

aria

GROUP



ILLUME



Pandemic Architecture



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The Year of the Pandemic

"Last year was devastating to the restaurant, entertainment, and hospitality industry. Most of our clients were in survival mode. We worked with many to enhance carry-out, improve ventilation systems, provide social distancing, and/or explore expanded outdoor dining. We must all work together to promote the safety of our customers and staff while striving to stay in business. 2021 offers the hope that comes with the distribution of a vaccine and the pent up yearning of America to get back to a new normal."

-Jim Lencioni, President

Next Generation Prototype

Shake Shack



Rendering by Archit Sawhney

Inspiration for the first drive-thru "Next Generation" design came from paying homage to the pitched roof at their original location in NYC, but with a twist. The roof can now house sustainable solutions such as a green roof, solar panels, or act as a water collector for irrigation. The building provides architectural interest with contrasting volumes and a flexible footprint, easily adaptable to different locations with adjustable seat counts and finishes.

Location: Oak Lawn, IL / **Seats:** 134

Square footage: 4700 SF

Contractor: Thorndale Construction Services



Rendering by Sana Ahmad

Buddy's

We recently finished what we hope will be the first of many Buddy's locations. Buddy's came to us looking for a brand refresh while still paying tribute to their Detroit roots where they started in 1946. We proposed combining the old with the new for a "refined retro" design. From the bright pops of color to the wood slat walls and retro curved bar, this new look refreshes the Buddy's brand while bringing some nostalgia for this DANG good Detroit-style pizza joint.

Location: Troy, MI / **Seats:** 245 / **Square footage:** 6,734 SF

Contractor: Tim Ryan Construction



Photograph by Megan Walsh



Photograph by Megan Walsh

Designing for Health

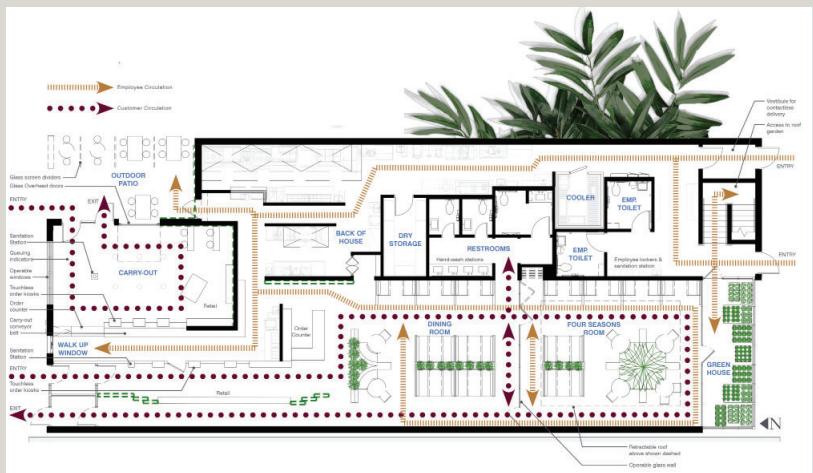


ILLUME explores how a restaurant can provide a safe and healthy environment that allows unmasked social gatherings, while minimizing potential exposure to infection by increasing autonomy and compartmentalization. Through the use of strategic lighting and vegetation, the interior climate is purified while also providing produce for the restaurant.

Project Team: Emma Phillips, Shannon Sterne, Elisabeth Battle, Sarah Medcalf, Victoria Cavalcante

PANDEMIC ARCHITECTURE

Snuggled into an urban epicenter, our concept restaurant BBQ THYME is a green-grown, opposites-attract style barbecue. The building is an adaptive reuse renovation which houses two small grow operations, one located on the roof beneath a retractable canopy and the other in a solarium adjacent to the dining room. The design focuses on five concepts to solve the challenges we face in a pandemic: Carry Out & Delivery, Retail & Reinvent, Technology & Flow, Human & Humble, and Green & Grow.



