



2022 Junior League of Detroit Designers' Show House

SURPRISE SURPRISE

In 2022, principal designer Paige Loperfido of Grosse Pointe Farms-based Décor & More, considered entering in the prestigious Junior League of Detroit Designers' Show House, but wasn't sure she could pull it off. "I was nervous," she says. However, her husband Chris had full faith in his wife's skills and applied on her behalf for a coveted position. "Imagine my surprise when I received an email from JLD inviting me to submit my design for the Show House!" she recalls.

Little did she know that while packing up on the last day, she would be approached by Veronica Alger, wife of financier and philanthropist Fred M. Alger. Mr. Alger has deep family roots in Grosse Pointe Farms. In fact, his ancestral home, Alger House, was donated by his great-aunt Marion Alger in 1949 and now serves as The Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

"Mrs. Alger told me how much she loved the room that I designed for the Show House and wanted to know if I could recreate this space for a new guest home they purchased on Lake St. Clair," the designer recalls. When the two met again, the one-room assignment blossomed into a whole-home project.



BEFORE: The home formerly had a blank, beige palette.

BEYOND BLAH

Built in the 1970s and located on a quiet cul-de-sac in Grosse Pointe Farms, the home stands on the same land where Mr. Alger's childhood home formerly stood. "The house was top-to-bottom beige and so blah," Loperfido says. "Every tile, every countertop, the walls, the trim, even the flooring was the same beige color. Even so, I saw so much potential in the place. My goal was to bring the home back to life and give it some character." To the designer's delight, the homeowners gave her full creative control over the project. "I was able to somewhat take my time and just run with it," she says. "It was a one-in-a-million-type situation."

