

Today's Young Professional: Jillian Renner

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Name: Jillian Renner

Age: 29

Residence: Salem

Submissions

To submit a Salem Area Young Professionals profile, send an e-mail to connect@salemyoungpros.com.

What I do at work: I am the interior designer for Golden Rule Remodeling & Architecture. Interior remodeling is my specialty and I find the majority of my projects include a kitchen or bathroom. My daily tasks usually include meeting with clients, designing their remodel using computer-aided software, estimating the project, networking with vendors and other tradesmen and researching new products. I am also the sales and marketing manager for Golden Rule.

What I do on my time: I am a member of the National Kitchen and Bath Association and working towards my certification in kitchen and bath remodeling. I also teach two community education courses for Chemeketa Community College titled Exploring Kitchen Design and Exploring Bath Design. I have also had many articles filled with my design tips published in our local publications. One of my most enjoyable home hobbies is gardening. I usually always have a major gardening project in progress.

Why I work and live in the Mid-Valley: I have lived in the Mid-Valley nearly my entire life and the location seems to be perfect for me. Most of my family is nearby, short weekend getaways are fun and easy, as we have many different year round events, and believe it or not I actually enjoy the rain!

What's my favorite Salem secret: We have a wonderful community of small-business owners. Throughout the last 10 years of living in Salem, I have met many people and visited many of our local businesses. We have many unique small businesses that make our town great! Whether I am looking for a vendor to help with a remodeling project or going out to dinner, many of my favorite places to visit are our local small businesses.

What's something people wouldn't guess about me: Much of my childhood was devoted to tap dancing at the competitive level.

What was I like at 12 years old? I enjoyed my dance career, the stages and the lights. Others probably considered me part tomboy as I enjoyed helping my dad in his woodworking shop or fishing on camping trips.

My smartphone: I have a Motorola Droid which allows me to manage my e-mail, calendar and client and vendor contacts when away from the office. Many of my clients enjoy and expect to communicate through e-mail, and since much of my work week is spent away from my computer, it has been a wonderful tool in assisting me to maintain communication with clients.

Twitter or Facebook? I have a Facebook account. I primarily use it for personal communications with family and friends. However, I do have clients and other business

contacts in my Facebook friends list too.

I'd love to have lunch with: Elsie De Wolfe, the first lady to create an occupation as an interior designer where none had existed before. Elsie's career began in the early 1900s during which heavy and dark Victorian décor was in vogue. Elsie brought new interiors with light colors and fresh looks to our American society. She was also very practical with her designs and put great thought into designing a space for comfortable entertaining.

Salem Area Young Professionals is focused on showcasing Salem as a choice destination for young professionals while establishing Salem's next generation of business and community leaders. Information: www.salemyoungpros.com.