

NARI of Greater Chicagoland 2026 Remodeler of the Year Award Program Categories

01-01 Residential Kitchen Under \$50,000

Best residential kitchen remodel with a total project cost* of under \$50,000. Kitchen projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a family room, dining room, mudroom, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

01-02 Residential Kitchen \$50,000 to \$100,000

Best residential kitchen remodel with a total project cost* of \$50,000 to \$100,000. Kitchen projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a family room, dining room, mudroom, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

01-03 Residential Kitchen \$100,000 to \$150,000

Best residential kitchen remodel with a total project cost* of \$100,000 to \$150,000. Kitchen projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a family room, dining room, mudroom, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

01-04 Residential Kitchen \$150,000 to \$200,000

Best residential kitchen remodel with a total project cost* of \$150,000 to \$200,000. Kitchen projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a family room, dining room, mudroom, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

01-05 Residential Kitchen Over \$200,000

Best residential kitchen remodel with a total project cost* over \$200,000. Kitchen projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a family room, dining room, mudroom, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

02-06 Residential Bath Under \$40,000

Best residential bath remodel with a total project cost* under \$40,000. Bathroom projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a master (clothing) closet, dressing area, or make-up room, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

02-07 Residential Bath \$40,000 to \$70,000

Best residential bath remodel with a total project cost* of \$40,000 to \$70,000. Bathroom projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a master (clothing) closet, dressing area, or make-up room, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

02-08 Residential Bath \$70,000 to \$100,000

Best residential bath remodel with a total project cost* of \$70,000 to \$100,000. Bathroom projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a master (clothing) closet, dressing area, or make-up room, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

02-09 Residential Bath \$100,000 to \$150,000

Best residential bath remodel with a total project cost* of \$100,000 to \$150,000. Bathroom projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a master (clothing) closet, dressing area, or make-up room, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

02-10 Residential Bath Over \$150,000

Best residential bath remodel with a total project cost* over \$150,000. Bathroom projects that include remodeling of any other adjacent space such as a master (clothing) closet, dressing area, or make-up room, etc., should be entered into a Residential Interior category. Only interior photos may be used.

03-11 Residential Interior Under \$100,000

Best residential interior remodel with a project cost* under \$100,000. Includes, but is not limited to, such projects as family or recreation room remodeling, bath or kitchen project with adjacent space, home theater or media rooms, wine rooms, attic conversions, etc. Work must be done within the existing walls of a residential structure. This category does not include room additions or basements. Only interior photos may be used.

03-12 Residential Interior \$100,000 to \$250,000

Best residential interior remodel with a project cost* of \$100,000 to \$250,000. Includes, but is not limited to, such projects

as family or recreation room remodeling, bath or kitchen project with adjacent space, home theater or media rooms, wine rooms, attic conversions, etc. Work must be done within the existing walls of a residential structure. This category does not include room additions or basements. Only interior photos may be used.

03-13 Residential Interior \$250,000 to \$500,000

Best residential interior remodel with a project cost* of \$250,000 to \$500,000. Includes, but is not limited to, such projects as family or recreation room remodeling, bath or kitchen project with adjacent space, home theater or media rooms, wine rooms, attic conversions, etc. Work must be done within the existing walls of a residential structure. This category does not include room additions or basements. Only interior photos may be used.

03-14 Residential Interior Over \$500,000

Best residential interior remodel with a project cost* over \$500,000. Includes, but is not limited to, such projects as family or recreation room remodeling, bath or kitchen project with adjacent space, home theater or media rooms, wine rooms, attic conversions, etc. Work must be done within the existing walls of a residential structure. This category does not include room additions or basements. Only interior photos may be used.

03-15 Residential Interior Feature under \$50,000

This category represents one special interior feature of a project with a cost* under \$50,000. It includes, but is not limited to projects such as railings and columns; brick, stone and masonry work; tiling; air conditioning and heating; fireplaces; vestibules; insulation; kitchen hoods; glass block; wall finishes such as plaster; flooring; best use of lighting or lighting control systems, or home automation. Work must have been done to the interior of an existing residential structure, and only interior photos may be used. The residential interior feature must be specified in the entry materials and in the descriptive text in order to qualify.

