

SLHS Grads Go to Nationals

Reston firm named NARI 2008 Regional Contractor of the Year.

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The National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) named Reston-based Eagle Home Design its 2008 Regional Contractor of the Year in the Residential Kitchen category. The firm is now competing for the national award, which will be announced on March 15 at NARI's spring meeting in St. Petersburg, Fla.

"We are very proud of that," said John Thompson, the principal of Eagle Home Design. "It doesn't get any bigger than that," he said of the opportunity to win a national award. "We strive to be the best in the industry," Thompson said of the Reston-based company.

Contractors from seven regions around the country will vie for the national honor. The judges for the regional award took into consideration problem solving, functionality, aesthetics, craftsmanship, innovation, degree of difficulty and entry presentation. The remodeling market was a \$291 billion industry in the United States in 2006.

Eagle Home Design started about four years ago, after Thompson's father died. Thompson was in sales before starting the company, but always knew he would own a business. His wife, Guadalupe Tassara, studied architecture, so the two combined their skills to form a remodeling business. "We combined my business acumen and her ability to design," said Thompson. Thompson's uncle strengthened the combination with his background as a carpenter.

Both Thompson and Tassara are graduates of South Lakes High School. Thompson graduated from South Lakes in 1994 and Tassara graduated in 1995. Eagle Home Design employs 10 people.

"I love building things," said Thompson. "I enjoy making something from nothing. This won't be the last company I have."

To learn more about Eagle Home Design, visit <http://www.eagleprojects.us>.