



VANI SAYEED

NEWTON-BASED DESIGNER VANI SAYEED, WHO EARNED A BFA IN INTERIOR DESIGN AT THE ESTEEMED SIR J.J. SCHOOL OF ART IN MUMBAI, INDIA, FOLLOWED BY AN MFA IN DESIGN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA, IS, FORTUNATELY FOR US, NO STRANGER TO THE BDC. ALWAYS A WILLING PARTICIPANT AT BDC EVENTS AND AN ACTIVE VOLUNTEER FOR ORGANIZATIONS LIKE HEADING HOME TO DINNER, SAYEED ALSO ENJOYS COLLABORATING WITH SHOWROOMS AS SHE DID HERE WITH ALISHA SERRAS AT SCAVOLINI.

"The kitchen design was a wonderful collaboration with Alisha Serras from Scavolini Store Boston. Alisha understood the historic nature of the property and at the same time absorbed the aesthetic of the client and delivered a bespoke kitchen. The updated Shaker style cabinets by Scavolini in a neutral color set the tone to showcase the clients' art and antique collections."

- Vani Sayeed



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SAYEED WORKS WITH SCAVOLINI TO DESIGN STYLISH KITCHEN IN CHESTNUT HILL

WORDS BY VANI SAYEED · KITCHEN DESIGN BY SCAVOLINI BOSTON
PHOTOGRAPHY BY NAT REA PHOTOGRAPHY
CONTRACTOR CASLA CONSTRUCTION

We started this project by creating a complete schematic for the entire house, knowing all along that we would do the work in phases, beginning with the kitchen redesign and renovation. As I often do when designing a kitchen, I went to see Alisha Serras at Scavolini. These were young clients with three small children, who had moved from a small city apartment to a larger home in the suburbs. This project was a collaboration between client and designer, based on a mutual love of beautiful old homes and architecture with character. The house was an elegant Chestnut Hill colonial in need of updating. The challenge was to preserve the fine architectural detailing of the residence while meeting the needs and aesthetics of a young and active family. To achieve this goal, we opened up and re-configured a series of rooms on the first floor by removing and relocating walls. We designed the interiors throughout the first floor of the house to reflect the personal style of the clients, who have a penchant for the old and the new—a transitional design sensibility, which we incorporated into the interior design. We utilized their burgeoning collection of antique dinnerware as a jumping off point for the overall design vision, which is a multilayered expression.

