

Collier County's

MOST INFLUENTIAL BUSINESS LEADERS

## The Naples 100



MINKA MCDONALD President Jinx McDonald Interior Designs

Minka McDonald is a licensed interior designer and LEED AP with more than 20 years of experience. She leads the renowned firm founded by her mother Jinx. Creating casually elegant environments, McDonald feels the combination of beauty and comfort is the essence of true luxury. McDonald spent several years designing in California before returning to her hometown. She has been honored with Sand Dollar, Pinnacle, and Aurora awards for excellence in design.

EDUCATION: Florida State University (MS)

WHY I CHOSE THIS FIELD: I adore creating interesting and beautiful environments—they can affect us in so many ways, both physically and emotionally.

**FUNNIEST WORKPLACE EXPERIENCE:** Our team is a very tight-knit group of ladies with awesome senses of humor, so we laugh together on a daily basis. You have to keep your sense of humor intact in this business!

**MOST INSPIRING PERSON:** My mother Jinx inspires me every day. Knowing the obstacles and hardships that she has overcome drives me to be a better person and business leader

**TOUGHEST CHALLENGE:** The labor shortage and supply chain issues that developed due to the COVID-19 pandemic



JAWN J. MCKENNA Founder Dawn McKenna Group, LLC

Dawn McKenna is one of America's most sought-after luxury real estate agents. She's No. 1 in Hinsdale, Illinois; leads No.1 mega teams in Naples, Chicago, and Park City, Utah; and is ranked among the top 20 mega teams in 2024 by RealTrends. McKenna's vision, work ethic, network, hand-chosen agents, and inhouse teams have enabled McKenna to build DMG into a successful company with national acclaim. DMG also is a market leader in Chicago's North Shore; Lake Geneva, Wisconsin; and Harbor Country, Michigan.

EDUCATION: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

WHY I CHOSE THIS FIELD: I always loved real estate, enjoyed touring houses with friends, and had a knack for picking the right home for people. So, when I needed a couch for a new house, I decided to get my license so I could sell enough homes to get furniture.

**FIRST JOB:** In my freshman year of high school, I worked at in-mall klosk selling popcorn and candy at Evergreen Plaza near Chicago. The pay was low, I was constantly on my feet, and there were plenty of weird people keeping us on our toes, but it was a blast.



GLENN MIDNET Founder and CEO Design West

Glenn Midnet has 40-plus years of experience creating renowned interior design projects with a commitment to excellence and personalized attention that makes each finished space as special as the unique stories that inspire them. The New York native established Design West in Naples in 1994, becoming one of the top interior designers in the region. Calling his award-winning design firm "a passion and a labor of love," he recently relocated his showroom to Fifth Avenue South.

EDUCATION: Indiana State University

**SECRET TO SUCCESS:** My "PhD" = pig-headed determination

**LESSON LEARNED:** The most progress is made outside of your comfort zone.

HOBBIES: Golf, exercising, and boating

HOW I START MY DAY: Coffee and reading the Book of Proverbs
FAVORITE TRAVEL DESTINATION: The south of France
FAVORITE COLLIER COUNTY RESTAURANT: Le Colonial

**CHARITIES OR CAUSES YOU SUPPORT:** American Cancer Society. Midnet created the distinctive Furniture for the Cure line incorporating the breast cancer ribbon. As the U.S. patent holder for this line, he is raising awareness and funds for breast cancer research, a cause close to his heart in memory of his late mother.



SANDI MORAN Theater Producer Moran Productions, LLC

Sandi Moran is a three-time Tony Award-winning Broadway producer. She has served as chair of the Naples Children & Education Foundation, the United Arts Council, and the Naples Chaine des Rotisseurs, and is a member of the Tastevin and Commanderie wine societies. Moran is an accomplished pro/am ballroom dancer, having competed and won numerous regional and national dance competitions. She and Tom, her husband of 37 years, are blessed with a large, wonderfully unique family that includes three grandchildren.

**EDUCATION:** Vanderbilt University

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Three Tony Awards

**BEST ADVICE RECEIVED:** You are allowed to be both a masterpiece and a work in progress.

TOUGHEST CHALLENGE: Lung cancer

**LESSON LEARNED:** Life is not about being happy all the time or being sure of all your choices.

It's about knowing life is precious, even when things are tough.

**SOMETHING FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME:** I'm a sixth-generation Floridian.

HOW I START MY DAY: Taking care of the two cutest French buildogs ever!

FAVORITE TRAVEL DESTINATION: Africa and summers in Linville Ridge, North Carolina
FAVORITE COLLIER COUNTY PLACE TO VISIT: The new Gulfshore Playhouse Baker

Theatre & Education Center