

BOUTIQUE design

THE GOLD KEY ISSUE

WINNERS AND FINALISTS · BEST OF BDNY

HOSPITALITY REINVENTED

FEARLESS FORM

PAOLO FERRARI DREAMS UP SPACES
THAT ARE BOTH COURAGEOUS
AND ENDURING



WINNERFIDELITY HOTEL
CLEVELAND

The Highlights: Evoking the experience of arriving at a friend's Old World-style apartment, the 97 guestrooms at the historic Cleveland hotel are intimate yet generously appointed, each defined by its own distinctive color palette. Subtle Art Deco references nod to the original Neoclassical era of the building through richly patterned wallcoverings, plum-hued floral motifs woven into the carpet, mosaic tile in the bathing spaces, and lush velvet upholstery and drapery. Rounded edges, intricate patterns, and delicate inlays enrich the furnishings, serving as reminders of the craftsmanship that shaped the building a century ago.

SOURCES:

DESIGN FIRMS: CURIOSO, CHICAGO, AND LOONEY & ASSOCIATES, CHICAGO **ARCHITECTURE FIRM:** HARTSHORNE PLUNKARD ARCHITECTURE, CHICAGO **PURCHASING:** BENJAMIN WEST **CLIENT:** NUOVORE **PHOTO:** ALI HARPER



"We imagined each guestrooms as well-appointed pied-à-terre, designed to guide guests from the moment they step inside, with small details and unexpected touches that make the space feel personal and memorable." —Louie Sison, Curioso

**FINALIST**THE NICKLE HOTEL
CHARLESTON, SOUTH
CAROLINA**SOURCES:**

DESIGN FIRMS: MORRIS ADJMI ARCHITECTS, NEW YORK, AND METHOD STUDIOS **ARCHITECTURE FIRM:** MORRIS ADJMI ARCHITECTS, NEW YORK **PURCHASING:** THE CARDY GROUP **CLIENT:** METHOD CO. **PHOTO:** FRANK FRANCES

The Highlights: Evoking the lived-in elegance of a light-filled southern home, the 50 rooms and suites at the five-story boutique property celebrates Charleston's rich history. Take the Penthouse Terrace suites, where double French doors lead to wraparound terraces, each with their own six-person dining table, lounge seating, and daybeds. All rooms feature custom furniture, herringbone oak flooring, linen drapery, and thoughtful details like handmade mosaic tile tables.

FINALISTTHE SANDERING RESORT
DUCK, NORTH CAROLINA**SOURCES:**

DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE FIRM: WARD + GRAY, NEW YORK **PURCHASING:** HPG INTERNATIONAL **CLIENT:** BROOKFIELD PROPERTIES **PHOTO:** MICHAEL CLIFFORD

The Highlights: Taking inspiration from the timeless charm of a beach house, the 123 guestrooms at the Outer Banks resort blend comfort with southern coastal style, highlighted in the blue-hued headboards, soft ivory walls, and a grasscloth-papered ceiling. White oak furniture blends with the architecture, while delicate blue-striped and hand-blocked linens add layers of texture. Original artwork depicts native birds and flora, with the frames themselves nodding to the local landscape with block-printed surrounds.





WINNER

THE BELLEVUE
PHILADELPHIA

The Highlights: Often referred to as “the Grande Dame of Broad Street” when it first welcomed guests in 1904, the restoration of the Bellevue focused on honoring the historic character of the building while introducing a refined, contemporary sensibility. The reception desk was repositioned between two stately columns that anchor the space and enhance its classical proportions. In the guestrooms and suites, details lost to earlier renovations were thoughtfully reintroduced—wall paneling, ornate moldings, and honed marble floors inspired by French Renaissance architecture—resulting in spaces that feel both elegant and comfortable.

