

Education & Certification

Defining a new career or developing an existing one—the importance of continued learning.

▶ THE FIRST NKBA NON-DESIGN CERTIFICATION

www.nkba.org/certforms The Certified Kitchen & Bath Professional (CKBP™) is a new path for the non-design professional. Since August, the NKBA has received more than 800 inquiries from members interested in becoming one of the first CKBP's.

A Certified Kitchen & Bath Professional is qualified to work with NKBA-certified designers to meet the needs of the consumer. The focus of curriculum and critical areas of expertise are not centered on design, but in the areas of residential construction, general business knowledge, materials and product knowledge, and project management.

Are you interested in becoming a Certified Kitchen & Bath Professional? If so, we can help you:

- + Determine if you meet the requirements
- + Choose which NKBA courses are right for you
- + Decide on the best method of study
- + Complete your certification application

▶ 2011/2012 NKBA STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION CALL FOR ENTRIES

www.nkba.org/students Entry Deadline – November 30, 2011

Challenge: Renovate a 19th Century Row House

The 2011/2012 competition presented by the NKBA and sponsored by Sub-Zero/Wolf and Waypoint Living Spaces, a division and trademark of American Woodmark Corporation® will require students to research the history of a transitional style for this 19th Century Federal Row House.

The winning entries in both the kitchen and bath categories will be recognized at a special ceremony held during the 2012 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show in Chicago. The winning designs will be featured in *NKBA Magazine* and awarded the following prizes:

- + First Place Kitchen & First Place Bath: \$2,500 Scholarship
- + Second Place Kitchen & Second Place Bath: \$1,500 Scholarship
- + Third Place Kitchen & Third Place Bath: \$1,000 Scholarship

Award winners will also receive complimentary registration to KBIS 2012, which will include the awards ceremony, two nights' hotel stay, and transportation to the event.

▶ BLOG LIKE A PRO

www.mascocabinetry.com/bloglikeapro Calling all student bloggers. KraftMaid®, Merillat®, QualityCabinets™ and DeNova™ brands, and the NKBA would like to invite NKBA Student Members (U.S. schools only, excluding non-U.S. residents) to enter Blog Like a Pro. Students will learn the importance of communication. Whether you're a blogger now or have always wanted to blog, you won't want to miss this chance to win a \$1,500 scholarship!

▶ NKBA ACCREDITED PROGRAMS FOSTERS GROWTH OF NKBA CHAPTERS

Will there be qualified employees to work in the kitchen and bath industry in 2020? Will there be interested buyers to purchase your small business when you are ready to retire? Will there be volunteers willing to lead the industry? The answer to each of these questions is, yes. Provided that the NKBA Accredited Programs continues to grow, and develop as the best source to receive a formal education in kitchen and bath design.

In 1985, the volunteer members of the NKBA Long Range Planning (LRP) committee set a goal to double the retail membership within 3 years. The LRP committee determined that a college curriculum in kitchen and bath design was an important element to market NKBA membership to retail members. The first program was established in 1987 at Auburn University. Ten years after the founding of the college program, 15 programs had established agree-



Ruth Ann Taylor, CKD, CBD, 2001 graduate of East Carolina University (right), featured in the kitchen she designed for her client (left).



ments with NKBA as NKBA Endorsed Colleges. One of those 15 programs was East Carolina University (ECU).

So, is having a college curriculum in kitchen and bath design important to local businesses and the chapter? Ruth Ann Taylor, CKD, CBD, and President of the Eastern Carolinas Chapter and its members know the importance of having an NKBA Accredited Program to their chapter. Many of the local professionals and six of the current eleven Eastern Carolina Chapter officers are graduates from the ECU program. Ruth Ann, a 2001 ECU graduate, joins a select group of current chapter officers in Eastern Carolina who have also graduated from ECU including: Amy Norris, CKD, CBD, Ann Flowers, Chi Wang Yiu, Megan Poteat, AKBD, and Jessica L. Nelms, CKD. ECU has added to the local chapter growth so much that in the early 2000's the eastern portion of the state formed a new chapter from the Carolina Chapter and in 2004 the Eastern Carolina Chapter earned a full chapter status.

Today the Carolina's are represented by 4 chapters: Carolina, Eastern Carolina, GA/SC Coastal and Piedmont Blue Ridge Carolina. Ruth Ann volunteered as an officer for the newly formed chapter in 2004 and has been involved ever since. She claims, "The biggest thing I have gained in being involved in NKBA at the local and national level is the friendships I have developed. I have looked up to all my friends and peers, and they have all helped me to hone my skills as a designer. They made it easy to be the young one in the business. I wouldn't trade the friendships and colleagues I have in NKBA for anyone in the world." The chapter fosters their relationship with the school by organizing an annual scholarship competition that awards around \$2,000 in scholarships. They recognize the winners of the scholarships at their holiday meeting. They offer students of accredited programs \$5.00 admission to their meetings, individually they attend ECU often to jury competitions, mentor students, and speak hoping to inspire students to chose kitchen and bath design as their future career.

Ruth Ann was inspired to seek a career in kitchen and bath by her internship. She worked during her junior and senior years at a lumber yard doing kitchen and bath design. The reasons she chose kitchen and bath design was for many of the same reasons students enter the industry today. "Two things, one would be economic. I had a feeling that window treatments and "decoration" would be secondary to the need for kitchen cabinets in a bad economy, so I'd be safer in this type of career. The second was that I loved the idea that kitchen and bath design meshes the technical with the artistic. You are working with boxes in a microsystem, making everything fit and function with cabinetry, but you still get to go back and make it "pretty" and aesthetically pleasing as well!"

Ruth Ann contributes her college's relationship with the NKBA as the reason she is working in the field and achieved NKBA Certifications. More than 2,000 students graduate from NKBA college and university programs annually.

PRL Education Series

An excerpt from *Kitchen & Bath Project Management*.

How to Install Kitchen Cabinets

Step No. 13:

For typical cabinets with a sub-base (called a toekick) align and shim a corner cabinet as necessary to insure it is plumb. For decorative cabinets with furniture feet or columns/cabinet stiles extending to the floor, the original design should provide some means to modify the height. For example, decorative feet may incorporate a square scribing portion on the underside



of the foot. It is cut to fit an unlevelled floor, or is removed completely if a level floor surface exists. Or, decorative moulding can cover space resulting from an uneven floor between the floor and a shimmed column. If no such design adjustment exists, then hold a jobsite conference to decide how to lower the cabinet without compromising the height required for adjacent appliances.

Use some type of clamping device to hold adjacent cabinets together while installing the proper screws.

A master installer uses proper screws and the proper tools to install cabinets, with the necessary force (just enough, but not too much) to avoid splitting the face frame. The master installer then pulls adjoining cabinets together with screws. To do this:

- > Drill starter hole approximately 6" from the top and bottom of face frame.
- > Insert and tighten screw.
- > After hanging, joining, aligning and shimming all base and wall cabinets, tighten screws in the hanging strips



The NKBA Professional Resource Library is essential when preparing for the NKBA's certification exams. The complete nine volume set is on sale for Kitchen & Bath Month in October. See our ad on page 29.