



Gather 'Round

Michigan Design Center kicked off the holiday entertaining season in style during our Gather event on Friday, November 8.



Photo by Joe Tiano

Enjoy this full recap of the building-wide *Gather* event that featured 30 one-of-a-kind designer tablescapes and entertaining spaces, including this one titled, “The Epic Road Trip Planning Party” by Terry Ellis of **Room Service Interior Design**. Thanks to the generosity of our attendees, we collected over 1,000 pounds of food and raised enough monetary donations to provide nearly 13,000 meals for hungry neighbors in Southeast Michigan, benefiting our charity partner, *Gleaners Community Food Bank*. Tap on any image throughout this story to open a gallery and view multiple photos from each vignette.



Photo by Joe Tiano

HOUNDS & TWEED: A TIMELESS ELEGANCE INSPIRED BY ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE LIVING | Valeria Zozaya, Zozaya Studio
Lighting Resource Studio, Suite 18

The Hounds and Tweed entryway draws inspiration from the rich traditions of English hunting and the timeless elegance of countryside living. It blends the rugged, natural beauty of wild landscapes with the refined textures of tweed and classic hunting patterns. Pampas grass borders the fields, adding softness, texture, and movement, echoing the untamed spirit of nature. Incorporating these elements into an interior space evokes a feeling of grounded sophistication, with a nod to heritage and a sense of refined comfort. The result is a space that feels warm, timeless, and connected to both nature and tradition.

Resources: **Lighting Resource Studio**, Designer's Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

APRES HUNT | Marisa Huber, *MLH Design & Sales*
Lighting Resource Studio, Suite 18

This fall tablescape was inspired by the festivities surrounding a traditional pheasant hunt. Here, the designer has imagined a bright and cozy luncheon with companions following a cool morning game-hunt in the countryside of an English estate.

Resources: **Lighting Resource Studio, The Ghiordes Knot, CAI Designs**

PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER



Photo by Jeff Aisen

DIVINE DINING | Sharon Gamblin
Decoroom, Suite 19

Divine dining is more than just hosting; it's an experience that delights the senses, tugs at the heart, and strengthens the bonds of friendship and family. It's about the love and care poured into every detail, from behind-the-scenes efforts to the warmth of shared moments. With delicious food, drinks, and meaningful conversations, divine dining creates lasting memories and unforgettable experiences, where the joy unfolds with every gathering.

Resources: **Decoroom**, Designer's Personal Collection



Photos by Jeff Aisen

ART AT THE BAR | Claudia Hershman, *Mixed Media Artist*
TRA Art Group, Suite 29

Inspired by the warm tones and textures of autumn, this tablescape pays homage to the season's beauty through the captivating artwork of Royal Oak-based artist Claudia Hershman.





Photo by Joe Tiano

DOLCE VITA | Haley Kiarash, KIA Interior Design
Italcasa Design, Suite 30

This Amalfi Coast-inspired table captures the essence of la dolce vita, featuring vibrant Mediterranean blues, handcrafted ceramics, and fresh lemons. Natural elements like olive branches and terracotta create a relaxed yet elegant atmosphere, evoking the charm of Italy's coastal lifestyle. The design invites guests to experience the beauty and simplicity of seaside dining with a touch of luxury.

Resources: **Italcasa Design, Alexandra June**, Designer's Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

ENCHANTED FOREST | Anna Versaci, Anna Versaci Design
Scavolini Store Detroit, Suite 37

The “Enchanted Forest” theme draws inspiration from the beautiful simplicity of nature. It evokes the magic of a crisp autumn walk in Michigan, as summer fades and fall begins. Picture the canopy of trees, leaves changing colors, and the mossy, crunchy ground beneath your feet. This vignette brings the outdoors in with rich forest greens, earthy textures, and the comforting embrace of nature’s beauty.

Resources: **Scavolini Store Detroit, Baker | McGuire, Designer’s Personal Collection**



HAPPY HOUR HUES | Heather Duggan & Kristin Smith,
Heather Duggan Interiors
Scavolini Store Detroit, Suite 37

A vibrant happy hour turned into an intimate date night! Immerse your senses with moody florals, giving off a bit of romance. All the while, the chef is preparing delightful treats for the intimate setting. Enjoy each other's company with a token of love wrapped in a bow. Each petal of the present was hand-applied with careful attention to detail. Post-dinner, cozy up by a birch wood fire and see where the evening takes you.

Resources: **Scavolini Store Detroit, CAI Designs, Tennant & Associates,** Designers' Personal Collection



**A SWANKY SOIREE | Lauren Guidry, Cynthia Hahn, Susie Kapadia,
GHK Design Collaborative
Baker | McGuire & Rozmallin, Suite 60**

It's a night to remember. The warm glow of candlelight, quiet conversations, lively laughter and the taste of crisp champagne set in the classically elegant cocktail hour. A setting that revives 'Old Hollywood Glamour' in layers of luxury, fine details, and beautiful surroundings. Come join us in raising a toast to remember a time we'll never forget!

