

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

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Washington
INTERNATIONAL
Horse Show

At Verizon Center in Washington, DC
October 9 - October 14

GIFTS BY DESIGN

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As the holidays approach, creative interior designers offer ideas for gift giving – for the home or host. Find out what inspires them and how you can put your own signature on gifts for all seasons.



Carlyn Guarnieri & Holly Polgreen

“This is a great girlfriend gift – holiday warmth in a box. Who can resist a soft, snuggly robe with goodies to eat while watching great movies? These movies are design inspired – mix in her favorite color and you have a very memorable and personal gift.” Carlyn and Company, 703.759.0155, carlynco.com. Josie Plush Marshmallow wrap robe in cosmo pink, \$78, white slippers, \$22, Karen Neuburger spa slippers, \$26, all from Nordstrom, 703.761.1121; and Ayomi Cranes gift boxes, \$15.99/set, Target, target.com.

Add a little spice to a selection of sweet gifts



(1) Susan Alefantis

"I enjoy giving a personal gift, one that has meaning to the recipient. I like to put a picture of the family pet, which I've taken on my digital camera, in an antique frame. Then the photo can be changed at any time – it's a warm and homey gift." Alefantis & Associates, 703.821.5548. Vintage frames, \$35 to \$100.

(2) Carol Freedman

"I love gifts that are colorful, fun, useful, or yummy. This gift – a classic square vase filled with sweet jellybeans – is just perfect. I select jellybean and ribbon colors depending on the occasion." Carol Freedman Design, 301.320.2872, carolfreedmandesign.com. Clear cube vase, \$6.99, Jamali Garden, jamaligarden.com, and jellybeans, bulkcandystore.com.

(3) Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey

"I spend most of August in Santa Fe and like to bring back items from that area for holiday gifts. This year I'm giving red and green chili pecan brittle from Ulibarri Farms and collectible beaded Santas made by the Zuni tribe. The brittle adds a little spice to a sweet gift." Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey Interior Design, 703.549.2449. Pecan brittle, \$6.50 per 8 oz. box, ulibarrifarms.com.

(4) Elizabeth Kittrell

"I have a soft spot for anything vintage ... The 'Child dragging a Christmas tree' is a 1920s postcard. Carole Jo Dennis framed it and hand painted the matting." Kittrell Interiors, 301.725.3357. Framed vintage postcard, \$285, through Kittrell Interiors.

(5) Justine Sancho

"I like to give a large hurricane candle with a silver-plated base as a housewarming gift. It's usable in just about every season and décor." Justine Sancho Interior Design Ltd., 301.765.6034. Hurricane candle, \$360, through Justine Sancho.

(6) Carol Lascaris

"This tiny folio is my favorite hostess gift because it has a message. I suggest that our hostess put

Women Artists in her powder room for friends to view. It's art from the permanent collection of the National Museum of Women in the Arts and it's only \$11.95." Lascaris Design Group Inc., 703.556.8895.

(7) Barbara Hawthorn

"I usually give subscriptions to magazines I know my clients will enjoy. That way the 'gift' extends the entire life of the subscription. I'll be giving Washington Spaces this year." Barbara Hawthorn Interiors, 703.241.5588. Washington Spaces, \$19.95 for one-year subscription, washingtonspaces.com.

Warm the home with baskets, books, and bowls



(1) Keisha Gilchrist

"This appetizer serving tray would make a great gift for a hostess. It's a chic way to serve hors d'oeuvres and condiments and is a conversation starter. The unique design works well in any home." Style de Vie, 301.464.9478, sdvdecor.com. Cubist appetizer serving set, \$55, Red Envelope, redenvelope.com, and condiments, \$8.50-\$12.50 each, Williams-Sonoma, 301.468.6156.

(2) Naomi DeVore

"I believe the kitchen is the heart of the home, so I like to give a gift that focuses on that area. The 'At Home' basket from getgifted.com is ideal with its thoughtful assortment of practical, yet stylish culinary items." Naomi DeVore Interiors, 202.237.6283. At Home package, \$145, getgifted.com.

(3) Marlene Weiss Alexander

"I like to give my clients a design book as a housewarming gift. I wrap it in wallpaper or fabric to remind them of the finished project as well as to encourage them to continue to learn about design and all its possibilities." Weiss Design, 301.806.1237. Suzanne Trocmé's The New Classics, Fresh Ideas For Rooms That Endure, \$40.

(4) Janelle Marshall

"This is the time of year that's about celebrating with our clients in a unique and personal way. So we have put together a gift basket that shows our appreciation to our clients for inviting us into their homes." Distinctive Designs by Janelle, 703.406.7787, ddbyj.com. Basket, \$250, through Distinctive Designs by Janelle.

Serve prints and patterns to brighten holiday décor



(1) **Vivianna Irizarri**

“I discovered these beautiful one-of-a-kind urn prints on my buying trip to Florence, Italy. They have been custom framed with rice paper matting by an Italian company here in the US. Our Caché clients look for exclusive gifts to give to friends and family.” Caché Furnishings Inc. and IK&F Inc., 703.378.9100, cachefurnishings.com. Framed print, \$345.

(2) **Vicki Anoff**

“I’m fond of giving practical gifts. Anyone who entertains can use these serving pieces. And they’re like freestanding sculptures.” Vicki Anoff Interiors, 301.320.9100. Standing bottle opener, spreader, cheese knife, and fork, \$15 each, Presence Gifts Gallery, 301.986.4710.

(3) **Michael Roberson**

“While vacationing on the shore of Lake Michigan this summer, we discovered these wonderful cookies at ‘Cookies on Call.’ There are 52 different kinds.” MR Interior Design, 703.527.9010. Cookies on Call, 269.857.3065, cookiesoncall.com.

(4) **Jeff Akseizer**

“In each design project, my goal is to infuse objects that encourage a sense of peace. So this year I’m giving a silver hammered dish surrounded by bronze olive branches – a sign of peace – and a vervain olive leaf candle. Martini glasses, olives, and a signature Jeff Akseizer martini recipe complete the gift.” Akseizer Design Group, 202.549.6412. Michael Aram Olive Dish, \$68, Voluspa candle, \$30, and Confetti napkin, \$10, all from Gore Dean, 202.625.9199; Sable & Rosenfeld Topsy Olives, \$7, Dean & Deluca, 202.342.2500; and Classic martini glasses, \$3.95 each, Crate & Barrel, 703.891.0090.

(5) **Lorna Gross**

“One of my favorite gifts to give during the holidays is a decorative serving tray.” Savant Interiors, 301.860.0089. Large tray, \$110, EXPO Design Center, 301.767.3400, and small tray, \$89, Pugrant Associates Inc., The Washington Design Center, 202.863.0050.

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