

OCTOBER 2020

# KBB

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF **NKBA + KBIS**

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STORAGE SOLUTIONS /WHAT'S NEW IN TOILETS & DECORATIVE HARDWARE

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**KBB**  
**product**  
**innovator**  
**AWARDS 2020**  
**WINNERS**



• **NKBA STUDENT  
DESIGN COMP  
WINNERS**

• **TODAY'S  
SHOWROOMS ADAPT  
TO CHANGES**



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# What's Hot in Toilets

**1. DURAVIT's** SensoWash Slim has been updated for the North American market to include heated seat functionality. SensoWash Slim pairs with Duravit's Viu, Happy D.2, ME by Starck, Darling New, DuraStyle, Starck 2, Starck 3, P3 Comforts and Vero Air toilets – all of which are available with Duravit's germ-fighting HygieneGlaze 2.0. MSRP is \$2,215. [www.duravit.us](http://www.duravit.us)

**2.** Launching in Q4 of 2020, Avoir from **KOHLER** is a battery-powered, one-piece, tankless toilet that does not require access to an electrical outlet and needs only four AA batteries to power the toilet for one year. There is a quiet-close seat, cover-hinge mechanism and fully skirted design for easy cleaning and maintenance, as well as a high-efficiency, 1.28 gpf line pressure. Estimated consumer price is \$1,998. [www.us.kohler.com/us](http://www.us.kohler.com/us)

**3. AMERICAN STANDARD's** Studio S Low-Profile Toilet is a tankless design that complements the contemporary aesthetic of the Studio S Collection. The water-saving system uses just 1.0 gpf to completely clear the bowl the first time, without requiring batteries or electrical power. MSRP is \$1,295. [www.americanstandard-us.com](http://www.americanstandard-us.com)

**4.** Now available with dual-flush and high-efficiency flushing, the Malibu II from **ICERA** takes the simplicity of the Malibu further with a fully skirted look. The Malibu II has a compact elongated design that is only 28 inches from front to back. The toilet is also EPA WaterSense compliant and offers two flushing options: 1.28 or 0.9 gpf. MSRP is \$518. [www.icerabath.com](http://www.icerabath.com)

**5.** The **DXV** Belshire One-Piece Elongated Toilet coordinates with the DXV Golden Era Collection. The toilet features EverClean technology to prevent stain- and odor-causing bacteria and build up, as well as PowerWash technology to clean the bowl with every flush. MSRP is \$988. [www.dvx.com](http://www.dvx.com)

**6.** Inspired by the geometric lines of circles and cubes, the Eurocube and Essence toilets feature **GROHE's** InfaBright finish to inhibit the growth of stain- and odor-causing bacteria, as well as DreamClean technology for better bowl cleaning. Made from vitreous china with a 1.28 gpf rate, these models use 20 percent less water than conventional toilets. [www.grohe.us](http://www.grohe.us)

**7. SPEAKMAN** Glenwynn Perfect-Height toilets feature a linear skirted bottom for an updated look and a rimless interior that reduces crevices inside the bowl. The flush valve, fill valve and flapper are adjustable, allowing the user to set the water level for optimum performance and water saving. MSRP for the two-piece toilet (shown here) is \$645, and it is \$877 for the one-piece unit. [www.speakman.com](http://www.speakman.com)

**8.** All the new **WOLVERINE BRASS** Finale Ultimate toilets boast a smooth-glazed porcelain finish and a tank-flushing system that is WaterSense certified. The Finale Ultimate Skirted Toilet – shown here in a two-piece unit – also features a rimless bowl and a skirted bottom. MSRP starts at \$179.19 for the six different models. [www.plumbmaster.com/wolverinebrass](http://www.plumbmaster.com/wolverinebrass)

**9.** Paired with **TOTO's** SP Wall-Hung Toilet, the new wave-inspired WASHLET+ SW offers a warm-aerated water, dual-action spray; adjustable temperature, pressure, pulsating and oscillating features; warm air dryer; heated seat; auto-open/close and auto-flush; in-bowl catalytic deodorizer; and energy- and water-saving features. Saving as much as 9 inches of space, the SP WASHLET+ SW Wall-Hung Toilet also boasts the Dynamax Tornado Flush system. MSRP is \$6,056. [www.totousa.com](http://www.totousa.com)



# KBB product innovator AWARDS 2020

By Chelsie Butler

AFTER THE LAST SEVEN MONTHS, I think we could collectively use a sigh of relief and a pat on the back. As an industry, we have overcome a multitude of challenges and rebounded in the face of this global pandemic that has tried – unsuccessfully – to bring us to our knees.

While we are still making our way through this uncertain period of time, what remains constant is the desire for products that make things easier for us. This year's Product Innovator Award winners fulfill this wish tenfold – whether the product incorporates smart technology, antimicrobial and hygienic properties, temperature zones to keep food fresher for longer or ease of use for aging in place.

Other elements our winners encompass include entertaining ease – inside and outdoors – customization and personalization, accommodations for smaller spaces and offerings that cater to everyone in the household.

We are extremely proud to introduce KBB's 2020 Product Innovator Award winners. This year's competition was especially interesting since there were so many offerings that fit clients' needs today – while we are all navigating this unprecedented time. Our esteemed panel of judges included a variety of kitchen and bath industry professionals, as well as an industrial product designer for a new perspective on this year's competition. They awarded our coveted Kitchen and Bath Products of the Year, as well as second and third places, and we also brought back the popular Judges' Picks.

