



Design Awards Honor Decorative Concrete Projects

Cheng Concrete Exchange, an online resource and directory providing building professionals, designers, homeowners, and do-it-yourselfers with training, design ideas, business opportunities, and a complete line of concrete countertop products, has announced the winners of its third annual Members' Circle of Distinction Design Challenge. The contest, open exclusively to members of the exchange, received a total of 77 submissions, which were evaluated on design, technical skill, and overall aesthetic appeal.

Currently, Cheng Concrete Exchange includes about 275 members. The majority have completed the Advanced Countertop Design Training from Fu-Tung Cheng, the founder of the exchange and author of the best-selling books, *Concrete Countertops* and *Concrete at Home*.

"Fu-Tung's work is, and always has been, a great inspiration to our design firm," said Eric Boyd of Reaching Quiet Design in Charlotte, NC, the Circle of Distinction award recipient for Best of Show. "It is truly an honor of a lifetime to be recognized."

"The Concrete Exchange Members who submitted their work are pushing themselves, their peers, and the industry to innovate and deliver outstanding design solutions and craftsmanship," said Cheng. "They are redefining what is possible in concrete."

Award winners are as follows:

- **Best of Show:** Eric Boyd, Reaching Quiet Design, Charlotte, NC;
- **Best Kitchen Countertop:** Chris Stollery, Cast in Concrete Design, Vancouver, BC, Canada;
- **Best Bathroom Countertop:** Chris Becker, Becker Architectural Concrete, South St. Paul, MN;



This project was named Best of Show. "The platinum disk was meant to be a show piece for the space. The piece features a drop nose with wine holders, a drawer, and an integral cutting board," said Eric Boyd, the award recipient



The main objective of this project, the Best Kitchen Countertop, was “to fully take advantage of concrete’s design potential,” according to Chris Stollery

- **Best Integral Sink:** Chris Frazer, DC Custom Concrete, San Diego, CA;
- **Best Decorative Finishes:** Gregory Mata, Cutting Edge Decorative Concrete, Richfield, OH;
- **Best Functional Feature:** Sean Dunston, Concrete Jungle, Colorado Springs, CO; and
- **Best Three-Dimensional Application:** Keelin Kennedy, Barefoot Design, Chicago, IL.

Honorable mention was given to the following individuals:

- Jack Cooper, Cooper’s Custom Surfaces, Cardiff by the Sea, CA (for two projects);
- Mike Moncrieff, New Edge Design, Lynden, WA;
- Sean Dunston, Concrete Jungle, Colorado Springs, CO;
- Michael Power, Power Design, Waco, TX;
- Ian Wyndlow, Liquid Stone Studios, Ladysmith, BC, Canada; and
- Justin Hawkins, Livingstone Studios, Lincoln, RI.

For more information about Cheng Concrete Exchange or to view more photos of the winning projects, visit www.concreteexchange.com.



“The owners wanted this master suite to evoke a sense of Zen while still maintaining a continuity to the rest of the home’s bright colors and rustic finishes,” said Chris Becker, the Best Bath Countertop winner



The Best Integral Sink achieves Chris Frazer's objective of creating something out of the ordinary. "The 18 in. (450 mm) cone forces water to the outside, and a 2-degree pitch at the bottom has water go around back to drain," he said



Keelin Kennedy used a slab of claro walnut in the center of this Japanese-style dining room table to take home the honor of Best Three-Dimensional Application



To reach the owners' goal of an artistic daytime kitchen and a funky nighttime party space, Gregory Mata used custom hand-painted glass inlays that glow when illuminated with a black light



Sean Dunston wanted "to replace the standard cheap looking plastic light switch with a sort of functional sculpture, and I wanted to use capacitive resistance components and concrete to accomplish it." The result was the Best Functional Feature