SOURCES:

DESIGN FIRM: WARD + GRAY, IN COLLABORATION WITH LUCID, HIGHGATE'S IN-HOUSE DESIGN STUDIO

ARCHITECTURE FIRM: GENSLER, NEW YORK, AND TANTILLO ARCHITECTURE, PHILADELPHIA

PURCHASING: THE NESS GROUP **CLIENT:** LUBERT ADLER **PHOTO:** READ MCKENDREE

“We wanted to honor what would have been the original bones of the hotel and bring it back to its opulent design of the early 1900s.” —Christie Ward, Ward + Gray

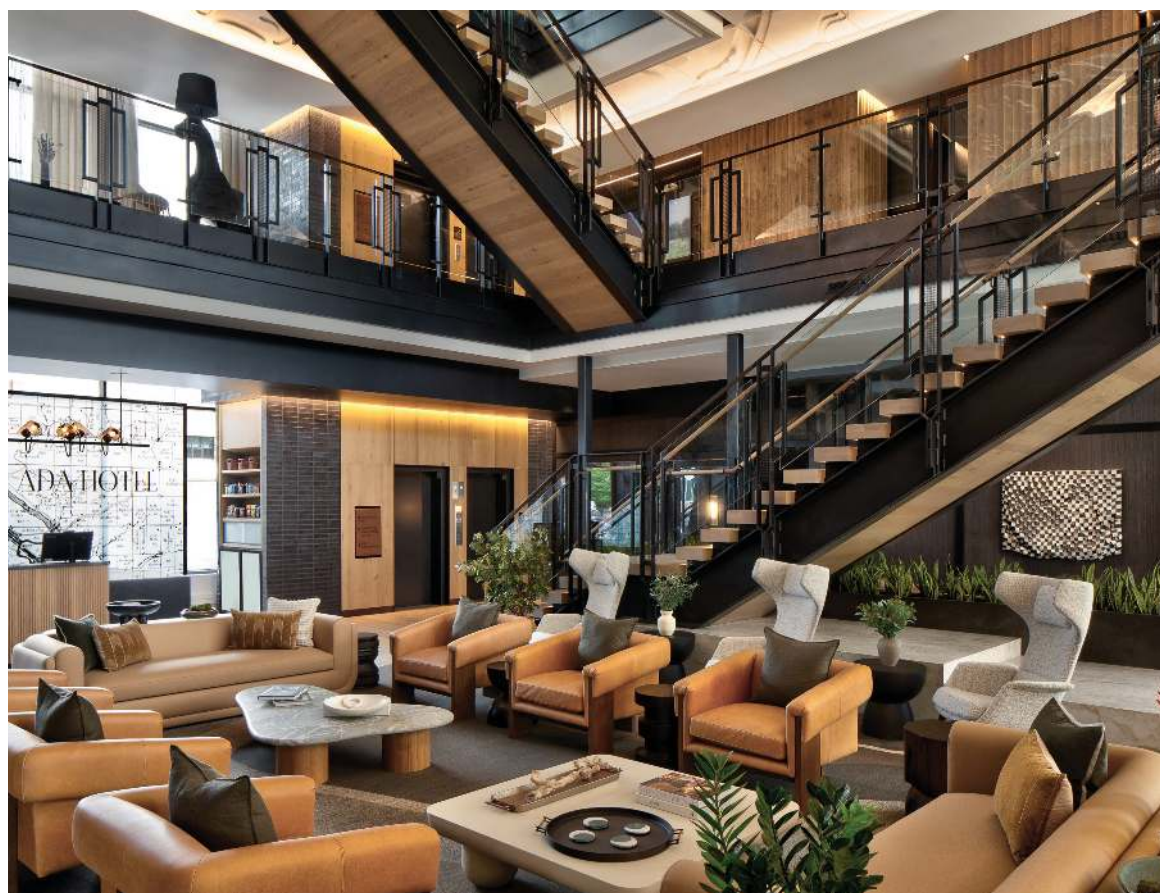
FINALIST

THE ADA HOTEL
MICHIGAN

The Highlights: Nestled between the Thornapple and Grand Rivers in the hotel's namesake town, the property is inspired by a long-lost property of the same name, with interiors paying homage to Ada's legacy. In the lobby, walls are adorned with a bespoke wallcovering that reinterprets traditional basket weaving, while warm wood finishes evoke the town's iconic covered bridge. Historic photographs are found throughout the property as a way to celebrate the Native Ottawa community and the pioneering women who shaped the town.

