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kitchen & bath DESIGN NEWS

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COLOR TRENDS • 48

Unexpected Neutrals

2026 FORECAST • 44

Balancing Strategies

DESIGN STYLE • 62

Textures in the Kitchen

KBIS 2026 • 76

What's New, What's Next

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Fine Fixtures

WHILE TECHNOLOGY HAS caught the eye of designers and consumers alike when it comes to the development of new products for the kitchen and bath, beautiful, quality pieces that make a statement are still at the center of those designs. Functionality is key, but the look and feel of a product, and the way the design fits together visually, remains the main goal for a space.

While larger pieces often anchor the room's overall design, it's the complementary items that deliver that personalized feeling of home. But these elements – including faucets, fixtures, hardware and accessories – do more than look beautiful. They are ergonomically designed, exquisitely engineered and detailed for long life.

The Decorative Plumbing & Hardware Association, based in Bethesda, MD, is a community of industry professionals dedicated to the manufacture and distribution of faucets, fixtures and other elements for the home, in particular the kitchen and bath. Each year, the DPHA honors new products in this arena through its Product of the Year Awards, which recognizes their uniqueness, design, functionality, innovation and technological

superiority. This year, the association presented the 24th POTY Awards at its annual conference and product showcase, which was held in October 2025 in Houston, TX.

An independent panel of judges – all experts in the field of design and construction – evaluated each of the entries. The judges for the 2025 DPHA Awards included: Eliot Sefrin, founding editor and publisher emeritus of *Kitchen & Bath Design News*; Alena Capra, owner, Alena Capra Designs in Fort Lauderdale, FL; Eric Goranson, CKD, producer and host of "Around the House with Eric G"; Alissa Ponchione, executive editor at *Hospitality Design* magazine; Garrison Hullinger, founder and principal designer, Garrison Hullinger Interior Design in Portland, OR; Molly Switzer, founder, Molly N. Switzer Designs in Portland, OR, and Carol Kurth, principal, Carol Kurth Architecture + Interiors in Bedford, NY. Award winners were presented in nine separate categories: Kitchen Faucet & Fixture, Bathroom Fixture, Bathroom Faucets & Fittings, Furniture, Accessory, Cabinet Hardware, Door Hardware, Engineering and Innovative Technology.

Kitchen Faucet and Fixture



↑ WINNER

Brizo Kitchen & Bath Company: The Frank Lloyd Wright Kitchen Collection

The Frank Lloyd Wright Kitchen Collection by Brizo includes a pull-down kitchen and prep faucet (optional SmartTouch Technology available), bar faucet, instant hot faucet, beverage faucet, pot-filler and soap dispenser. Each piece is carefully constructed to reflect Wright's iconic approach to form and proportion. The collection is available in 10 distinctive finish options, including split-finish combinations that include Brilliance Black Onyx/Wood and Brilliance Luxe Gold/Wood.

Bathroom Fixture



↑ WINNER

Native Trails: Arcata

Arcata is a modern undermount trough sink collection available in 30", 36" and 48" sizes and 10 colors. All three sizes are UPC/uUPC and ADA compliant. Crafted by hand from Native Trails' proprietary NativeStone, Arcata offers the strength and durability of concrete at 40 percent less weight, according to the firm. The new earth-toned finishes – Forest, Sage, Sand and Terracotta – bring a grounded, nature-inspired palette to modern bath design, Native Trails adds.

Bathroom Faucets & Fittings



↑ WINNER

Dornbracht: Atelier

The Dornbracht Atelier is not a single product but a concept – an open platform that invites designers, architects and clients to co-create one-of-a-kind fittings that reflect their personal visions and design narratives. Whether incorporating unusual finishes such as velvet, leather or recycled eggshell mosaics or translating the elegant form of a swan into a functional faucet, Atelier turns inspiration into tangible, functional works of art, notes Dornbracht. Shown is a faucet with a feather finish.

