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FOCUS/HOME DESIGN

Arlington duo receive re-modeling 'Oscar'

BOWA Builders of America, a 4-year-old design-build construction firm based in Arlington, was named 1991 "Contractor of the Year" (COTY) in two categories by the National Association of Remodeling Industry's metropolitan Washington chapter.

The company is the first firm to win two COTYs in the same year and its co-founders Joshua Baker and Larry Weinberg, both 28, are the youngest company principals to receive the award.

BOWA received its COTYs in the "entire house remodeling category" and in the "creative solutions under \$10,000 group." The remodeling award was given to the BOWA for its renovations of a storm damaged house in Bethesda. The project entailed converting a 1,700 square foot single-story rambler to a 3,000 square foot two story contemporary in less than eight months.

BOWA received its second COTY for the construction of



Partners Josh Baker (left), former chemist at Exxon, and Larry Weinberg, a former CPA with Arthur Anderson, founded BOWA Builders of America in 1988. The firm has grown at the rate of 65 percent per year.

Photo by John Cleave

a child's play house in Arlington. The project combined classical design themes with a functional playground for

children under the age of 10. The COTY honors the best remodeling projects completed by professionals in an 18-month period. ■