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DESIGN COLUMBIA

TAILORED RETREAT

For Catalyst Architects, escape means bringing heartwarming spaces from dreams into reality.

How do you define an escape? For Catalyst Architects, posing thoughtful questions then listening carefully to each client's answers is key to creating successful spaces where homeowners can rest and recharge.

"Close your eyes, and imagine the house you want to live in," says Wayne Rogers, FAIA, principal. "Take us through that house in your mind's eye, and you'll retreat to a place that's an escape, where there may be a gathering space, a cozy room for reading, or an outdoor space near water."

"An escape means something different to each individual," adds Brandon Rogers, AIA. "The architectural details, natural materials, framing of waterfront views, or amount of sunlight the home receives can bring peace. Similarly, for exterior spaces, a defined outdoor living area or soothing acoustics from a pool can create a private oasis."

"Many of the homes we design are on bodies of water or within unique natural settings. One strategy we often employ is to provide a connection with the environment by blurring the line between indoors and out," notes Heather Stallworth, AIA, principal.

Even the youngest members of the family deserve an imaginative escape, explains Brandon. For one client, a multifunctional playroom wall allowed for climbing rocks, swings, and hammocks to be interchanged, accommodating many adventures.

Ultimately, the goal is to listen to each client's story and understand what an escape means to them. Whether it is a place to connect with the outdoors or gather with family, gaining an understanding of each client's unique values allows Catalyst Architects to bring such escapes to fruition.

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