

THE CAN-DO ISSUE

WINDOW FASHION

VISION

A VIEW OF WINDOW FASHION. DETAILS, MATERIALS & INSPIRED DESIGN.



7/8
10

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Workroom Can-Do

Creative Camp Attendees Share Their Success

By **SUSAN KOSTELECKY**

At Creative Camp the focus is on hands-on classes for medium- to advanced-level workrooms. Presented by The Custom Sewing Institute, each project is repeated three times over the course of a weekend, allowing each of the 50 attendees to take every core class offered. There is no need to pick and choose which classes to attend. ¶ In its four years, Creative Camp has earned some true devotees, multiple-year attendees who gladly share how the skills they learned translate directly into improved business:

» **Carol Hart, Timeless Designs, Indianapolis, Ind.,** "I had to make an incredibly large bay window cornice. Plywood would have been cumbersome to work with and install, so I implemented my new skills from the class on Elaborate Pelmet techniques with Joanna Braxton. Any time you can separate yourself from the competition with innovative products or techniques, you make your company more valuable."

» **Camille Moore, Interior Treatments by Camille Moore, Franklin, Tenn.,** "After taking the hands-on motorized Roman shade class with Chris Watt, I was confident in proposing them to a particular client who then ordered 13 motorized Romans," Moore said. "Last year was my biggest year in business and this year is proving to beat that figure. I truly feel the techniques, such as smocking, fabric origami and other high-end embellishment methods I have learned at Camp have greatly contributed to this growth."

» **Annie David, Elkhart, Ind.,** "After attending Creative Camp, I am more confident in the scope of my abilities, am more confident in my pricing, my methods, suggesting the best methods of fabricating a design, and am more willing to approach local business about my work and displaying my products. I do not need to sit back in the wings waiting for change to happen; I can make the change!" ▼



TOP: The March 2010 Creative Campers came from 27 states and Canada. Some of the classes included: Shaped Firmaflex Cornices with Karen Barnes; Elaborate Pelmet techniques with Joanna Braxton; Smocking (without tapes) with Donna-Marie Lee; Working from the Curtain Maker's Handbook with Ann Johnson and Soutache Covered Buttons and Handwork with Gillian Wendel.

CENTER: Instructor Karen Barnes shows off the handiwork of one of the campers.

RIGHT: Diane Preston works on a shaped cornice detail.

CLOSER LOOK



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