

HOME TOUR

SHOWSTOPPER



In case you missed it, here is a last look at the 2020 Showhouse & Gardens' grand Lake Forest estate.

WORDS BY ALLISON DUNCAN

In the late 1920s, renowned architect Stanley Anderson gut renovated a 1906 colonial style home—originally designed by Frost & Granger—for investment banker William Allan Pinkerton Pullman, a relative of the famed car developer and manufacturer George M. Pullman.

Anderson had already made myriad contributions to the visual character of Lake Forest throughout his career—think the concrete post and lantern style streetlight designs throughout the city and the design of Lake Forest High School—and his turn-of-the-century architecture helped later inspire the world class gardens on the property by New York landscape architect Annette Hoyt Flanders, who worked with Pullman in 1937.

An avid gardener and co-founder of the Chicago Botanic Garden, Pullman planted Ginkgo trees, rare Chinese maples, Japanese lilacs, and boxwood hedges, many of which still exist today. Both

the interior and exterior designs have stood the test of time so, when the Lake Forest Auxiliary Chapter of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago named the home for its 2020 Showhouse & Gardens, participating designers were tasked with honoring the heritage and character of the house for a modern audience.

Since 1985, the Lake Forest Auxiliary Chapter of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago has hosted a nationally recognized designer Showhouse & Gardens to benefit the Angel Harvey Family Health Center of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago, which provides healthcare to Chicago's medically underserved. Since its inception, the Lake Forest Showhouse has raised in excess of \$4 million for the deserving cause.

This year, almost 40 interior and landscape designers, including honorary chair Paloma Contreras, transformed the 23 room, 11,000-square-foot East Lake Forest Pullman property into a show stopping tribute to the latest in design and décor.

HOME TOUR



Women's Retreat by Andrea Goldman Design. Photography by Almée Mazzenga

Office by North Shore Nest. Photography by Almée Mazzenga



than ever. Everyone wants to be outside enjoying nature but in the comfort of your own space. Who wouldn't want a little nook dedicated to horticulture?"

Although not initially planned this way, the women's retreat by Andrea Goldman Design is perhaps another response to COVID and is Goldman's answer to decades of man caves, libraries, dens, and converted garages.

"This space functions as an epicenter for a woman's life in her home," says Goldman. "A serene retreat space feels incredibly necessary now that people are staying at home, and the space is versatile. It can be used for a game night, relaxing and reading, or morning coffee on the terrace."

Filled with warm, light, and airy hues, the room features a

handblown glass pendant from Longhouse paired with knotted rope by artist Windy Chien; a French antique table to visually separate the lounge seating from the game/work table; layered Oscar Isberian rugs; and a one-of-a-kind 10-foot console table sourced from India with French postcards custom framed in linen.

Two other female-centric spaces within the home include the master closet by Ilene Chase Design, gilded in shades of black, pink, and gold, and the home office by North Shore Nest with a stand-out floral Schumacher wallpaper.

Chase's inspiration for the closet space was curated during her travels to Paris for Deco Off 2020. During her trip, she was surrounded by design, fashion, and the best of textiles, and was so in her element that creative visions were bursting at the seams. She could hardly wait to implement all of her finds into the closet design.

In the home office, Katie McFarlan balanced the palette with deep berries, charcoals, and blues. "The true inspiration for the room was the modern working mom or household CEO," says McFarlan. To elevate the cozy den, the North Shore Nest team added a faux fireplace, berry-painted moldings, and created a closet-turned-bookshelf.

"Transforming this room into a woman's space resonated with us as working moms because we know the struggle," says McFarlan. "The banquette seating provides additional areas for working or relaxing, and we loved the idea of doing a 'partner's table' instead of a typical desk."

Ultimately, the 2020 Showhouse proved that there really is no place like home.