

MEET OUR A-LIST WINNERS

# at home

IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

# decorate!

AT HOME  
WITH  
**ALBERT HADLEY**

A **WESTON**  
HOUSE WITH  
COLOR + STYLE

**35**  
GREAT  
PILLOWS

\$4.95

WINTER 2011  
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**W**hen teenage girls are able to provide input about the way their spaces should look, their enthusiasm flows into the design.

"This project set a new bar for my creativity," says Darien designer Karen Bow, for whom this prizewinning teen girl's room is just one of half a dozen recent and upcoming projects she has completed or is in the process of designing.

The room's palette was inspired by a vintage camping poster found at a Manhattan flea market, which now hangs on one of the walls. Bow had rugs and pillows fabricated in the custom colors that she and her client had in mind. Hand-printed wallpaper by Florida designer Given Campbell, done up to order in bubble-gum pink, emphasizes the verticality of the renovated room; a new dormer enabled the owners to create a loft/conversation area for their daughter and her friends.

Karen Bow likes the idea of "one great thing" for any space, and

this room was not lacking a signature piece: an Arne Jacobsen "Egg" chair, in a palette-perfect shade of green.

"Most of the room was tied together with custom-colored pieces that were budget-friendly—many workrooms will accommodate you, but you just have to wait a bit longer for a one-off hue," says Bow. "The Egg chair will be a lifelong keepsake. Why give your girl another necklace, when you can give her a chair that she'll have for years and will go with her to her college dorm or first apartment?"

The designer, whose charming tagline "Love the home you're with" is printed on her business cards, acknowledges that allowing vibrant color to seep into an interior via a child's room often frees the parents' own sense of possibilities.

"Once they see a successful child's room, many clients begin to understand how using bright colors can translate elsewhere," says Bow. "My own motto has always been to listen to your instinct and have the courage to use it."

opposite left: Central to this joyful mix of color and pattern was the camping poster that designer Karen Bow and her teenage client found at a Manhattan flea market, opposite right: A conversation loft was added under a new dormer to make space for friends.



DESIGNER:  
Karen Bow

a-list kids' room | playspace

playful point of view