03-16 Residential Interior Feature \$50,000 and Over

This category represents one special interior feature of a project with a cost* of \$50,000 and over. It includes, but is not limited to projects such as railings and columns; brick, stone and masonry work; tiling; air conditioning and heating; fireplaces; vestibules; insulation; kitchen hoods; glass block; wall finishes such as plaster; flooring; best use of lighting or lighting control systems, or home automation. Work must have been done to the interior of an existing residential structure, and only interior photos may be used. The residential interior feature must be specified in the entry materials and in the descriptive text in order to qualify.

04-17 Residential Addition Under \$250,000

Best residential addition with a project cost* under \$250,000. Includes, but is not limited to, additions, add-a-levels, or attic build-outs, which increases livable space of the existing home. The project is limited to one addition per structure. Interior and exterior photos may be used.

04-18 Residential Addition \$250,000 to \$500,000

Best residential addition with a project cost* between \$250,000 and \$500,000. Includes, but is not limited to, additions, add-a-levels, or attic buildouts, which increases livable space of the existing home. The project is limited to one addition per structure. Interior and exterior photos may be used.

04-19 Residential Addition Over \$500,000

Best residential addition with a project cost* over \$500,000. Includes, but is not limited to, additions, add-a-levels, or attic buildouts, which increases livable space of the existing home. The project is limited to one addition per structure. Interior and exterior photos may be used.

05-20 Residential Exterior Under \$50,000

Best exterior project with a cost* under \$50,000. Includes, but is not limited to, alterations to the exterior of a residential building such as porticos, porches, glass or screen enclosures or greenhouse rooms (unconditioned spaces), windows, dormers, and exterior resurfacings like siding, stucco, etc., which enhance the overall appearance of the exterior. Exterior photos may be used, and interior photos of attached unconditioned spaces may also be used.

05-21 Residential Exterior \$50,000 to \$100,000

Best exterior project with a cost* of \$50,000 to \$100,000. Includes, but is not limited to, alterations to the exterior of a residential building such as porticos, porches, glass or screen enclosures or greenhouse rooms (unconditioned spaces), windows, dormers, and exterior resurfacings like siding, stucco, etc., which enhance the overall appearance of the exterior. Exterior photos may be used, and interior photos of attached unconditioned spaces may also be used.

05-22 Residential Exterior \$100,000 to \$200,000

Best exterior project with a cost* of \$100,000 to \$200,000. Includes, but is not limited to, alterations to the exterior of a residential building such as porticos, porches, glass or screen enclosures or greenhouse rooms (unconditioned spaces), windows, dormers, and exterior resurfacings like siding, stucco, etc., which enhance the overall appearance of the exterior. Exterior photos may be used, and interior photos of attached unconditioned spaces may also be used.

05-23 Residential Exterior Over \$200,000

Best exterior project with a cost* over \$200,000. Includes, but is not limited to, alterations to the exterior of a residential building such as porticos, porches, glass or screen enclosures or greenhouse rooms (unconditioned spaces), windows, dormers, and exterior resurfacings like siding, stucco, etc. which enhances the overall appearance of the exterior. Exterior photos may be used, and interior photos of attached unconditioned spaces may also be used.

06-24 Residential Detached Structure

Structures such as garages, pool houses, studios, guesthouses, sheds, gazebos, pavilions, etc., remodeled or added to an existing residential property. Interior and exterior photos may be used.

07-25 Entire House Under \$250,000

A project, with a cost* under \$250,000, that remodeled or renovated a substantial portion of the entire residential house, inside and outside, or where multiple additions and/or style changes in footprint or elevation have been made in more than one location. The entry must include a description of the portions of the existing structure that were incorporated into the finished project. Pictures and plans submitted with the entry must highlight those portions of the home retained in the new design.

