

First Lady Dr. Jill Biden Enlists Mark D. Sikes to Design Her Office at the White House

The designer revealed the news on Instagram.

BY MARY ELIZABETH ANDRIOTIS FEB 22, 2022



For interior designers, being enlisted to decorate anyone's home is the ultimate compliment—but there is arguably no dwelling held higher on a designer's wish list than the White House. That dream just came true for celebrated designer Mark D. Sikes, who this weekend announced that he will be decorating First Lady Jill Biden's East Wing Office in the People's House. He will join a running list of renowned designers and architects who have left their mark on this famed abode, including: Louis Comfort Tiffany, McKim, Mead & White, Sister Parish, Stéphane Boudin, Carleton Varney, Mark Hampton, Kaki Hockersmith, Michael S. Smith, and Tham Kannalikham.

"I'm so excited to announce and share that I will be working with First Lady Jill Biden to refresh and redecorate her East Wing Office," <u>Sikes</u> proclaimed in the post. "This is an honor of a lifetime and I am both humbled and thrilled. To create beauty has always been my passion and I've also come to realize it's my purpose. Thank you to The First Lady, her team and to those who came before her and those still to come."







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markdsikes

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Perhaps best known for his eye-catching blue and white creations (the color combination has become somewhat of a signature for Sikes), Sikes grew up in both the Midwest and the South. As the designer shared on his blog, his father instilled in him"order, discipline and confidence," while his "mother balanced that with an appreciation for beauty, style and restraint." All of this, he says, led him to develop "an attention to detail and a strong passion for interiors, fashion and design."

After studying finance and economics in college, Sikes was drawn to a retail job that would eventually lead to a successful career in merchandising, store design, and marketing for both apparel and home retailers. In 2011, Sikes moved from San Francisco to Los Angeles, where he started his interior design firm—and the rest is history.



A California living room that displays Sikes's fresh take on classic style.

AMY NEUNSINGER

Today, Sikes is the author of not one, but two bestselling books about design: *Beautiful: All-American Decorating and Timeless Style* and *More Beautiful: All-American Decoration*. Design enthusiasts may remember the living room he decorated for the 2020 Kips Bay Decorator Show House in Dallas, Texas, which included both Italian and Portuguese antiques from John Nelson Antiques, Schumacher fabrics, trimming by Samuel & Sons, hanging lanterns from Paul Ferrante, and pieces from both Sikes's collection with Chaddock Home and his collaboration with Christopher Spitzmiller.

While no details have been shared yet regarding the exact details of how Sikes will transform Dr. Biden's office, *House Beautiful* is eagerly awaiting the unveiling—and we'll be sure to update this space once the design has been revealed. In the meantime, treat yourself to this happy California family home to get a sense of Sikes's style.