Project Team: Elizabeth Hutchinson, Fatou Daikhate Njie, Ana Hernandez, Kendra Cranford,

OAK PARK WINTER DINING GUIDE The current times are tough, especially for the hospitality industry. Living in a cold weather climate, the situation becomes exponentially more daunting for our community as the winter months creep in. The Village of Oak Park partnered with Aria Group to put together a guide to help the restaurants of Oak Park figure out a viable solution for dining this winter. Four different options



Project Team: Jasmine Esquinca, Megan Walsh, Liz Neuffer, Erin Lyons, Lauren Oldenburg, Shannon Sterne, Ilias Saokbaev, Jim Lencioni, Joe Vajda, Caitlin Hubbs, Kendra Cranford, Josh Curvey

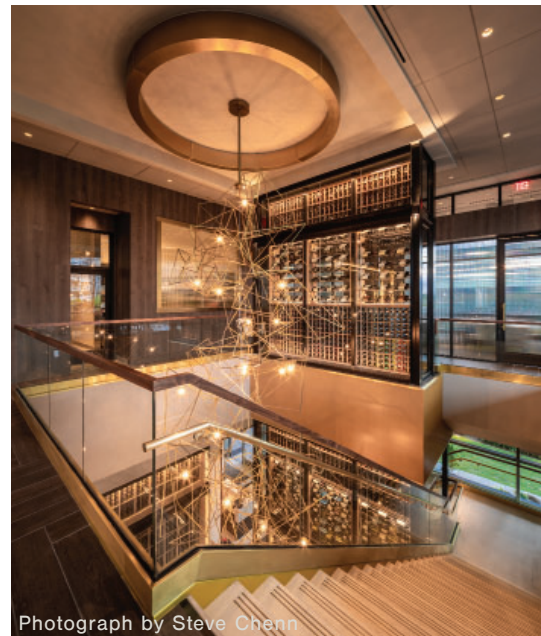


Photograph by Steve Chenn

Perry's Steakhouse & Grille

We've had the great opportunity to work together with the Perry's Steakhouse & Grille team to evolve the design of their brand since 2014. The newest addition to their catalog is located in the Uptown neighborhood of Dallas, Texas. The two-story 14,000+ square foot restaurant presents a sophisticated dining experience where every detail is carefully considered. We evolved the brand's design fundamentals to connect with the modern architectural context. The contemporary design paired with a backdrop of the glowing Dallas skyline viewed above the treetops of the adjacent park truly creates a unique experience.

Location: Dallas, TX / **Seats:** 368 / **Square footage:** 14,830 SF / **Contractor:** Panterra Construction



Photograph by Steve Chenn



Photograph by Steve Chenn



Photograph by Steve Chenn



Photograph by Steve Chenn



Photograph by Michael Baxter



Photograph by Michael Baxter

Topgolf

We were tasked with creating a new Topgolf design experience that takes the concept from a three story building down to two. This design redefines the experience and elevates the entertainment. Guests are welcomed with a bold, sleek entrance and modernized finishes. This two-story concept continues to build on the well-known Topgolf brand and feel, but will allow the brand to enter new markets, while providing the same unique experience.

Location: Rogers, AR / **Contractor:** Arco Murray **Seats:** 900 / **Square footage:** 46,000



Photograph by Michael Baxter



Photograph provided by Game Night Out



Photograph provided by Game Night Out

Game Night Out

This unique entertainment concept born in Chicago outgrew their former space and sought to define their brand in a new location twice the size of their existing location. The contemporary-industrial space includes a spacious living room, custom built-in drink rails, and plenty of surface space in the kitchen complete with a butcher block island. Key elements in the design include a faux fireplace flanked by frosted glass windows, two custom wallcovering designs, and a signature rich teal wall color with white oak wood and brass accents throughout.

Location: Chicago, IL / **Square footage:** 2,300 SF
Contractor: Reed Construction



