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## Remaking the most of it

## Contest shows that stylish design, quality construction available at all price ranges

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Urban Building Group and DiFabion Remodeling were the top honorees at the remodeling industry's annual awards banquet this month. The companies' winning projects reflect the innovative ways, from small to large, that we improve our homes: They won for everything from bath and kitchen updates to whole-house makeovers.

Andrew Roby followed with four top awards in categories just as diverse.

Again this year, the contest showed that stylish design and quality construction are available at all price ranges.

The three companies and others were honored in the annual Contractor of the Year Awards hosted by the Charlotte chapter of NARI, the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

Remodelers were honored in 23 categories, with additional "Merit" recognition going to architects and designers.

Judges were architect David Wagner, residential designer Christopher Phelps and myself, former Home section editor of the Observer. Contractors' names were removed from entries for judging.

In addition to design, craftsmanship and function, judges scored projects on unique problems that the contractor faced and specific goals achieved:

The top score went to Charlotte Design Build in the historic renovation category, with "Merit" recognition to architect Allen Brooks. The team created a modern family kitchen in a 1920s house in the Elizabeth neighborhood, while honoring historic guidelines.

A close second went to Segue Builders for green remodeling. The homeowner wanted to renovate her entire home, but do it while adhering to Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards for energy efficiency. Allen Norwood



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