterClass educational platform. Jenkins's bold interiors have graced the front covers of House Beautiful and Traditional Home and have received extensive features in many other publications including VERANDA, House & Garden, Vanity Fair, The New York Times, Better Homes and Gardens, ELLE Decor, The Wall Street Journal, and The Detroit News. His first coffee table book, "Design Remix: A New Spin on Traditional Rooms" (Rizzoli), was released worldwide in March 2021 and has entered its seventh reprint. Jenkins has many notable partnerships including licensed collections with Kravet Couture, Hancock & Moore, Maitland-Smith, and Leftbank Art. Jenkins is a proud Board of Trustee Member for the Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club in Bronx, New York City.

#### **Ellen McGauley**, *Veranda, Executive Editor*

McGauley is the executive editor of VERANDA with 20 years of experience writing, scouting, and producing design, decorative arts, travel, and garden stories. She began her career in New York, working at Time Inc. and Doubleday, before moving south to Charleston, South Carolina, where she helped launch *Charleston Home* magazine and served as its editor. In her roles at national titles in Birmingham, Alabama, she leads discussions on topics from antiques to classical gardens and develops stories that shine a light on the soul of a home.

For a full schedule of DESIGN ADAC events, as well as information about the Finalists Celebration, visit [www.adacatlanta.com/design-adac](http://www.adacatlanta.com/design-adac). Interviews and photography are available upon request.

**ABOUT ADAC:** Built more than 60 years ago by renowned architect and developer John Portman in the prestigious Buckhead community of Atlanta, ADAC (Atlanta Decorative Arts Center) is a community-focused, nationally recognized leader in the world of interior design and home fashion, serving as the essential one-stop shopping resource for interior designers, architects, and builders. In November 2018, ADAC was acquired by ANDMORE<sup>SM</sup> and parent company Blackstone, the world's largest operator of premier showroom space for the furnishings, home décor and gift industries. The ADAC campus consists of ADAC and ADAC WEST with more than 550,000 square feet with over 25 design offices and more than 65 showrooms offering 1,200 of the industry's finest product lines including furniture, fabric, rugs, lighting, accessories, floor and wall coverings, antiques, fine art and framing, kitchens, bath, tile and stone, and home theater products. Likewise, ADAC's extensive services include custom designs such as framing, electronic systems, faux finishing, and draperies. To learn more, visit [www.adacatlanta.com](http://www.adacatlanta.com). Follow along on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).

**Media Contacts:** Tara Murphy + Stevie Seay | 360 Media, Inc. | 404-577-8686 | [stevie@360media.net](mailto:stevie@360media.net)

###