

Naperville Designer Susan Gailani Receives Top Honor at International Window Coverings Expo 2018

Gailani Designs, Inc. project for Naperville client wins award at the window covering industry's elite convention and conference.

Tampa, Florida, April 9, 2018—Susan Gailani, founder and president of Gailani Designs, Inc., was awarded first place in the “top treatment” category at the prestigious 2018 VISION Design and Workroom Competition Awards Gala, held at the Tampa Convention Center in Tampa, FL. The VISION Design and Workroom Competition, presented and sponsored by Window Fashion VISION magazine, recognizes the industry’s best designs and fabrications in a variety of categories. This one-of-a-kind international competition is the “Academy Awards” of the window coverings industry.

A panel of distinguished window covering design and workroom experts reviewed over 200 entries received from designers in the United States, Canada, Europe, and Japan. Winners were announced during the U.S. window-treatment industry’s only trade show, International Window Coverings Expo 2018 held at the Tampa Convention Center which took place March 27-28, 2018.

Ms. Gailani designed draperies, valances and cornices for a bright, open kitchen and breakfast area. She found inspiration in the clean-line design in the rooms as well as in the stainless-steel appliances, cabinet hardware, the kitchen table and upholstered chairs. To add depth and visual interest, she incorporated buttons, cut-out shapes and layers of fabric to the design, all of which delighted her client.

“I wish I could take credit for the entire project, but I can’t. It takes a team of people to produce the result I envision, so I give heartfelt thanks to them,” she said, referring to fabricators Nolte and Tyson, installer Mike Budde, and photographer Richard Lanenga. “I also need to thank my client for trusting me to create what some might consider to be a pretty elaborate design,” she added.

The annual VISION Design and Workroom Competition highlights the skills and design achievements of individual designers, design firms, and workrooms. In addition to the category in which Ms. Gailani won first place – top treatments – the competition features a wide range of categories, including curtains and draperies, specialty treatments, and whole-room integration.

About Window Fashion VISION (WFV): In addition to publishing VISION magazine, WFV produces educational seminars, conferences, and trade shows for the window coverings industry. Since 1997, the company has produced the International Window Coverings EXPO, the exclusive trade show and conference for window coverings. Complementing the trade shows, WFV developed the Window Fashions Certified Professionals Program™ in 1990, the leading educational program for the window fashions industry, featuring online and live training. For more information and media requests, contact Anne Bild, Digital Media & Marketing Director at anneb@wf-vision.com or Grace McNamara, Publisher at grace@wf-vision.com.

About Susan Gailani: Susan began work as a full-service designer in 1992, after receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Interior Architecture from California College of the Arts, completing two years of graduate study in the field, and receiving certification from the Window Covering Association of America. She started specializing in window coverings in 2006, when she joined the Exciting Windows! network of companies, but she still loves the opportunity to work on whole-room and entire-home design projects. She can be reached by email, susan@gailanidesigns.com, or by phone, 630-854-9082.