



The Johnson House Project

PRESERVING A PIECE OF COLORADO HISTORY

WRITTEN BY ERIN OSOVETS

THE SAYING "IT TAKES A VILLAGE" never rang truer than when 22 interior designers from different companies across Colorado got together for the massive undertaking of redecorating the historic Johnson House in Central City. Last touched in the 1980's, the Johnson House project would prove to be a labor of love that resulted in a truly remarkable outcome and new friendships forged in blood, sweat and tears.

Built in 1867, the Johnson House was the first property in Central City to have indoor plumbing and was home to several local luminaries who were among the earliest supporters of Central City Opera. When the Opera acquired the property in 1961, it became a space used for events, parties and hosting overnight guests and the wear and tear over the years became obvious. Maintaining a property like the Johnson House, along with the 27 other properties the Opera owns in Central City, is a full-time job for which there are never enough resources, so when the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) took an interest in restoring the Johnson House to its former glory pro bono, it was more than Central City Opera could ever have wished for.

"It was all hands on deck," says Christie Lyn Del Clotto, President of the ASID Colorado Board of Directors. "We knew that by adopting the Johnson House, our vendors and designers could preserve a piece of Colorado history and do justice to this incredible property."

The Johnson House got a makeover from top to bottom, from the covered front porch to the second floor bathroom. The two-story

Gablefront Folk Victorian home has three bedrooms, two full baths, a living and dining area and an eat-in kitchen.

"We wanted to create a space that would be enjoyed by the community and remain true to the history of the house," says Tristan Powers of Campbell-Powers Interiors and ASID member. "It's amazing that this large of a team of designers worked in such a small space and it looks like it was one cohesive project."

"We estimate that about \$250,000 went into the Johnson House, in the form of labor, products and outside vendors," says Del Clotto. "Thanks to the help of Eric Chinn (Central City Opera's Director of Historic Properties), we were able to recycle and refinish a lot of existing pieces that were already in Central City."

Anyone who has renovated a home before knows that the more you tear apart, the more issues you uncover. While the Johnson House was mainly a cosmetic remodel, ASID took care to do lead paint remediation and asbestos removal. Appropriate permits were pulled, which took a lot of careful planning and waiting, considering the delicate age of the home.

"There were lots of moments where it looked like things would not work out," says Del Clotto. "ASID's motto became, 'We've got this! A heartfelt thanks to the 130 volunteers and donors for their willingness to give freely of their time, talent and goods. These combined efforts allowed us to make a big difference in a small Colorado community.'"

ADVERTISEMENT



1. Upstairs Bedroom #1: Jonathon Gonzalez, Petite Maison 2. Kitchen: Dorothy Olivier, William Ohs Showroom, Inc. 3. House Exterior: Christe Del Ciotto, The Sherwin-Williams Company, Tristan Powers, Campbell-Powers Interiors 4. Hallway: Denise & Rob Krogman, RDK Design & Build 5. Front Porch: Jennifer Porter, Blue J Interiors 6. & 7. Game Room and 2nd Floor Bath: Robin Pasley, Robin Pasley Design; Courtney Wilson, Echo Architecture + Interiors; Amy Schuster, Echo Architecture + Interiors 8. Living Room/Plano Room: Trish Bonney, TAB Interiors 9. Upstairs Bedroom #2: Susan Cole, Susan Cole Interiors, Inc.; Anna Smith, Annabode 10. Dining Room: Jeanine Kerr, Décor Innovations; Nancy VanCleve, VanCleve Interior Design 11. The Carmen Room: Jennifer Jelinek, JJ Interiors; Jennifer Medoff, Dragonfly Interiors 12. Downstairs Bathroom: Krista Reese, KBR Designs, LLC; Marlena Carson, Marlena Design Group

ALL PHOTOGRAPHY BY VICTOR ARANGO

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

- | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Advantage Stone Fabrication | Cole's Interiors Design Center, Inc. | Floor Coverings By CPA Florida Tile | Karen Fisher Art | Precision Wallcovering | Splashlight Studio |
| AK Custom Furniture | Color Cord Company | G&M Stone Tops | Katelynn Mai-Fusco | PTR Welding and Fabrication | Straight Up Wallcovering |
| Annabode | Coloured Paint | Galleria Lighting | Kathleen and John Ness | RDK Design and Build | Sue Clinton |
| Anonymous | Columbine Showroom | Glen's Handyman Service | Kathy Green | Reliance Builders of Colorado | Susan and Jim Turner |
| ASID-Colorado Chapter | Commercial Building Services Inc | Grand Z Casino and Hotel | KBR Designs, LLC | Revolution Performance Fabrics | TAB Interior Designs, LLC |
| Aztec Carpet & Rugs | Cool Beans Designs, LLC | Heritage West Realty LLC | Khyber Customs LLC | Rico's Upholstery | The Floor Club |
| Basset Furniture | Coupar Lester | Home Depot | King Rooter & Plumbing, LLC | Robin Pasley Interiors | The Shanahan Collection |
| BeadDweeb | Décor Innovations | Hygge & West | Lantz-Boggio Architects | Rocky Mountain Asset Management | The Sherwin-Williams Company |
| Bellaire Dynamik LLC | Decorative Materials | Imhoff Fine Residential Painting | Liz Graham Art Consulting | Rocky Mountain Sales, Inc. | The Stone Collection |
| Benchmark Services | Denver Rug Company | Ireland's Finest Painting Co. Inc | Luxe Magazine | Routed in Mud | The Tile Shop |
| BirdDog Partners | Design Source II | JD&D Painting | Margaret and Stan Baker | Ryan Schlaefer | Tiffany Sonnett |
| BK Holland Enterprises | Design Wright Studios | Jessica Rose Couture | Marlene Design Group | Fine Furniture | Tom's Upholstery |
| Blue J Interiors | Designer Moving Installation | JJ Interiors, LLC | Mode Distributing | Samsung | Top Knobs USA, Inc. |
| Bluerth | Dragonfly Designs | Joan Dooley | Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Meckel | Seamless Custom Tile LLC | Total Floors |
| Bona | Echo Architecture + Interiors | Joe and Christie Del Ciotto | Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Erzinger | Shaw Floors | Trapp's Wallpaper & Paint |
| Caesarstone | Eddie Bell | Johnny Z's | Mr. Roy Varela | Shaver-Ramsey | Urban Lights |
| Campbell-Powers Interiors | Elm Tree Living | Jon and Lynne Montague-Clouse | Original Roots, Design + Build | Shaw Floors | VanCleve Interior Design |
| Canvas Etc. | Eminence Flooring | Jordan's Building Center | PaperFace | SJO Electric LLC. | Wall Tawk |
| Cathy and Greg Groene | Eric Chinn | Josh Sheldon Installation | Petite Mason | SJW Studios | Wallcovering Installers |
| Central City Opera | Eric's Moving and Storage Fabricut | K Contemporary | Pinnacle Hardwood, Inc. | Specialty Appliance | Association Rocky Mountain Chapter |
| Chris's Glass | Fiber-Seal of Colorado | Karen and Andrew Ritz | | | William Ohs, Inc. |
| CMR Premier Appliance Installation | | | | | Zeal Living |
| Cole Interiors Inc. | | | | | |