Furniture



↑ WINNER

Hastings Bath Collection: Etoile Collection

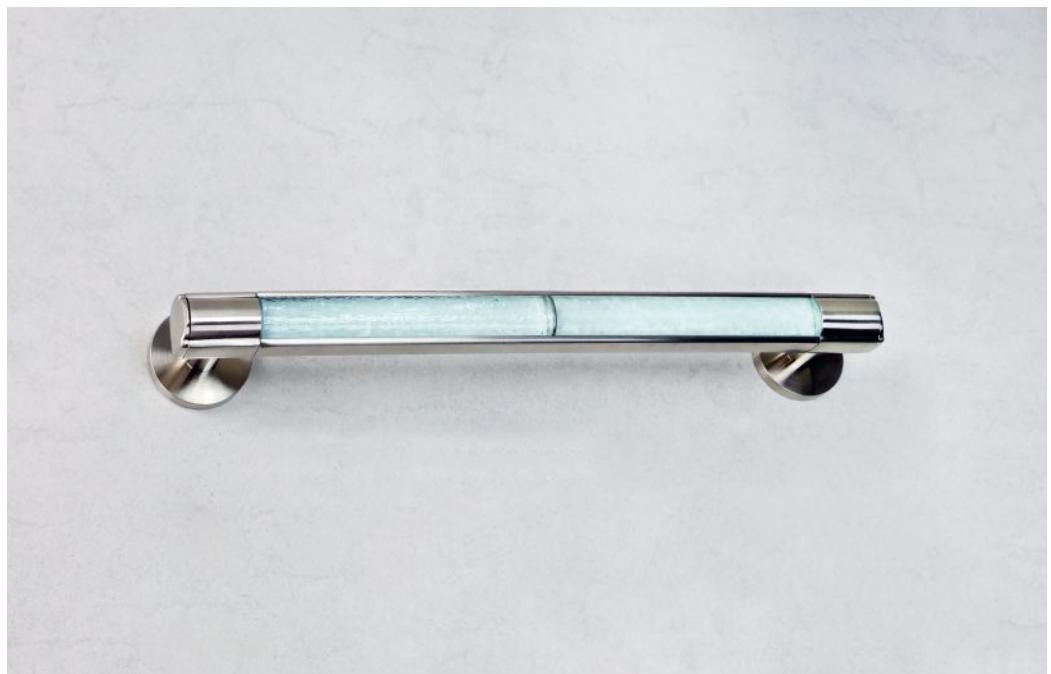
The Etoile solid ash wood vanity collection from Hastings Bath Collection is available in 19 colors, two sizes – 31.5" and 39.38" – and push-to-open drawers. Available with or without a fluted décor, the vanity, which is fashioned from wood sourced from controlled reforestation zones, includes a color matched lower storage shelf for towels and amenities. The series also includes a selection of wall storage solutions and mirrors to coordinate.

Accessory

→ WINNER

LifeValet: Vibe and Harmony Grab Bars

LifeValet's Vibe and Harmony grab bar systems are engineered to provide safety without sacrificing style, according to the company. Available in multiple configurations and finishes, Vibe is crafted to enhance, not interrupt, the visual flow of a space by incorporating coordinating tile inserts. Glass tile insert options have been added to the tile-ready options offered.





Cabinet Hardware

↑ WINNER

Water Street Brass: Cabinet Cremone Sets

Inspired by historical architectural references, Water Street Brass' Cabinet Cremone Sets pay homage to traditional European cabinetry hardware while re-imagining it for contemporary spaces, providing seamless integration of historic charm with modern-day ease of use, notes the firm. The sets are available in a range of knob and pull styles and finishes to coordinate with a range of styles.

Innovative Technology



↑ WINNER

ThermaSol: Solaris Sauna

ThermaSol's Solaris is the first fully off-grid, solar-powered sauna available in the U.S., according to the company. The design eliminates the need for external power sources, offering flexibility in installation locations. Solaris is equipped with a compact sauna heater, and the inclusion of the Xenio digital control panel allows for temperature and lighting management. The Solar-Tinted Panoramic Glass Wall invites natural light while preserving user privacy.

Engineering



↑ WINNER

ThermaSol: VUE Outdoor Sauna

Designed for all seasons, the ThermaSol VUE Outdoor Sauna features multi-layer insulated walls with sustainable wood fiber and a weather-resistant roof. The VUE boasts a floor-to-ceiling glass façade, offering unobstructed views that connect users with the surrounding environment. The 9kW Harvia heater delivers consistent and efficient heat distribution, states the firm. The integrated RGB LED color therapy lighting allows users to customize their ambiance.

Door Hardware



↑ WINNER

Baldwin Hardware: Reserve

Made from brass, Reserve by Baldwin Hardware is offered in 10 signature finishes, including unlacquered brass and PVD lifetime finishes. Reserve has two styles: Wyndcliff, which is a sculptural lever with gentle taper and flowing form, and Solvang, which offers a modern take on the classic round knob. All components come packaged together for a simplified, intuitive install, states the firm.