**Congrats to this year's winning products!**

**Joseph Clymer** is one of the top remodeling sales and design experts from South Jersey. He started in the field with Southampton-based Amiano & Son Construction and has developed into a seasoned specialist – ranging from kitchens to full-home renovations. Today, Clymer is the sales and design director for the company, coordinating sales of \$4,000,000+ annually. He is a member of the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA) Thirty Under 30 and the recipient of multiple Builders League of South Jersey sales awards, including the Million Dollar Club and Sales Person of the Year. In 2019, Clymer was inducted into the SNJ Millennials 30 Under 30, and in 2020, he was inducted into the Pro Remodeler 40 Under 40.



**Rose Dostal, AIA, ASID**, owner of RMD Designs in Hudson, Ohio, is an architect, boutique showroom owner and principal designer. But if you ask her friends, they'd say she's an amateur dancer and chef wannabe, too. Dostal has a passion for connecting with clients – she endeavors to always foster the mantra, "Be Part of the Experience," as she digs deep into her clients' design needs and engages in an exciting journey together. She's a veteran judge for student design competitions and has been on many kitchen and bath product development committees. As a nod to her architectural background, classic aesthetics are at the foundation of all of her work. She admires simplifying and lives by the motto, "There's always room for change," in life, in trends and especially in designing.



A partner, collaborator and advocate of product and interaction design, **Jonah Griffith** has more than 15 years of experience designing industrial products, consumer products, housewares and medical products. As design director for Tactile – with offices in Seattle and Boston – he interfaces directly with internal design and engineering teams, providing expertise and ongoing support in industrial design, design for manufacture, materials, complex surfacing and brand strategy. Griffith has helped clients understand real development obstacles and opportunities, and he's worked with Tektronix, Milwaukee Tool, Samsung, Starbucks, Naked Prosthetics, IVL & The Gates Foundation, Genie Lifts, DCI, Panasonic, Microsoft, Ecobee and GE. He holds more than 30 U.S. patents and has won several design awards.



With more than 20 years of experience, **Kerrie Kelly** is the creative director for Kerrie Kelly Design Lab, an award-winning California interior designer, an author and contributor, a product designer and a multi-media consultant – helping national brands reach the interior design market. Kelly is a fellow, chair-elect to the National Board and chair to the Foundation Board of Trustees for the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID); Houzz Pro Advisory Board member; and the 2020 Trends Expert of the NKBA. She is also an avid representative, speaker and on-air talent for outdoor living and livable design initiatives. She has authored two books: *Home Decor: A Sunset Design Guide*, with Sunset Books, and *My Interior Design Kit*, with Pearson Professional and Career Education.



## Shokunin Kamado Grill

by Kalamazoo Outdoor Gourmet

LOOKING FOR A COOL APPLIANCE to help enhance the outdoor experience for your clients? The Shokunin Kamado Grill has improved on the traditional model with features that include an adjustable fire grate system that accommodates three cooking positions: smoking, roasting and searing. Users can choose charcoal or wood – or a combination of the two – when using this grill, which can maintain a temperature of 225 degrees for 65 hours on 12 lbs. of charcoal. The stainless-steel \$5,995

Shokunin Kamado Grill design was inspired by high-end furniture, as seen in the ipe wood detail on the frame and handle. According to Russ Faulk, Kalamazoo's chief designer and head of product, the basics of this grill are very easy for beginners to learn, but there are more advanced techniques that open up as the client's experience grows. Judges chose this product for its well-thought-out design and performance characteristics.

[kalamazoogourmet.com](http://kalamazoogourmet.com)



## Terra Waterfall Vanity Sink by MTI Baths

CUSTOMIZATION IS KEY with clients these days. Enter the Terra Waterfall Vanity Sink, which is a handcrafted unit from MTI Baths that can be personalized for different preferences. The sink is integrated with the vanity, and the design controls water flow down the right-hand side into a floor-mounted drain. According to Russell Adams, MTI Baths' president and chief design officer, by using Solid Works and 3D printing, the design team graduated the flow of water toward the top of the

waterfall and then contoured the waterfall side with slight steps, so the water flows smoothly down the side in a controlled fashion. The version shown is \$20,000, but smaller choices are available, and the sink bowl can also be made to use with a different vanity top and drain for more conventional usage. The judges chose this product for its waterfall likeness, wheelchair accessibility and hidden plumbing.

[mtibaths.com](http://mtibaths.com)



Photo credit: Jeff Herr Photography

## Smart Cooker

by Chef iQ

A PRESSURE COOKER that inspires recipes and helps you prepare meals? Yes please! The CHEF iQ Smart Cooker features Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity to its firmware updates, a built-in scale and calculator and a helpful app that includes a multitude of recipe ideas, as well as a Guided Cooking experience with video tutorials. Users – even those who are not tech savvy – can easily send cooking data and updates from the app to the cooker and vice versa so that both can track the user's preferences. The CHEF iQ Smart Cooker retails for \$199 and offers a matte-black finish, a 6-quart capacity, a variety of presets and special technology that allows it to release pressure at the appropriate pace and time for cooking precision and safety. The judges chose the product because it packs a punch in a small, portable appliance.

[chefiq.com](http://chefiq.com)

