



BUSINESS BEAT

By Darcy Leigh Richardson

✓ Transformation. It is part of **Masterworks Construction Services'** tagline, and the Long

Beach-based full service general contractor's commitment to accuracy and respect for a client's vision earned the company the National Association of the Remodeling Industry's (NARI) 2010 Contractor of the Year award in the specialty category.

Debbie Marr-Leisy, business manager of Masterworks, said

the 19-year-old company started out as a residential remodeling business and added landscape design/installation and green building certification to its services.

The project that earned Masterworks the award was the conversion of a library in a house built in 1923 to its original and

historically accurate look. The house, located in Los Angeles' Hancock Park neighborhood, was designed in the Italian Revival style by Paul Williams in 1923, revamped in the 1950s and then modified again by later owners.

When Masterworks was done with the library, the walnut paneling, a coffered ceiling and a granite fireplace made the room look like the cat's pajamas. The bonus: the company's contractor built a secret liquor bar hidden behind one of the walnut panels which could only be opened by lifting a specific book in the room's bookshelf. Who said Prohibition had been repealed?

Those interested in transforming their environment can call 961-0607 or visit www.mworks-construction.com.