Resources: **Baker | McGuire, Rozmallin, The Ghiordes Knot, Kravet**, Designers' Personal Collection



**PARTI GRAS | Wanda Brown NCIDQ, ASID, Wanda Brown Interior Design
Baker | McGuire, Suite 60**

Step into the vibrant world of Parti Gras, a chic and sophisticated vignette inspired by the legendary festive spirit of Mardi Gras, evoking the lively energy of the celebration in an elegant and refined way. This design reimagines the celebration with luxe materials like fine china, metallic accents, and crystal glassware, giving the tablescape a polished, timeless appeal. Striking a perfect balance between celebration and elegance, Parti Gras is ideal for those who love to entertain with both fun and style.

Resources: **Baker | McGuire, Rozmallin**, Designer's Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

COME ONE, COME ALL - COME BIG, COME SMALL

Sissy Yellen & Jessica Friedman, *Sissy Yellen Living*

Tennant & Associates, Suite 61

A whimsical gathering for different generations (and species), set amongst a captivating blend of patterns produced by iconic textile house, Cowtan and Tout. Contemporary photography and sculpture by local powerhouses, Laurie Tennant and Barry Harrison, strike a thought-provoking balance against the tradition brought to the table.

Resources: **Tennant & Associates**, Designer's Personal Collection



COZY - COMFY - CURVY | Jennifer Asmar, *Jennifer Asmar Interiors*
CAI Designs, Suite 82

This inviting living space features soft, sumptuous curves and a monochromatic color scheme, creating an intimate and sophisticated atmosphere. Flowers and candles set the mood, perfectly completing the design.

Resources: **CAI Designs**, Designer's Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

LEKKA JOL | Alexis Elley, *Textures Design*
CAI Designs, Suite 82

Everyone will find their favorite spot in this room, with designated areas for dining and games, as well as a cozy nook for cocktails and conversation featuring low-profile seating. The space will be filled with wood and organic artifacts, complemented by light fabrics that embody a true South African style home. In keeping with Textures Design's signature look, the designer drew inspiration from nature to seamlessly bring the outdoors inside, creating a tranquil yet vibrant atmosphere—the perfect setting for a lekka jol!

Resources: **CAI Designs**, Designer's Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

FAMILY TABLE | Joel Baird, Baird Design Group
The Ghiordes Knot, Suite 90

This unique table setting combines elegant blue and persimmon hues with a rustic wood table for a striking contrast. Custom sawhorse legs add texture and function, while a hand-knotted rug enhances autumnal tones with sophistication. Clean white dishes mix with antique blue willow plates, complemented by custom napkins and pillows made from luxury fabrics. Hand-drawn place cards add a personal touch.

Resources: **The Ghiordes Knot, Pindler, Designer's Personal Collection**



Photo by Jeff Aisen

CRYSTAL BLUE PERSUASION | Sherry Tattrie, *Sherry Tattrie Interiors*
The Ghiordes Knot, Suite 90

This vignette, inspired by the iconic late 1960s hit “Crystal Blue Persuasion” by Tommy James and The Shondells, invites a departure from the everyday and a journey into the world of haute cuisine, elegance, and sparkle. Envision an intimate dining experience enhanced by soft music, dim lighting, and pink champagne. A blend of contemporary and traditional elements with a touch of holiday magic makes this dining opportunity timeless and truly memorable... all prompted by the imagery of Crystal Blue Persuasion!

Resources: **The Ghiordes Knot, Alexandra June, Designer’s Personal Collection**

PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER



Photo by Jeff Aisen

AROUND THE TUSCAN TABLE | Debi Hollis, *Interior Lifestyles*

E.W. Kitchens, Suite 93

Be transported to a patio in Tuscany where you can relax and enjoy the experience. Enjoy this space where everyone is welcome and where the guests can envision themselves with their friends and family. Sit back, relax, break bread together and enjoy an affogato – welcome to the Tuscan Table!

Resources: **E.W. Kitchens, Fifi & Coco Interiors, The Ghiordes Knot, Lighting Resource Studio, Rita O'Brien Interiors, Designer's Personal Collection**



Photos by Joe Tiano

WHIMSICAL WANDERING SOIREE
Anita Sneideraitis, Gunnar Olivier Design
California Closets, Suite 95

Wandering around, having light appetizers and cocktails before sitting down for dinner is a more casual, great way to introduce everyone at any event. Inspired by traditional fall patterns, color, and intimate spaces, we encourage people to entertain in all corners of their home.

Resources: **California Closets, Rita O'Brien Interiors, TRA Art Group**, Designer's Personal Collection





TEA FOR TWO OR TWENTY | Penny Heideman & Candy Welch,
Interiors by Holmes

Beaver Tile & Stone, Suite 101

Immerse yourself in elegance. Whether it's an intimate tea for two or a celebration with twenty, this setting inspires meaningful gatherings with friends and family.

Resources: **Beaver Tile & Stone**, Designers' Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

BOTANICAL GARDENS | Anita Sneideraitis, *Gunnar Olivier Design*
Gunnar Olivier Design, Suite 102A

There's no better way to enjoy dinner on a beautiful day than being surrounded by nature, friends, and family. This setting draws inspiration from all things botanical, the rich hues of fall, and the beauty of outdoor spaces.