Photograph by True Food Kitchen



Photograph by True Food Kitchen



Photograph by True Food Kitchen

True Food Kitchen & True Bar

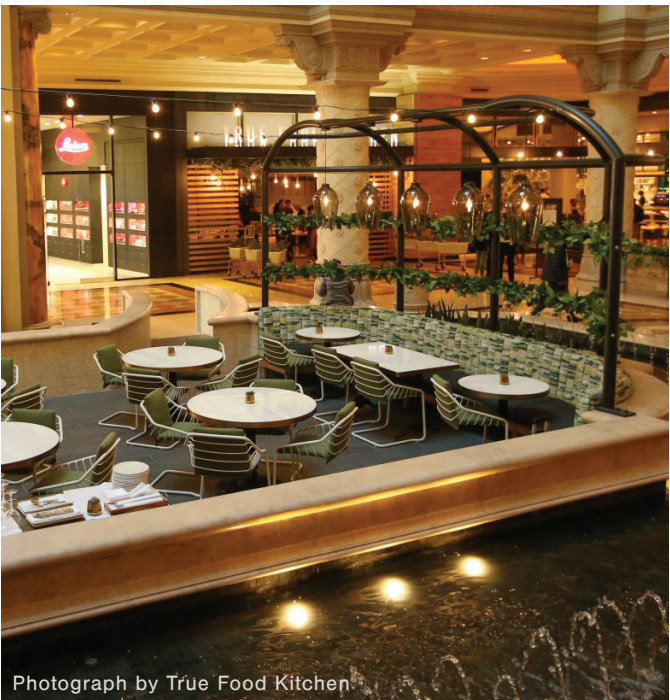
With this location in the Caesar's Forum Shops directly on the Las Vegas Strip, the goal was to stand up to the Vegas energy and provide a more elevated dining experience. The space took over three existing retail units and added a 'floating' bar in the center mall fountain that acts as an extension of the restaurant. Inside, we created unique dining spaces in order to provide a different dining experience at every visit.

Location: Las Vegas, NV / **Seats:** Interior - 256 & Bar - 66

Square footage: Interior - 8,516 SF & Bar - 1,800 SF / **Contractor:** Jet Commercial Construction, LLC



Photograph by True Food Kitchen



Photograph by True Food Kitchen

Cooper's Hawk

Cooper's Hawk asked Aria to design their new flagship location in Chicago's Gold Coast. This urban location is the most unique restaurant we've done for this client, and it's also the largest (3 floors!). Our team did a great job making this feel like a Cooper's Hawk, while embracing the location & interior architecture. Fun fact: Aria also designed this space for the previous tenant, Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steakhouse.

Location: Chicago, IL / **Seats:** Interior - 460 & Patio - 24 / **Square footage:** 24,226 SF - 3 Floors

Contractor: International Contractors Inc.



Photograph by Emilia Czader



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Photograph by Emilia Czader



Photograph by Emilia Czader

Aria Personals

New Team Members

Erinn Lyons
Elizabeth Plecha
Cindy Akins

Promotions

Project Manager

Kristin Mrozinski
Matt Shoener
Sean Irish
Damian Satola

Project Coordinator

Andrew Leung
Tina Clemens

Congratulations

Awards

IIDA's STITCH 2020 Best of Show Award
NEWH Illinois Top Design Firm of 2020
NEWH Pandemic Design Competition
(three projects)

Licensures

ARE

Kristin Mrozinski
Megan Davey

NCIDQ

Elizabeth Hutchinson

Weddings

Mary Jane Soria married her husband
Teo on October 31st, 2020

Births

Joe Junius- baby Arlo on 1/28
Lis Battle- baby Rowan on 1/29
James & Jennifer Gallagher- baby
Mackenzie on 4/10
Matt Shoener- baby Samuel on 6/21
Elizabeth Kozlik- baby Mason on 9/1
Lilliana Borchers- baby Julian on 10/25
Kyle Miller- baby McKenzie on 11/25

A House in Austin

Aria Group partnered with the community organization, A House in Austin (AHIA), which found an ideal new home in the Austin neighborhood of Chicago to renovate for their use. AHIA's mission is to nurture bonds for healthy families and bright futures. With hopes to become integrated into the neighborhood's fabric, the organization purchased a Victorian-era house in need of renovations. Aria volunteered our time to help bring the house up to zoning, accessibility, and rehabilitation codes for their mission.

Creating a house into a place of business and gathering provided some challenges aesthetically. Aria worked to maintain the character of the house with every decision, but important elements (especially for accessibility) needed to be implemented into the project.

The AHIA team along with Aria Group, Systems Design Group, CE Anderson and Associates, and Robin Titus Designs strived to create an inviting and secure space for families. Functional and inspiring design plays a key role to help empower parents to shape their children's futures within this underserved community.

Location: Chicago, IL

Square footage: 3,050 SF

Contractor: Himelick Contracting LLC



Photograph by Travis Vannoy



Photograph by Travis Vannoy