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best of
DESIGN

Thanks to your submissions, here is our annual roundup of the local design talents who are having a moment now.

BY TATE GUNNERSON, LAURA HINE & ANDREA MILLS





PHOTO BY WENNER STRAUJE

BEST MUDROOM

Studio Brunstrum

(1242 N. Wells St., 312.572.9090, studiobrunstrum.com)

A complete gut renovation of the first floor of this Libertyville home included the homeowner's request for a laundry- and mudroom that would keep everything from homework to hockey equipment organized while still providing space for a washer, dryer and food pantry. Designer Susan Brunstrum and her team totally rethought the space, and worked with Amish Custom Kitchens to provide cabinetry with abundant drawers, shelves, cubbies and a bench. The countertop is a functional and beautiful Pierre Gris polished marble, and the pantry is tucked behind a space-saving pocket door. "Since this is the family's main entrance to the home, we wanted to make life easier every morning and evening," says Brunstrum. "By combining two rooms and moving the entrance to the kitchen, we were able to provide purpose-driven storage and organizational solutions."