



CELEBRATE LA ROCHE!



Karen Kersting '79, NCIDQ, ASID

Owner
Alane Design

Interior design alumna Karen Kersting '79 is the owner of Alane Design, a firm which focuses on the design, implementation and project oversight of various interior design projects.

Until 2005 Alane Design was a part-time entrepreneurial endeavor in addition to Ms. Kersting's full-time employment. Projects have ranged from historic restorations, design-build work related to

Hurricane Katrina damage, other residential and commercial design-build work, plus several facility management contracts.

"I am most proud of developing the ability to create environments which immediately improve the lives of my clients and their end-users," Ms. Kersting said. "My design solutions have helped color-blind employees, calmed a fractious group of office workers, resolved ADA compliance issues and created a safe, comfortable home for an aging couple. I believe that people thrive when their built environment supports both their needs for sanctuary and their desire to succeed."

Outside of work Ms. Kersting serves as treasurer of the Women's National Book Association's New Orleans chapter, and treasurer for the foundation which awards the Pinckley Prizes for Crime Fiction. She is a member of the American Society of Interior Designers and a restoration volunteer for the National World War II Museum. Additionally she serves as a designer for the Bridge House-Grace House Fashion Show, an annual fundraiser for a NOLA substance abuse recovery facility.

Ms. Kersting serves as a board member for the Carrollton Rotary Club and is a member of Women of the Storm, an advocacy group which works to secure Congressional approval to assign BP oil spill fines for Gulf Coast restoration projects.

"I am especially grateful for the professors and instructors in La Roche College's Graphic Design and Interior Design Departments who encouraged creative thinking, structured critiques as true learning opportunities, and took a sincere interest in my ideas and concerns," she said. "These experiences gave me insight on how to advance my career, and eventually, the confidence to establish my own firm."

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