07-26 Entire House \$250,000 to \$500,000

A project, with a cost* of \$250,000 to \$500,000, that remodeled or renovated a substantial portion of the entire residential house, inside and outside, or where multiple additions and/or style changes in footprint or elevation have been made in more than one location. The entry must include a description of the portions of the existing structure that were incorporated into the finished project. Pictures and plans submitted with the entry must highlight those portions of the home retained in the new design.

07-27 Entire House \$500,000 to \$750,000

A project, with a cost* of \$500,000 to \$750,000, that remodeled or renovated a substantial portion of the entire residential house, inside and outside, or where multiple additions and/or style changes in footprint or elevation have been made in more than one location. The entry must include a description of the portions of the existing structure that were incorporated into the finished project. Pictures and plans submitted with the entry must highlight those portions of the home retained in the new design.

07-28 Entire House \$750,000 to \$1,000,000

A project, with a cost* of \$750,000 to \$1,000,000, that remodeled or renovated a substantial portion of the entire residential house, inside and outside, or where multiple additions and/or style changes in footprint or elevation have been made in more than one location. The entry must include a description of the portions of the existing structure that were incorporated into the finished project. Pictures and plans submitted with the entry must highlight those portions of the home retained in the new design.

07-29 Entire House Over \$1,000,000

A project, with a cost* Over \$1,000,000, that remodeled or renovated a substantial portion of the entire residential house, inside and outside, or where multiple additions and/or style changes in footprint or elevation have been made in more than one location. The entry must include a description of the portions of the existing structure that were incorporated into the finished project. Pictures and plans submitted with the entry must highlight those portions of the home retained in the new design.

08-30 Residential Historical Renovation/ Restoration Under \$250,000

The renovation/restoration of the interior and/or exterior of a residential structure, or addition to a residential structure, originally built at least 75 years ago with a cost* under \$250,000. Any and all changes are to have closely matched architectural style and building type. Any and all products used are to be of a material authentic in style to the area in which the building was originally built, paying special attention to period trim detail and period coloring. Restoration of missing historic features and added structures are to respect the essential historic character and architectural style of original building design.

08-31 Residential Historical Renovation/ Restoration \$250,000 and Over

The renovation/restoration of the interior and/or exterior of a residential structure, or addition to a residential structure, originally built at least 75 years ago with a cost* \$250,000 and over. Any and all changes are to have closely matched architectural style and building type. Any and all products used are to be of a material authentic in style to the area in which the building was originally built, paying special attention to period trim detail and period coloring. Restoration of missing historic features and added structures are to respect the essential historic character and architectural style of original building design.

09-32 Commercial Interior

Remodeling performed within the existing walls of a previously occupied commercial space. Clearly define the type of client and the client's needs in the project description. Only interior photos may be used.

09-33 Commercial Exterior

Remodeling performed on the exterior of an existing commercial structure. Clearly define the type of client and the client's needs in the project description. Only exterior photos may be used.

10-34 Residential Landscape Design/Outdoor Living Under \$100,000

Best residential landscape design/outdoor living project with a cost* under \$100,000. Includes, but is not limited to, landscaping, pathways, driveways, patios, pagodas, outdoor kitchens, decks, terraces, pools, spas, etc. Work is not exclusive to existing structures. Commercial projects should be entered in Commercial Specialty. Only exterior photos may be used.

10-35 Residential Landscape Design/ Outdoor Living \$100,000 to \$250,000

Best residential landscape design/outdoor living project with a cost* of \$100,000 to \$250,000. Includes, but is not limited to, landscaping, pathways, driveways, patios, pagodas, outdoor kitchens, decks, terraces, pools, spas, etc. Work is not exclusive to existing structures. Commercial projects should be entered in Commercial Specialty. Only exterior photos may be used.

