

CUSTOM HOMES OF DISTINCTION



Meridian Homes, Inc. PHOTO BY BOB NAROD

BY MEGANN DAW

BECAUSE MANY FAMILIES spend substantial amounts of time in and money on their homes, the ultimate and universal goal of architects and builders is to develop the highest quality design and construction for each residence. And since each family's needs differ, designers and builders are challenged to be creative, customizing each unique project to each individual need. Homes built on speculation offer additional challenges as they must appeal to the needs of many families yet also feel specialized to individual needs. While custom homebuilders face these issues every day as they rebuild, reorganize, and add on to existing homes or create entirely new structures, they are only recognized for their achievements once each year. Here, *ChesapeakeHome* is pleased to present a selection of the Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association's (MNCBIA) 2006 award winning custom homes.



BOWA BUILDERS, INC.

Gold Award Winner: Custom Whole House Renovation

Architect: Mark Kramer

Photography: Bob Narod

To create a larger, more richly detailed home for these Bethesda homeowners, BOWA Builders maximized buildable space on the tight corner lot and added a new kitchen, eating area, piano room, master bedroom, dressing, and bath area, sun room and porch, home theater, exercise room, and 4-car garage. Because renovations brought the house within a 1/2 inch of building restrictions, BOWA minimized the size and expanse of the structure by altering the rooflines and relocated the front entrance since the garage had to be placed in the front of the house to account for the site's shape. The new stone and stucco exterior adds warmth and drama, and the renovated home is now the perfect setting for the homeowners and their extensive car, wine, and album collections.





BOWA BUILDERS, INC.

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In collaboration with interior designer Ernesto Santalla, BOWA Builders renovated and added onto the kitchen of this Tudor-style home to modernize the space, improve access to a deck, and create a butler's pantry and a vestibule for the clients' cherished art collection. An addition was constructed to create a new breakfast room, and Santalla developed an interior design scheme that blended the traditional exterior with a more contemporary interior décor. The renovation called for precision to accommodate the German-engineered aluminum and wood veneer Bulthaup cabinets, an aluminum island countertop, and Caesarstone countertops. The finished project offers not only an updated kitchen and décor but also a bright gallery space for art.