Resources: **Gunnar Olivier Design, Rita O'Brien Interiors, Designer's Personal Collection**



Photo by Joe Tiano

FAITHFULLY YOURS | Ruth Casper, *Ruth Casper Design Studio*
Ruth Casper Design Studio, Suite 102E

This prayerful space embodies the idea that “The Foundation of the Home is You,” incorporating spirituality into design. RCD writes meditations or prayers on studs or surfaces before finishing materials are installed for clients. Featured are a prayer wall and a curated line of Faith blankets, monogrammed with meaningful words to wrap yourself in belief.

Resources: **Ruth Casper Design Studio**



Photos by Joe Tiano

**LUNCH ON SAFARI | Jenny Roush, *Room Service Interior Design*
Pindler, Suite 103**

Grab your binoculars and head out on safari. This luncheon for two has a draped table with several layers of tablecloths including a Pindler animal print fabric. Tribal dishes and rattan covered pitcher and glasses add to the adventurous look. The dessert table has a matching decor to tie the tables together. Make any meal special by setting a theme!

Resources: **Pindler, CAI Designs, The Ghiordes Knot, Room Service Interior Design, Rita O'Brien Interiors, Designer's Personal Collection**



Photo by Joe Tiano

THE EPIC ROAD TRIP PLANNING PARTY: WHEELS ACROSS AMERICA

Terry Ellis, *Room Service Interior Design*

Room Service Interior Design, Suite 104A

A small group of friends gather for a casual planning party. They will soon embark upon a journey across the country ON BICYCLES! It will be the adventure of a lifetime visiting great American landmarks, national parks and vibrant cities. Fresh air, nature, and an exhilarating freedom from the daily grind. This planning session is inspiring the fun, colorful and exciting journey ahead, while enjoying snacks and beverages together.

Resources: **Room Service Interior Design**, **The Ghiordes Knot**, Designer's Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

MEDITERRANEAN GARDEN SOIREE: AN EVENING OF ESSENCE

Ellwood Interiors

Schumacher, Suite 110

This soirée unfolds in a lush scene, draped in earthy greens and illuminated by the soft glow of lanterns. Every detail evokes a sense of timeless elegance and tranquility. From the crafted cocktails to curated linens, each moment is thoughtfully layered.

Resources: **Schumacher**, Designers' Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

THE COOL KIDS TABLE | Dayna Rasschaert, *Dayna Flory Interiors*
Schumacher, Suite 110

Inspired by the joyful energy of Dayna’s children and her dog, “The Cool Kids Table” blends modern style with playful elements. Woodland creatures and vibrant paper cranes bring whimsy to the setting, while wallpaper memos double as coloring pages, adding splashes of color and creativity. It’s a fun, celebratory space for kids of all ages!

Resources: **Schumacher**, Designer’s Personal Collection



Photo by Joe Tiano

NEVER LOSE YOUR SENSE OF FUN | Theresa Sullivan & Victoria Strickler, *Sullivan-Strickler Design*
Schumacher, Suite 110

A tribute to the phrase, “Never lose your sense of fun,” this tablescape creates an inviting and celebratory atmosphere. With bold color, classic elements fused with modern components, and intimate lighting, this tablescape promotes a sense of merriment. Each table place, while being part of the larger whole, is curated for the individual guest’s delight and entertainment, while the entire vignette is prepared for a communal entertaining experience that evokes revelry.

Resources: **Schumacher, Alexandra June**, Designers’ Personal Collection



BROADWAY RAVE | Rita O'Brien & Colleen O'Brien Seitz,
Rita O'Brien Interiors
Rita O'Brien Interiors, Suite 111

Step into the vibrant world of “Broadway Rave,” where the energy of musical theater ignites the spirit of celebration. This dynamic display invites you to grab a drink and join fellow drama lovers in a lively gathering space. With whimsical décor and a backdrop of classic show tunes, it’s a place to sing, dance, and revel in the joy of Broadway.



Photo by Joe Tiano

**THE SCANDINAVIAN HOLIDAY GARDEN | Phyllis Whitehead,
Maison Fifi & Coco
Cercan Tile, Suite 122**

You are entering “JUL” Christmas celebration in the garden. Festive decor, warm accents and gifts welcome guests on fur covered tables of greens, flowers, candles and traditional stag heads. The vintage Peacock garden furniture features classic black and white cabana stripes and white fur pillows and throws. A buffet is set with time-honored desserts and hot beverages to celebrate the season.

Resources: **Cercan Tile, Fifi & Coco Interiors, TRA Art Group, Baker | McGuire, Rita O’Brien Interiors**



Tablescapes photos by Joe Tiano



"THE ART OF TABLESCAPING" VIGNETTES Arthur White of *A & E Décor*

During the *Gather* event, we also hosted a special sold-out presentation with Designer Arthur White of *A & E Décor* which culminated with a grand unveiling of five unique vignettes—four themed tablescapes and one elegant living space shown here.