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Renovating for a Cause

THE 2009 DC DESIGN HOUSE REFLECTS
AN EXCITING TRANSFORMATION

WRITTEN BY TRISH DONNALLY | PHOTOGRAPHY BY MORGAN HOWARTH



A win-win situation arose when St. John's Episcopal Church in Georgetown offered its rectory to be used for the 2009 DC Design House: The rectory got some sorely needed TLC, and the Design House raised more than \$100,000 for the Children's National Medical Center.

A mere 42 days passed from the time the 16 design teams were selected until the house was opened for tours. In the end, the three-story Victorian, which was built in 1874-1875, was left with a beautiful new kitchen, powder room, and owner's bathroom, not to mention the other existing rooms that were splendidly transformed. The designers utilized 77 rolls of wallpaper and 109 gallons of zero-VOC paint in the process, all donated by Farrow & Ball.

Washington Spaces was proud to be the media partner for this show house, which more than 7,500 visitors toured during the 20 days it was open in late April and early May. From the inviting dining room designed by Camille Saum, which beckons with warm color and character, to the crisp urban sitting room by Sally Steponkus, and the luxurious laundry room by Draza Stamenich, designers impressed us with their ingenuity, talent, and ability to work on a tight schedule. Take a look.

SEATED, CLOCKWISE FROM FOREGROUND LEFT: Samantha Friedman of Samantha Friedman Interior Designs LLC; Michael Roberson of Michael Roberson Interior Design; Christine Kelley of Petro Design/Build Inc.; Sally Steponkus of Sally Steponkus Interiors Inc.; Kathleen Litchfield of Petro Design/Build Inc.; Marjory Segal of The Well Furnished Garden & Home

STANDING, LEFT TO RIGHT: Wayne Breeden of E. Wayne Breeden; Camille Saum of Camille Saum Interior Design LLC; Draza Stamenich of Draza LLC; Marlene Weiss Alexander of Weiss Designs; Susan Thompson of Susan Thompson Interiors LLC; Heather Safferstone of Sally Steponkus Interiors Inc.; Sarah Wessel of Sarah Wessel Designs Ltd; Julie Weber and Joe Ireland of J.D. Ireland Interior Architecture & Design; Iantha Carley of Iantha Carley Interiors



Warm Hospitality

Camille Saum gave the dining room a soft glow that hugs you as you enter. The warmth from the color on the walls (Orangery by Farrow & Ball) is only part of the story. Ali Nassiri from Atelier Artists hand-stenciled the ceiling and then hand-painted squares on the floor. Saum designed monogrammed linen "bibs" for the Karges and Caron chairs and selected Sunset china by Missoni Home for her place settings. She sent colors from the china to Elizabeth Dax when she commissioned Dax to create a work of art for above the mantel. (The two never met; everything was done by mail.) And, Saum adds, "Deborah Gore Dean [of Gore Dean] beaded the Swedish chandelier in clear and aubergine crystals especially for my room."

Camille Saum Interior Design LLC | 301.657.9817 | camillesaum.com

Surprise and Serendipity

The whimsical iron chandelier that crowns the library by Sarah Wessel is not the one the designer originally envisioned. That one arrived broken. But Wessel's always loved David Iatesta's light and airy chandelier, and the metalwork designer came to her rescue when she needed him the most. "I'm actually happier with this than the one I originally ordered," she says. Another challenge Wessel overcame was the floor that sags three inches from the room's perimeter to the center. Pieter Felix Boogaerts of Boogaerts Fine Cabinetry custom-built the bookcases so no one would ever notice. Wessel covered books in Farrow & Ball papers, because it was harder than she'd expected to fill the bookcases with leather-bound tomes. "The thing about bookcases is you always need more books than you think because they swallow them up." Eco-friendly wing chairs by Lee Industries, a cloverleaf ottoman, an étagère from AmericanEye, and cream wool draperies enhance this wonderful space.

Sarah Wessel Designs Ltd. | 202.337.1910
sarahwessel.com



A Gem of a Powder Room

Samantha Friedman kept things in scale when she updated a small powder room beneath the center-hall stairs. She enclosed exposed pipes, created a sink alcove, and dressed the tiny sink with a sheer mint-green skirt. The delicate winding branches of The Ringwold Papers help guide the eye upwards. And the window sheers and valance by Pilchard Designs invite natural light. The mini chandelier from Ferguson Enterprises reflects in the mirror from Robert Allen.

Samantha Friedman Interior Designs LLC | 301.529.1900
samanthafriedmaninteriors.com

A Soothing Room To Live In

Faced with a long, large living room, David Mitchell created two lovely seating areas, one with a sofa and chairs, the other oriented towards the garden with an Oly daybed. A skirted table in front of the fireplace divided the two spaces. He mixed "high and low, elegant and casual" elements using sisal rugs on hardwood floors and a soothing Pale Powder on the walls. "It's that beautiful combination of earth and sky," Mitchell says. "The outside world is so full of drama; you want your house to be peaceful." The creative way he filled two walls was most noteworthy. Mitchell cut graphic art paper into 9-inch-by-6-inch rectangles, then paired them in combos he liked and framed them to create original art statements.

David Mitchell Interior Design | 202.797.0780 | davidmitchellinteriordesign.com

