



HOME+DESIGN

The
**2020
DESIGN
AWARDS**



— KITCHEN DESIGN AWARD

Erinn V. Design Group

By Abigail Stone
Photos by August Dering



LEFT: Palecek's barstools and a walnut wood ceiling offer a warm contrast to the cool gray tones of the hand-cut quartzite that runs up the walls and waterfalls over the kitchen's island. **RIGHT:** The Nobu dining table and the London Dining Chair, both in Dawn Oak from the Erinn V. Furniture Collection, pick up the tones of the home's pale oak flooring. The dining room's pendants are from David Pompa.



“The kitchen is also the dining room,” explains Erinn Valencich, citing a common challenge with the layout of modern homes. When rethinking this kitchen for an active family, Valencich began by designing custom cabinets that complemented the home’s beach-modern decor while also bestowing an elegance for the wife’s dinner parties.

Serving as an effortless connector of the two spaces, the oak soft gray cabinets—wire brushed and then cerused—evoke the color of driftwood. Hand-cut, book-matched quartzite rises to the ceiling and conceals the stove’s hood. It also waterfalls over the edge of the island, uniting the room. Capping it off is a bleached walnut wood ceiling whose rich hue offsets the kitchen’s cool gray tones. “It really warms up the room,” she enthuses. Valencich commissioned floating shelves whose blackened steel framework stands in for art, creating an elegant view from the living room. The dark metal, which finds its echo in the Lawson Fenning sconces, the Dacor cooktop and the Schoolhouse-sourced hardware balances the cluster of brass light fixtures that shed light on the dining table and chairs from the designer’s own line Erinn V. Floor-to-ceiling Fleetwood doors were the finishing touch and open the room to the outdoors. “We wanted the space to be impactful and beautiful and be more of a showpiece than just functional,” Valencich says. Mission accomplished.