

Chapter Officer Update

NKBA

– The Latest News from NKBA Headquarters –

March 2020





Message From Headquarters

Wow.

These are certainly unprecedented times, and as we've all been bombarded with communications from multiple channels from companies offering their well wishes, we won't contribute to that overload. We all know juggling the work-from-home, home schooling and taking care of our families can be overwhelming, and the last thing you need is someone else offering advice on how to manage your time.

Let us just say while some individuals might regard picking out new cabinet hardware as trivial in times like these, we know it's not. It is a sign of hope, of confidence in the future and returning to our normal lives. Our homes are becoming more important than ever before, real and figurative places of safe haven and sanctuary. And as the most important rooms in the house, kitchens and baths play an increasingly important role in that sense of comfort — *especially* in unprecedented times.

We are fortunate to be in an industry able to provide that sense of comfort through the creation of beautiful, functional and safe spaces. It is our privilege — and responsibility — to stay on top of our collective game, keep up with professional development, take advantage of free webinars and perhaps take the next step on the journey to certification or earning a Specialty Badge, so that when the world returns to normal, we will be there to help clients create those special spaces.

The NKBA membership is a proactive group, and when that time comes, we will be ready to proceed. We know this period of unexpected upheaval hasn't been easy. To help gauge members' feelings, we fielded a survey about the impact of COVID-19 on their businesses. On a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being "no impact," and 10 being "significant" the average rating was 7.4. The biggest factor among designers, builders and retailers was consumers' desires to practice social distancing, while manufacturers said the need to protect the health and safety of their workers was having the biggest impact. While most respondents said they were experiencing some delays in current or scheduled projects, fewer than 20% said they had a lot of job cancellations.

We are delighted to announce the approval of a new subchapter formation, which was confirmed by our Board of Directors at their last meeting. It is the Southwest Florida Subchapter, and draws from areas from the lower portion of the Central Florida Chapter and the western areas of the South Florida Chapter. We're working out the details and will let you know the ZIP codes that make up the new chapter, however, if any members wish to remain in their original chapter, they will have that option. More to come on this exciting development.

The professional Design Competition opens for entries on April 1, with members entitled to one free entry during the early-bird period, extended through May 31 to give members additional time to gather their submission materials and still qualify for the discount. Additional entries for members are \$129, while non-members may enter for \$199 per entry, any time through the submission period, which closes July 3. Click [here](#) for information or an entry packet. So if you know of a designer in your area who isn't yet a member, this is a perfect opportunity to encourage them to join and get a free entry — that usually covers the cost of joining!



Message From Headquarters

And, while we're on the subject of competitions, our 2019-2020 Student Design Competition entry deadline has also been extended until June 22.

Proposals for the 2021 Voices from the Industry Conference will also open on April 1. Share your knowledge and expertise at a session during KBIS in Orlando, Feb. 9-11. Details are [here](#).

We proudly recognize the following members who have earned certification in the last month:

Jenni Russell, CKBD, Hom Solutions, Rocky Mountain Chapter; **Kristen Longo, AKBD**, Distefano Brothers Construction Inc., Northern New England Chapter; **Nicole Lynch, AKBD**, DesignLoft, Carolina Chapter; **Emily Labarre, AKBD**, Portland Community College-Sylvania Campus, Columbia River Chapter; **Erika Sunstrum, AKBD**, Hay Design Inc., Ottawa Chapter; **Gayatri Bhatt, AKBD**, The Home Depot, Ontario/Canada Chapter; **Terry Stevens, AKBD**, G.M. Roth Design, Northern New England Chapter; **Ayrton Farrell, AKBD**, Germanhaus, British Columbia Chapter.

Congratulations to all of you for taking the next step to prepare for the future, which we hope will be brighter than ever. Audrey Hepburn famously said, "To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow." Let's plant those seeds and get ready for sunnier days ahead. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Stay well,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bill Darcy'.

Bill Darcy, CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Suzie Williford'.

Suzie Williford, EVP, Industry Relations & CSO



CEUs for Training

Certified designers can self-report the following CEU's for Chapter Officer Training at KBIS:

- + January 20 - AM session - .1 CEU
- + January 20 - PM breakout sessions - .3 CEU
- + January 22 – State of the Association/State of the Industry - .1 CEU

Did you know leadership at the chapter and national level will qualify for CEUs? Check out the [CEU handbook](#) for new opportunities to earn CEUs.

Chapter Web Pages

The new chapter web pages are available and we have already received requests from several chapters to get started! When your chapter is ready:

- + Email chapters@nkba.org and advise the chapter would like to begin the new webpages (any links to your current self-managed site will be removed and not accessible from NKBA)
- + We will “turn on the link” and provide a “User Guide”
- + There will be a first time set up approval from National
- + Remember you can still use your own registration links (Constant contact, Eventbrite, Star chapter, Wild Apricot, etc.) within your postings.