SOURCES:

DESIGN FIRM: OTJ ARCHITECTS, WASHINGTON, DC **ARCHITECTURE FIRM:** DIXON ARCHITECTURE, ADA, MICHIGAN **PURCHASING AND CLIENT:** BATON COLLECTIVE **PHOTO:** DAN HAM





WINNER

THE BELLEVUE
PHILADELPHIA

The Highlights: Since opening in 1904, the Bellevue has undergone several renovations, yet its lobby has retained many original details. The latest restoration honors that legacy while introducing a refined, contemporary layer. Emphasizing symmetry and grandeur, the reception desk has been repositioned between two stately columns, reinforcing classical proportions and drawing the eye to restored moldings above. Original marble mosaic floors were preserved wherever possible and complemented by new burgundy and white checkered marble. Custom furnishings in mustard, deep red, and warm neutrals harmonize with the architecture, while a bespoke chandelier—crafted with a Venetian glassmaster to echo the original's proportions—anchors the space.

SOURCES:

DESIGN FIRM: WARD + GRAY IN COLLABORATION WITH LUCID, HIGHGATE'S IN-HOUSE DESIGN STUDIO
ARCHITECTURE FIRM: TANTILLO ARCHITECTURE, PHILADELPHIA **PURCHASING:** THE NESS GROUP
CLIENT: LUBERT ADLER **PHOTO:** READ MCKENDREE

"We designed the reception desk to have an almost cinematic feel to it—a series of tasseled keys centering the piece—and quite large in scale to bring your attention to the grand feel of the lobby space with its double-height ceilings." —Staver Gray, Ward + Gray

