

Chicago Tribune  
**LIFE+  
STYLE**  
Sunday

# Putting on a show

Local designers overhaul a  
historic Lake Forest home,  
now open to the public

### Balancing Act

Athletes at U. of C. team up with  
It's On Us to combat sexual violence

### Books

Stephen W. Sears pens another powerful  
Civil War history in 'Lincoln's Lieutenants'

### Answer Angel Ellen

Ellen Warren has suggestions for treating  
rosacea and other skin problems

### Candid Candace

Ronald McDonald House celebrates  
40 years of community service



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

*Mother's Day  
Brunch*

Sunday, May 14th

BRINGING BACK FAMILY *Traditions*

Seatings at 11:00am & 1:30pm

Adults: \$54.00 plus gratuity  
Children Age 5-12: \$18.00  
Under 5: No charge

Eventbrite



630.850.5555



The living room, designed by Michael Del Piero, mixes modern and classic styles, a juxtaposition seen throughout the house.

Elizabeth Krueger's dramatic entry spaces layer patterns, including a painterly wallpaper, striated stone fixtures and a show-stopping ceiling of Porter Teleo's Ink Blots paper. Though pattern is everywhere, colors stick to a neutral palette. "I think that when you go more neutral in color," Krueger says, "you can go for those graphic patterns."

**Designer wisdom:** Patterns that mimic nature can mix freely; just keep the colors muted and nature-inspired too.

**Grow up a little:** Lesson from the designers who pulled together kids rooms for the show house: Kid spaces don't have to be juvenile. Sarah Vaile's fantasy room for a teen boy feels like a starter bachelor's pad. Liz McE-naney centered a young boy's room on Clarence House's Tibet wallpaper; technically an animal print, it would be right at home in

a grown-up's den. And Wendy Labrum's green lacquered girl's sitting room seems worthy of a smart, stylish woman. "It's smart to design spaces that are a bit more timeless and can grow with children," Labrum says.

**Designer wisdom:** Build in style and staying power by picking pieces for kids rooms that are of the same quality you'd choose for adult spaces.

**Put a shine on that:** Lacquer and high-gloss paint is a recurring theme in the show house. Shelley Johnstone Paschke, who created the dreamy blue lacquered dining room ceiling, says the expense and time commitment (true lacquer takes many coats of specialized paints) is worth it for such a dramatic detail. "I love the reflection," she says, "especially in a dining room because it's so pretty with candlelight. And it's a detail that keeps the room a little cur-



Elizabeth Krueger's dramatic entry spaces layer patterns, including painterly wallpaper and striated stone fixtures, such as the lamp's base.

rent and young; it keeps it from looking like your grandmother's house."

**Designer wisdom:** If you're starting small, try lacquering your front door. And if you're not up for the expense of true lacquer, take a look at new high-gloss paints, which can offer a similar shine.

**Try a fresh accent:** Looking for the endlessly discussed small hit of color? (Let's make a deal: You don't call it a "pop," and we won't either.) Susan Brunstrum brought

a sense of humor to a muted master bedroom with an eye-catching bright yellow Chinese Chippendale chair that picks up a touch of yellow in the custom rug. "We needed something more uplifting and confident feeling," she says, "and yellow did it." Joan Craig's conservatory chaise in green velvet looks like a mossy outpost of the garden just outside the windows. "I love the idea of the grass green chaise where you can sit and read," she says, "and even in the winter you have your little patch of green."

Kid spaces don't have to be juvenile. This bedroom, designed by Sarah Vaile for a teen boy, feels like a starter bachelor's pad.

**Designer wisdom:** Bright color in small doses is still a good idea; be sure to use it in more than one place in the room, and try fresh green or sunshine yellow.

**Roll the dice:** If you're going to experiment with something a little bit risky, design seems like a good place to play your wild card. Brunstrum's master bed floats in the center of the room instead of keeping its back against the wall, and Michael Del Piero skipped the conventional wisdom of breaking an oversize living room into multiple zones. Instead, she filled it with muted, luxurious furnishings that feel almost Alice in Wonderland in their immense scale. "We really wanted something different," Brunstrum says. "People get stuck, thinking the bed has to be on a wall."

**Designer wisdom:** Go ahead and go big with that idea you've been itching to try; you can always go back again. Easiest entry point? Unorthodox furniture placement.

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