

Atlanta

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# INtown



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## And the Winners are ... Silver and gold awards for local developers



Shandra Hill Smith

Some of the best in real estate have plenty to celebrate – as each recently walked away with what may be considered the premier awards in Atlanta's residential building industry. The Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association presented its OBIE Awards in December in more than 100 building, remodeling, marketing and personal achievement categories.

Professionals from around the nation traveled to Atlanta to judge the awards. During the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary ceremony, winners took home 56 Gold awards and 28 Silver awards in such categories as Rookie Sales Person of the Year, Marketing Director of the Year and Community of the Year.

Honorees are included on the Web site, [www.AtlantaRealEstateForum.com/obies](http://www.AtlantaRealEstateForum.com/obies). Here, *Atlanta INtown* spotlights some of the winners.

### With Epic Precision

One of the biggest winners was With Epic Precision, which took five OBIE Awards. These include:

**Gold OBIE** in the Single Family detached Urban Redevelopment/Revitalization \$299,999 and under category for an East Atlanta Mid-Century Modern Home

**Gold OBIE** in the Remodeling category for Whole-House Renovation under \$250,000

**Gold OBIE** in the Remodeling category for Whole-House Renovation \$250,000 to \$500,000

**Silver OBIE** in the Single Family Builder detached – Urban Redevelopment/Revitalization \$299,999 and under category for a Decatur Custom Home

**Silver OBIE** in the Single Family Builder detached – Urban Redevelopment/Revitalization \$300,000 to \$449,999 category for an East Lake Bungalow.

"Our company was overwhelmed to receive five awards," says Jim LaVallee of With Epic Precision, now Epic Development ([www.EpicDevelopment.com](http://www.EpicDevelopment.com)). "As we move forward [this new] year, it re-energizes us to strive for award-winning quality every day."

One of Epic's attention-getting properties was for a foreclosed home minutes from downtown Decatur. "We redesigned the first floor and incorporated the second-floor space to create a four-bedroom, three-bath home," LaVallee says. "The design features included hardwood floors, high-end crown and baseboard molding, two panel doors, oil-rubbed door locks and a gas fireplace in the living room. A large screened porch was added to the rear of the house to take advantage of the private rear yard and mature trees."



With Epic Precision's award-winning kitchen in East Atlanta.

### Hearthstone Group

The winning entry for Hearthstone Group ([hearthstonegroup.com](http://hearthstonegroup.com)) is one of 23 units in the Candler Grove townhome development, located on Church Street, four blocks from the historic square in downtown Decatur. Hearthstone garnered a **Gold OBIE in the Single Family Attached – Urban Redevelopment Revitalization \$450,000 to \$549,999 category**.

The townhome is a three-story, brick dwelling with private garage parking in this walkable community.

"Each of the 23 units is finished on the outside with different brick, mortar, stucco and paint colors to make them distinctive," says Kenny King of Hearthstone. "The historic architectural details provide a sense of place and permanence while the interiors are comprised of the highest quality features and modern conveniences."



Candler Grove townhomes on Church Street in Decatur.

### Sullivan Homes

Gold and Silver went to Sullivan Homes of Decatur (404-378-7030). Started in 1995 by Eric Sullivan, the company received a **Gold OBIE for the Single Family Detached \$900,000 to \$999,999 detached** category for its Decatur ultimate bungalow. It also won a **Silver OBIE in the Remodeling category for Whole House Renovation \$250,000 to \$500,000**.

Of the bungalow, Sullivan says, "Every element of this design and functionality, from circa 1940s architectural aesthetics to exceptional details and modern amenities, creates a classic American home for young professionals with a family. The entrance features Green in Greene-inspired rose trellis doors, creating a warm welcoming that is featured throughout. The natural oak trim, stone and other natural materials add to bringing the outdoors in. A front porch, enclosed patio and bedroom deck add to this ultimate bungalow."

Sullivan Homes is building a name for developing new homes in Decatur that "look as if they've been in place since the streets were first named," says Sullivan. "In fact, without a double-take, one of [our] just-built Craftsman-style homes could easily be mistaken for one of Decatur's charming older homes. By paying close attention to the architectural details of surrounding houses, [the company] has learned the art of blending new houses into established neighborhoods."

A stylish new bathroom from Sullivan Homes.