Chapter Calendar

A list of important 2020 dates for chapters has been updated and is on the Resources page of the website. This list will be updated periodically and should be your information resource for all reporting deadlines. It is a good practice to refer to the calendar at the beginning of each month to see if there are any documents due during the coming month.



Chapter Presentation Program

Don't forget to include two speakers from the Chapter Presentation Program in your 2020 chapter meeting planning. NKBA will pay the speaker fee for two visits per chapter each year plus the speaker's travel fees for one visit. All presentations have been approved for .1 CEU and we have added new speakers and presentations to the list. For a full description of the program's updated guidelines and a list of speakers and topics visit the NKBA website at [Chapters/Chapter Presentation Program](#).

Chapter Meeting Notices

Thank you all for keeping us posted on your upcoming meetings. Please contact us at chapters@nkba.org with any inquiries on your chapter meetings.

Reminder: All chapter meeting notices must be posted on the Chapter's webpage. The Chapter's Communications Chair should post your meeting events four weeks in advance to give your members time to add the date to their calendars. [Click here](#) for the Chapter Event Submission Form. If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact Julie Figiel at chapters@nkba.org.

Chapter Leadership Committee

As a reminder, the Chapter Leadership Committee provides a link between the chapters and National. They are charged with monitoring member needs and conveying these needs to National staff. The CLC members are available to assist your chapter with questions and will work with National to address your concerns. Get to know your chapter leaders! [Click here.](#)

New Market Research Reports on NKBA.org

NKBA's Research Department is the leading source of industry and economic information on residential kitchens and bathrooms. Its mission is to educate, inform and empower members by providing them with up to date, reliable and usable information to help them make informed business decisions.

Please remind your members that NKBA research is a great benefit to them and to invite them to visit the NKBA store regularly so they can access new reports as they are published. <https://store.nkba.org/collections/research>





Specialty Badge Program

- + *It's a Great Time To Complete Your NKBA Specialty Badge!* Have you started the process to earn an NKBA Specialty Badge? Here are convenient links to sit for the online exam and earn your Badge today! If you are ready to proceed to the exam, please fill out the [NKBA Badge Exam Form](#). Need assistance or have questions, contact badge@nkba.org.
- + The NKBA will be revealing the next set of Specialty Badge credentials over the next few months. These newest badges will become available to members by year's end 2020 and join our current seven badges.
- + A [Specialty Badge Program flyer](#) is available to all Chapters, as well as a newly updated, in-depth [informational webinar](#) that includes a PowerPoint presentation.

2020 Free Webinar Series

- + The NKBA Free Webinar Series continues in April 2020 with Sustainable Living + Design webinars! Join us for engaging presentations and content with some of the industry's top professionals.
- + For April, May and June, we'll be featuring 5 webinars per month and including SMEs from our badge program who'll be presenting a webinar. Also, with the end of the CEU cycle on June 30th, NKBA certified members have 15 more webinars they can attend before the cycle ends.
- + If you attend 80% of the "live" webinar session you earn 0.1 CEU to apply toward recertification. Check out the webinar schedule and register today by clicking [here!](#)

Certification Exam Prep Courses

Reminder: Chapter Officers receive a 30% discount on NKBA online certification prep courses. The discount code to use at checkout is Education2020.

Newly Certified Members

The NKBA would like to recognize and congratulate the following members who recently earned their certification:

- + Jenni Russell, CKBD, Rocky Mountain, Hom Solutions
- + Kristen Longo, AKBD, Northern New England, Distefano Brothers Construction, Inc.
- + Nicole Lynch, AKBD, Carolina, DesignLoft
- + Emily Labarre, AKBD, Columbia River, Portland Community College-Sylvania Campus
- + Erika Sunstrum, AKBD, Ottawa, Hay Design, Inc.
- + Gayatri Bhatt, AKBD, Ontario/Canada, The Home Depot
- + Terry Stevens, AKBD, Northern New England, G.M. Roth Design
- + Ayrton Farrell, AKBD, British Columbia, Germanhaus

Reminder: Members who have recently earned a certification or specialty badge, and completed their online profile on NKBA.org, are highlighted on the NKBA newsfeed and social media.



KBIS 2020 Stats

NKBA has recently published the KBIS 2020 Events Report. For stats, highlights, demographics and more [click here](#).



NKBA NextUp

- + NKBA has launched [NKBA NextUp](#), a multi-tiered program to recruit and empower the next generation of talent to fill jobs in the design and construction industry. By focusing on creating hands-on experiences, changing the dialogue and connecting interest to action through chapters, NKBA aims to recruit and empower a well-prepared workforce for our industry. To learn more, visit our [webpage](#) or email nextup@nkba.org.
- + [Click here](#) for the Fox News interview at KBIS with NKBA's CEO, Bill Darcy, announcing the NKBA NextUp program.
- + Your company can assist with NKBA NextUp! All member companies can post part-time jobs, job shadowing, internships and entry level opportunities on the [Jobs portal](#) for eager students. With your help, we can have an even greater impact to ensure the future K&B industry will prosper.

