



C A M B R I A®

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAMBRIA® ANNOUNCES THE ACADEMY AT CAMBRIA COUNCIL

Company hosts inaugural 2019 Cambria Council trip at HQ in Minneapolis, MN

LE SUEUR, Minn. (June 6, 2019) – Cambria, the leading producer of American-made natural stone surfaces, has launched its first ever Academy at Cambria Council. The Cambria Council is comprised of a dedicated group of industry professionals who work with Cambria to analyze its sales channel's business needs. The inaugural meeting was held April 15-17th in Minneapolis, MN, where members were deeply immersed in Cambria's Academy learning experience consisting of processing plant and fabrication facility tours, inspirational site visits, and engaging round-table discussions.

The Cambria Council provides advice and field expertise to Cambria as third party validation and external brand support. With this Council, Cambria will hear directly from these industry channel experts in a focused and deliberate forum addressing all aspects of Cambria's business.

"We wanted to form this council to make sure we constantly have our pulse on the needs and wants of the industry and are identifying opportunities to address new or revised tools and programs," said Andrea Thorne, EVP of Marketing for Cambria. "The council is made up of professional builders, remodelers, and interior designers – all leaders in their respective fields – with representation throughout the country. We are excited to collaborate with this group."

Cambria is proud to announce the nine members of its prestigious inaugural Council comprised of trusted leaders in the industry:



Andy Schafer, Advantage Design + Remodel

Andy Schafer is partner and general manager of Advantage Design + Remodel located in New Berlin, Wisconsin. Andy originally started in cabinetry and then joined a well-known local remodeling firm where his expertise led him to co-found Advantage Remodel in August 2009. Today, Advantage Remodel completes mid to high-end remodels, utilizing a vignette studio to showcase designs and help clients.



Jon Atwood, Atwood Custom Homes

Jon Atwood is the owner and president of Atwood Custom Homes. Founded in 2008, Jon continues to build custom, high-end luxury homes in Southlake, Texas, and surrounding communities. He chairs several committees with the Fort Worth Builders Association and was honored as the 2015 Fort Worth Dream Home Builder. Additional accolades and awards include Best of Houzz Design and Service awards 2015-2019, Best Builder D Homes 2017-2018, and

Southlake Style Reader's Choice Best in Homebuilding 2018 & 2019.



Eric Price, Bearded Builders

Eric Price is the owner of Bearded Builders in Omaha, Nebraska. Eric founded Bearded Builders in 2014 and quickly grew it to become Omaha's premiere kitchen and bath remodeling firm, winning multiple local and national awards. The success in Omaha lead Eric to open a second location in Baltimore, Maryland, in 2017.



Ellen Lopez, EL Design Studio

Ellen Lopez began her career as a textile designer for a large textile converting company. Ellen eventually transitioned to kitchen design in 2005. As a self-taught designer, she achieved the level of Certified Kitchen Designer from the National Kitchen and Bath Association in 2009. In 2014, Ellen opened EL

Design Studio Inc. in Hicksville, New York, where she currently excels at designing unique, creative, and well-organized kitchens. Her work has been recognized by NARI and NKBA, as well as featured on the cover of *HOUSE* magazine.



Brendan Charters, Eurodale Developments

Brendan Charters is a founding partner and manager of Eurodale Developments in Toronto. He leads the boutique firm’s architectural design, contract commitments, permits, and approvals. Having entered the industry as a carpenter, Brendan advanced through to management and sales at other firms, eventually forming Eurodale in 2003. Eurodale is Toronto’s only 4-time winner of the Renovator of the Year award (BILD & OHBA). Brendan is often referred to by various media outlets as an industry expert and has served on the executive board at BILD.



Richard Jackson, JacksonBuilt Custom Homes

Richard Jackson is owner and president of JacksonBuilt Custom Homes, a company he founded in 2009 on Daniel Island – a suburb of Charleston, SC. Prior to starting his own company, Richard spent over a decade working for one of the largest homebuilders in the Southeast, overseeing projects in Atlanta and Charleston. Through the culmination of over 22 years’ experience and 50 plus homes, Richard has built his company based on a persistent standard for unsurpassed quality and the highest level of customer service. JacksonBuilt has been honored with multiple Prism Awards from the Charleston Home Builders Association, as well as “best of” honors for design and customer service by HOUZZ. JacksonBuilt has also been recognized by GuildQuality, a third-party surveying company, with the Guildmaster Award for outstanding customer service.



Jaime Blomquist, Jaime Blomquist Interiors

Jaime Blomquist has been a licensed interior designer for the past 16 years based in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Her mastery extends beyond beautiful furnishings and fabrics to include a full grasp of architectural plans. Jaime integrates thoughtful architectural details in her rooms, embracing modern sensibilities while paying homage to bygone eras. Jaime Blomquist Interiors is fluent in the language of construction, providing a strategic, detailed physical roadmap of her projects, and verbally communicating all aspects to her clients during their progression.



Barrie Spang, Sapphire Pear

Barrie Spang has been an interior designer for 25 years. She spent 22 years working for a residential interior design firm in Cleveland, Ohio, before starting her own firm and home décor store, Sapphire Pear, in 2015. Barrie is inspired by color and continually encourages her clients to go beyond their comfort zone with design. She has clients throughout Cleveland and beyond and has completed projects in New York City, Chicago, Lexington, KY, Washington, DC, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Colorado, and even a small seaside villa in Greece.



Ryan Hanson, Sustainable 9 Design + Build

More than 18 years ago, Ryan Hanson and his brother Chad, started Sustainable 9 Design + Build, which has been described as ‘Minnesota Modern’ with a bold and whimsical twist. Ryan’s clients are drawn to Sustainable 9’s commitment to building energy-efficient, high performance homes that adhere to the most stringent requirements for indoor air quality. As an eight-time dream home builder on the Twin Cities Parade of Homes, a MN Green Path Leadership Award recipient, and the only builder in all of Minnesota to receive the Zero Energy Ready certification on a home in 2018, Ryan and his team are poised for a bright future in the Twin Cities market and beyond.

The members serve as strategic partners in the success of Cambria initiatives and are strong supporters of the brand. Cambria will continue to meet with the members on a quarterly basis.

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About Cambria

Cambria is the leading producer of American-made natural stone surfaces. As a stain-resistant, nonporous natural stone surface, Cambria is strong, safe, maintenance free, and easy to care for. Headquartered in Le Sueur, Minnesota, Cambria is sold through an exclusive network of premium, independent specialty retail and trade partners that can be identified at CambriaUSA.com. *#MyCambria*

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