

Award-Winning Design

Combining the beauty of a bungalow with the functionality of a two-storey, the open design of this home allows light to flow through from the great room to the adjacent office. The two rooms also share a gas fireplace. "It's a two-sided feature," notes Diego Vassallo, owner of KDR Design Builders Inc.

Surrounding the fireplace, an entertainment unit is built into the 18-foot wall, with lit alcoves and wood cabinets. The ceiling height allows for a unique catwalk overlooking the great room. "We decided to place the television area on top of the fireplace so as not to take away from the open look of the house," says Vassallo. The slate backdrop for the television is recessed the same distance as the fireplace surround protrudes from the wall. Part of a surround sound system theatre, built-in speakers fit seamlessly next to the mantel and television.

Meanwhile, elements in the design draw from other features of the home, further unifying the overall look.

"The stainless steel fireplace mantel really ties everything together," Vassallo points out. A slide-in cabinet for audio-visual components matches cabinets under the adjacent granite-topped counter with bar sink. The maple trim on the slate fireplace hearth matches the posts connecting the wrap-around bar to the second level.

KDR is renowned for this kind of attention to detail. It is easy to see why this home was a Gold Medal winner at the 2005 Fall Parade of Homes. With such a winning combination of design and education, the builder proves once again that the motto of knowledge, design and reliability are more than just words.