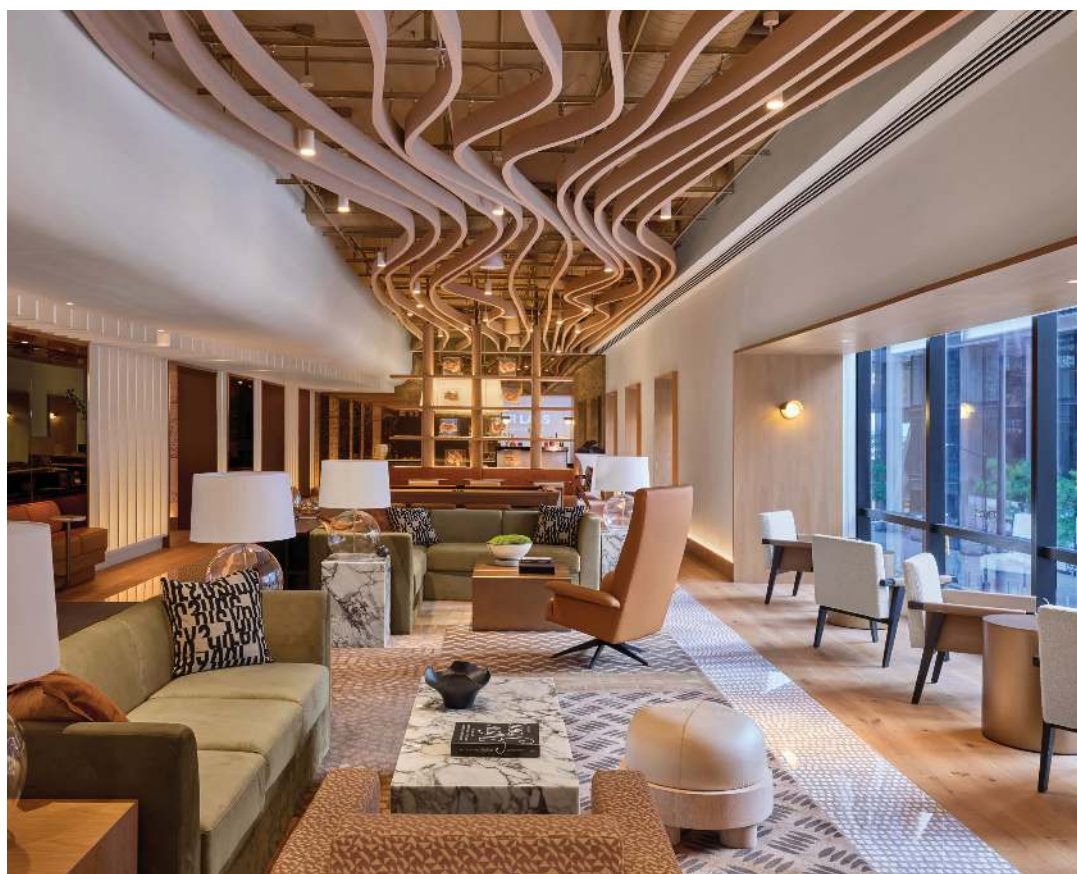
FINALIST

M SOCIAL HOTEL NEW YORK
DOWNTOWN

The Highlights: Inspired by the history of trade, transit, and grit that defines Manhattan's Financial District, the M Social Hotel New York Downtown weaves a compelling narrative of the history of Wall Street. Currency motifs mingle with dreamlike references, from cloud-inspired wallpaper printed in the style of U.S. money to diorama artworks and a copper-penny palette. Printed ceramic tiles echo nearby brick streets, while a custom rug references sidewalk and manhole textures. The ombré copper check-in desk—resting on bull-inspired feet—adds a playful nod to the district's most iconic symbol.

SOURCES:

DESIGN FIRM: MAZZARINI & CO., NEW YORK
ARCHITECTURE FIRM: NEHMER, ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
PURCHASING: ALTERNATE RESOURCES **CLIENTS:** MILLENNIUM HOTELS AND HIGHGATE HOTELS **PHOTO:** GARRETT ROWLAND



FINALIST

SHEBARA RESORT
SHEYBARAH ISLAND, THE RED SEA,
SAUDI ARABIA

The Highlights: Floating above turquoise, coral-rich waters, the resort unfolds as a sinuous chain of guestroom structures crafted from polished stainless steel. Among them, the four-bedroom Royal Villa stands out, formed by two intersecting orbs set directly on the beach. Inside, dramatic proportions define the arrival experience, anchored by large-scale, lacquered wood-base sofas that curve together as a grounding focal point. The primary suite occupies the second orb and centers on a luminous bath lit by an overhead skylight, where carved travertine elements pair with sculptural furnishings, cantilevered steel mirrors, and a vanity formed from a polished steel plinth that traces the room's curved geometry.

SOURCES:

DESIGN FIRM: STUDIO PAOLO FERRARI, TORONTO
ARCHITECTURE FIRM: KILLA DESIGN, DUBAI **CLIENT:**
RED SEA GLOBAL **PHOTO:** EMA PETER

**FINALIST**

THE BELLEVUE
PHILADELPHIA

The Highlights: For the Presidential suite at the recently restored Bellevue, a Parisian sensibility takes hold, evoking the natural rhythms and comfort of a residential project. Guests enter through a jewelry box foyer with airy corridors that reveal handpainted murals of the Pennsylvania landscape. An antique mirror on the ceiling and blown glass lighting balance the moody, darker tone. In the light-filled living room, meanwhile, an antique mantel centers the space, with a custom residential bar designed for entertaining.

SOURCES:

DESIGN FIRM: WARD + GRAY IN
COLLABORATION WITH LUCID, HIGHGATE'S
IN-HOUSE DESIGN STUDIO **ARCHITECTURE
FIRM:** GENSLER, NEW YORK **PURCHASING:** THE
NESS GROUP **CLIENT:** LUBERT ADLER **PHOTO:**
READ MCKENDREE/JBSA