NKBA Design Competition

The NKBA Design Competition will be opening for entries April 1 and will close for submissions July 3. Categories for entries are below:

- + **Contemporary Kitchen:** Small/Medium (Under 250 sq. ft.)
- + **Contemporary Kitchen:** Large/Extra-Large (More than 250 sq. ft.)
- + **Traditional Kitchen:** Small/Medium (Under 250 sq. ft.)
- + **Traditional Kitchen:** Large/Extra-Large (More than 250 sq. ft.)
- + **Contemporary Bathroom:** Small/Medium (Under 55 sq. ft.)
- + **Contemporary Bathroom:** Large/Extra-Large (More than 55 sq. ft.)
- + **Traditional Bathroom:** Small/Medium (Under 55 sq. ft.)
- + **Traditional Bathroom:** Large/Extra-Large (More than 55 sq. ft.)
- + **Outdoor Kitchen**
- + **Living In Place**

We have an early bird option from April 1 – May 31.

Members receive their first submission for free! There are over \$60,000 worth of prizes available so take advantage of this opportunity to enter. We are looking forward to seeing your wonderfully creative designs.



Call For Design Competition Judges

NKBA has launched our call for judges for the upcoming NKBA Design Competition. Certified designers (CKD, CBD, CKBD, CMKBD) have received an email regarding the submission process. If interested, simply fill out the submission form. Selected judges will be notified by the end of March.

Thirty Under 30

- + This year's nomination and self-nomination process will open on June 1. Start thinking about the young professionals you know who can benefit from this program. If looking to nominate someone, consider asking them to self-nominate as well.
- + Nominations that demonstrate accomplishments and clearly outline business success have a better chance of selection.

Voices From The Industry 2.0

- + NKBA is excited to announce that the Request for VFTI speakers will open April 1. The Orange County Convention Center is a great location for our conference and we are excited to offer over 60 speaking opportunities for everyone in the industry to attend. Space for presenters is limited this year, so make sure to get your submissions entered. NKBA member speakers will earn CEUs at KBIS for presenting!
- + Presenters will be notified of their acceptance to the conference by June 30, 2020.
- + If you are passionate about an industry topic and want to share your knowledge, simply [visit this webpage](#) to enter your submission. All topics will be reviewed for CEUs for KBIS only.

Affiliated Schools and Students

- + Do you have a college or university in your area that you would like to see become affiliated with the NKBA? Schools can join the NKBA at no charge by completing the online application at [NKBA.org](https://www.nkba.org). NKBA Affiliated Schools are encouraged to have a student chapter. The Student Chapter Toolkit can be found under Resources. Please contact us at schools@nkba.org if you have any questions about Student Chapters.
- + In response to Educator feedback, we will be rolling out some Affiliated Schools program enhancements such as a redesigned Student Design Competition, collaborative opportunities for educators, and an invitation to take part in a pilot program designed to further support and connect educators at Affiliated Schools. If you have any questions, please contact schools@nkba.org.



Membership/Resources

Thanks to the efforts of chapters and our Sales team, we have greatly increased new membership. Our new members are excited to attend their local chapter events. Please be sure to request your rosters monthly from chapters@nkba.org to ensure your new members are being invited to your next event.

- + [Member Benefits Booklet](#)
- + [Membership Application](#)
- + [Benefits of Membership Video](#)

NKBA.org Profiles

Company and individual profiles are separate. Don't forget to complete both profiles to maximize your web presence.

[NKBA Profile Instructions](#)

NKBA.org Jobs Portal

Don't forget to post on our [Jobs portal](#) to attract talent to the kitchen and bath industry. Posted jobs will remain active on the site for 90 days. After that period, the posting will be removed and the company that posted the job will be notified and can easily reactivate the post if it has not been filled. For questions, contact Member Relations at info@nkba.org.

Contact Information Update

If you or members in your chapter have changed companies, e-mails, home addresses, etc., please reach out to the NKBA Member Services Team at info@nkba.org and update your information. The changes will be reflected the next time you pull your chapter's roster, as they need to be made with National to be updated.



NKBA Chapter Relations Department Contact List 1-800-843-6522
First Contact: Donna Jensen, Ext 4844 – Sr. Specialist Chapter Relations
Julie Figiel, Ext 3746 – Manager, Chapter Relations (Chapter Growth Advocacy)

NKBA Government Relations Department Contact List
Silvia Lattoz, Ext 3793 – *Sr. Manager, Governance*
Steven Campeau, Ext 3787 - Government Relations Specialist
Suzie Williford, 832-421-1285 – Executive Vice President, Industry Relations & CSO

Chapter Leadership Committee
[Click Here](#). Also located on the website on the Resources page, under Chapter Officer Resources.

Did you miss the previous issue of the Chapter Officer Update or do you have suggestions for future issues? If so, email Donna Jensen at djensen@nkba.org.

