

# NKBA

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**2010 NKBA Design Competition  
PINNACLE OF DESIGN WINNER**

**James Howard,  
CKD CBD**





The shared attribute seen in hundreds of 2010 NKBA Design Competition entries is the use of fresh and highly complex design concepts. Limitless thinking appears to be the assignable source of the awe-inspiring kitchen and bath designs being produced by top creative professionals across the United States and Canada. Review and enjoy the progressive design trends for 2010, as seen in the 2010 NKBA Design Competition. By Annette Gray



## Scaling of Elements

Kirsti Wolfe

Kirsti Wolfe Designs, Bend, Oregon

Complexly integrated and opposing contrasts are clearing a path for distinctive design, while also bringing a content balance to the overall scale of kitchens and bathrooms. Invigorating textures that make you want to reach out to touch a pebbled surface, and textures implied by the strong lines and veins in a smooth granite countertop are examples of the uninhibited elements being applied for their contribution to scale in design. This bathroom oasis, which includes a coffeemaker, stacked washer and dryer, and a wall-mounted fireplace, is a careful compilation of glass, tile, granite mirror, wood, fire and water. Water runs forward into fingertips over a faucet appearing to be a glass plate, heavy-toned granite overhangs a light bird's eye maple cabinetry, narrow recessed niches backed with mirror, and the long vertical lines of spun glass pendant lighting all assist the selectively layered scale of elements applied by the artful hand of Designer, Kirsti Wolfe. Wolfe has created natural boundaries and geometrically defined spaces, which give this bathroom a pleasing sense of purpose and comfort in its balanced sense of scale.



## Color with Energy

Adel Visser, CKD, CBD

All About Kitchens & More, Sacramento, CA

Years back, design was all about neutral, implying that the neutral color palette of a room was just a backdrop. The neutral tones selected for cabinetry, wall color, and flooring were to act in their neutrality as the mild unassuming partner to anything you might want to place in the room. While neutrals can still be seen, they are playing a lesser and supporting role to their more vibrant leading counterparts. This kitchen's confident palette begins with deep lush turquoise and robin's egg blue paired with natural cherry cabinetry, Sapele mahogany wood tops, and copper colored porcelain tile floors in a balance of warm and cold. "I think the mood of the kitchen is energizing and uplifting" said the designer, Adel Visser, CKD, CBD, whose client initially came to her with a small bottle of turquoise paint as a reference for her favorite color: Tropical Ocean, which conveys the feeling of cool, calm water. When fearless colors are introduced artfully with the counterbalance of stainless steel and shimmering lights, the result is not only palatable, but perfection.