

and specification of guest rooms and public spaces. Extending its ethos beyond business, the studio pledges to donate twice annually to causes jointly chosen by the team and its clients, reflecting Elliston's belief that authentic, enduring partnerships are rooted in shared purpose. Beneficiaries of HIVE Collaborative's philanthropic model include nature and animal organizations such as Hives for Heroes, Texas Bee Works, Elephant Havens, BARC, INC., Berner-Garde Foundation, and In-Sync Exotics. [Read More](#)



Stacy Elliston – Photo credit Carol Vig Photography

>Integra Seating added Kinari & Company to its expansive network of brand representatives. Kinari & Company will represent Integra across Manhattan, the surrounding counties in New York, and Northern New Jersey, expanding the company's reach in one of the nation's most influential design regions. Founded by Thomas Altamirano and Austin Saltzman, Kinari & Company partners

with manufacturers that create purposeful, well-crafted, and sustainable products. With a mission rooted in inclusivity, curiosity, and discovery, the firm focuses on brands that enrich the built environment and inspire connection—values that align seamlessly with Integra Seating's commitment to quality, performance, and timeless design. "We're thrilled to bring Integra into our family of brands," said Thomas Altamirano, Co-Founder of Kinari & Company. "The company's dedication to innovation, durability, and user-centered solutions resonates deeply with the design community. We look forward to helping designers, specifiers, and all clients discover how Integra can elevate the spaces where people work, learn, and heal."

Austin Saltzman, Co-Founder of Kinari & Company, added, "At Kinari, we seek out brands that truly understand the connection between design and human experience. Integra has built a reputation for creating products that not only perform at the highest level but also bring comfort and resilience to spaces where people spend their time. We're excited to represent Integra and expand their

presence in this vital market." "Kinari & Company brings a fresh perspective and deep understanding of the design community in its geographic region," said Chandra Putnam, President of Integra. "Austin and Thomas's ability to connect dealers, designers, and end-users with products that meet real-world challenges makes them an ideal partner for Integra. We are excited to collaborate with them and continue to expand Integra's presence in the region." [Read More](#)

PROJECTS

>KI announced the four winners of its fourth annual K-12 classroom furniture giveaway, a national program that empowers educators to design and build learning environments that support student engagement, inclusivity, adaptability, and sensory well-being. After receiving more than 131,000 votes from the public across the nation, four teachers, selected from 12 finalists, will each receive \$50,000 in KI furniture of their choosing to transform their classrooms or school library

media centers into a dynamic, student-centered space. The winners represent four finalist categories: eastern region, central region, western region, and libraries:

-Khadijah Mosely of Hornets Nest Elementary School in Charlotte, NC

-Andy Goveia of Thomas Metcalf Laboratory School in Normal, IL

-Angelyn Obray (Ms. Jelly) of Northridge High School in Layton, UT

-Lisa Floyd of Twin Rivers High School in Broseley, MO

"These educators dreamed big and their designs reflect how deeply they understand their students' needs and how committed they are to creating meaningful learning experiences," said Bryan Ballegeer, KI's vice president of education markets. "We're honored to help turn their visions into inspiring spaces and grateful to the communities nationwide who rallied behind them by voting."

To enter, teachers used KI's Classroom Planner Tool to design floor plans representing how their dream classroom would positively impact their students. Please see the office-newswire post for the winning floor plans and links to videos describing their projects.

In addition to the \$50,000 furniture makeover, each winning learning space will receive a 3-pack of Thesis Battery Powered Modules, generously provided by Byrne. Classroom installations for the winners will begin in early 2026. The eight runners-up will each be awarded a Civara task chair in recognition for their participa-



Integra Seating now represented by Kinari & Company. Thomas Altamirano (L) and Austin Saltzman (R)