10-36 Residential Landscape Design/ Outdoor Living over \$250,000

Best residential landscape design/outdoor living project with a cost* of \$250,000 and over. Includes, but is not limited to, landscaping, pathways, driveways, patios, pagodas, outdoor kitchens, decks, terraces, pools, spas, etc. Work is not exclusive to existing structures. Commercial projects should be entered in Commercial Specialty. Only exterior photos may be used.

11-37 Basement Under \$100,000

Best basement conversion with a cost* under \$100,000. Work must be done within the existing walls of a residential structure. Additions are excluded from this category. Only interior photos may be used.

11-38 Basement \$100,000 to \$250,000

Best basement conversion with a cost* between \$100,000 and \$250,000. Work must be done within the existing walls of a residential structure. Additions are excluded from this category. Only interior photos may be used.

11-39 Basement Over \$250,000

Best basement conversion with a cost* over \$250,000. Work must be done within the existing walls of a residential structure. Additions are excluded from this category. Only interior photos may be used.

12-40 Universal Design - Kitchen

Kitchen remodeling projects utilizing Universal Design standards and practices. Projects entered in this category must meet Remodeler of the Year criteria for Residential Kitchens (any price point). Projects entered in this category may also be entered into the appropriate Kitchen category separately with additional fee. All Universal Design entries will be judged by NARI Universal Design Certified Professionals. Entries for commercial projects are not eligible at this time.

12-41 Universal Design - Bath

Bathroom remodeling projects utilizing Universal Design standards and practices. Projects entered in this category must meet Remodeler of the Year criteria for Residential Bath (any price point). Projects entered in this category may also be entered into the appropriate Bath category separately with additional fee. All Universal Design entries will be judged by NARI Universal Design Certified Professionals. Entries for commercial projects are not eligible at this time.

12-42 Universal Design- Other

Remodeling projects utilizing Universal Design standards and practices that are not a kitchen or bathroom. All Universal Design entries will be judged by NARI Universal Design Certified Professionals. Entries for commercial projects are not eligible at this time.

13-43 Residential Architectural Design Under 500 sq ft

Residential remodeling projects focusing on architectural design under 500 square feet. Submissions should include full design plans which may contain site plans, floor plans, elevations and rendering including a minimum of one scaled drawing. Project does not need to be built. Do not include any pictures of the completed project.

13-44 Residential Architectural Design Over 500 sq ft

Residential remodeling projects focusing on architectural design over 500 square feet. Submissions should include full design plans which may contain site plans, floor plans, elevations and rendering including a minimum of one scaled drawing. Project does not need to be built. Do not include any pictures of the completed project.

CHAPTER ONLY CATEGORIES

Commercial Stone Design & Craftsmanship

This category recognizes outstanding use of natural or engineered stone in a commercial remodeling or renovation project. Entries should demonstrate excellence in design collaboration, material selection, fabrication, and installation while meeting the unique functional and aesthetic needs of the commercial environment. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to, reception areas, hospitality spaces, restaurants, retail environments, offices, healthcare facilities, feature walls, countertops, flooring, and other custom stone applications. The stone feature should be the focus of the submission, clearly identified, and demonstrate its contribution to the overall success of the project.

Residential Stone Design & Craftsmanship

This category recognizes outstanding use of natural or engineered stone in a residential remodeling project. Entries should showcase exceptional craftsmanship, fabrication, material selection, design integration, and installation to create a distinctive architectural or design feature. Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to, kitchen countertops and islands, bathroom vanities, fireplaces, feature walls, stair details, bars, outdoor kitchens, and other custom stone applications. The stone feature should be the focus of the submission, clearly identified, and demonstrate how it enhances the overall design and functionality of the space.

*Cost is defined as contract price, all extras, change orders and the fair market value of materials and products that were purchased, sweat-equity and in-kind services provided, and/or any subcontract work. The cost of all homeowner provided products, services, or labor should be included in this cost. All mark-ups and profit should be included in the cost provided. For member-owned projects, costs should include normal mark-ups as if the project was contracted to an outside client.