BEST IN DESIGN

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READERS' CHOICE

BEST ARCHITECTURE FIRM // JGMA

JGMA is just 5 years old and already has a legacy. The architecture firm, led by principle Juan Moreno, has just opened doors on its most recent completed institutional assignment, El Centro. The 63,000-square-foot facility was commissioned by NEIU as a satellite campus where academics, neighbors and commuters to and from the city collide to stop and stare. Visible from the Kennedy Expressway north of Belmont, massive bicolored fins protrude from the facade. "I wanted to create something that could speak to the great designs of the city before you get downtown," says Moreno, "and could be a testament to architecture's place in our community." **What We Love:** We believe JGMA has the ability to catapult our city's reputation from a destination for traditional building design to one of progressive, modern forms as well. *218 S Wabash Ave., Suite 200, jgma.co*

MAKING WAVES
President of JGMA Juan Moreno with El Centro, his latest architectural design for NEIU on the North Side

BEST PRODUCT DESIGN FIRM // THE PATTERNBASE

Local designers Kristi O'Meara and Audrey Victoria Keiller of The Patternbase are shaking the dust off the textile industry. In under three years, their innovative studio has released dozens of hand-illustrated, hand-painted and digitally rendered pattern and print designs for the fashion and interiors industries. The girls are inspired by everything from fine art to '90s fashion and a few favorite film animations. With countless collaborations under their belts this year—Bucketfeet, Appliq and more—and a book with Thames & Hudson to launch June 2015, O'Meara and Keiller are planning their next moves. The recipients of the 2014 Propeller Fund grant plan to open their first gallery space in the city this spring, which will offer limited runs of high-fashion garment designs by both local and international designers, pattern-inspired visual art, vintage textiles and handmade art objects. **What We Love:** The duo's schemes are the most cutting-edge we've witnessed, from an adorable elephant-and-jeep safari theme to moody black-and-white watercolor motifs. *2543 W. Division St., thepatternbase.com*

BEST INTERIOR DESIGN FIRM, CONTEMPORARY // BRIANNE BISHOP DESIGN

Known for her modern sophistication balanced with an edgy industrial slant, Brianne Bishop is behind some of Chicago's coolest businesses and sleekest residences. Her process is greatly inspired by travel, but it starts with the client. "I love getting to know them as a person, then reflecting my interpretation into their space," she says. Such was the case with a recent project in Lakeview; Bishop was initially hired to renovate a man cave based on her work at Van Buren Gentlemen's Salon, but once she got to know the homeowners, they decided to redo the entire townhouse—including this bathroom, completely clad in Carrara marble. Bishop changed the layout of the space and installed a full-height pocket door that creates the illusion of a bigger room. The heated floor is covered in mini herringbone mosaic tile; the deep soaking tub is Kallista; and a custom floating vanity with a double sink by Lacava features waterfall faucets by Philippe Starck. **What We Love:** Bishop strives for complete harmony between environment, architecture and interior to achieve a stylized space that is both personal and functional. *1424 W. Chicago Ave., briannebishopdesign.com*

MASTERPIECE
Brianne Bishop's latest bathroom installation involves sleek cabinetry and a take-the-order contemporary light fixture.