

Stephanie Henley

Marketing guru and co-owner, BHID

Philosophy: Keep it simple but don't be boring. Beasley & Henley has what we have labeled the five foundations — color, texture, lighting, artwork and architectural detailing.

Favorite project: In this space, I love how the colors and the shapes are expressive and interesting, textural and sensual. The basics, though, are simple, and the quality of the pieces is high. I love the detailing on the wall and the glass partition. It implies privacy and gives definition to the area, but keeps the space visually open.

Favorite things now: Light colors — it brightens things up and keeps design joyful. Green going mainstream. Mid-Century classic furnishings. The plethora of new, interesting modern bathtubs in so many shapes, sizes and materials. Modern fireplaces that burn alcohol.

Christie Hill

Market president, Workscapes, Inc.

Philsophy: To create a beautiful interior work space that provides an effective, ergonomic and revenue producing environment for our clients.

Favorite project: One of my favorite projects I worked on with Edward Woodill of Studio 3 Design. It was a downtown corporate office, specifically the conference room. The design intent was to create timeless elegance within an urban, industrial space. The space featured a highly customized conference room. The table was custom designed to follow the line of the bulk head with the coordination of pin lights in the ceiling that specifically hit each individual seat. A beautiful and comfortable conference room followed painstaking precision and customization.

Favorite things now: My Issey Miyake handbag, whose inspiration came from Frank Gehry. It has a polymorphous shape that takes on a new shape each time I set it down. The integration of technology and how it creates form and function in the work environment. Design that addresses the demographic diversity and overcomes generational gaps in the work place. Jewelry creations of Jill Platner. Beginning a collection of an eclectic mix of chairs that will sit in solitary and yet tell a story.



Diana Simaan Kessler

Partner and shareholder at Baker Barrios Architects; owner and CEO of Diana Simaan Couture

Philosophy: My design philosophy begins with getting to know my client and understanding their vision and functional requirements. I strive to create environments that are timeless, functional, sustainable and innovative, resulting in spaces that people can enjoy for many years and feel inspired by.

Favorite project: It's hard to pick just one, but I chose this picture of a project I completed several years ago for SunTrust because it truly reflects my design philosophy, standing the test of time.

Favorite things now: Having my own clothing line, I love how fashion and interior design have merged. I enjoy using some of my favorite vendors, including Swarovski; Lusive Decor, custom lighting; Tracy Glover, a line of colorful hand-blown glass for commercial use; and 3 Form, featuring a wide range of products for custom projects.







Jill Cotton

Co-owner, Soco Interiors

Philosophy: Listen first and then collaborate as a team to make the client happy. Never take yourself too seriously.

Favorite room: A dining room from a wonderful vacation home we designed in the Carolinas. I love the mixture of rustic warm materials with a dash of modern.

Favorite things now: White on white or cream walls, and furniture with colorful original art, fewer (but larger) accessories, thick and square-edged countertops, crisp white hotel bedding, a "collected" look and the concept of less is more.