

Work of Art

GEHMAN DESIGN

REMODELING REVAMPS PREVIOUSLY UNUSED BASEMENT SPACE TO CREATE A BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL HIDEAWAY FOR THE HOME'S RESIDENT ARTIST.

BY LEIGH STUART

MASTER CERTIFIED KITCHEN AND BATH REMODELER Dennis Gehman has earned a reputation near and far for his ability to transform uninspired spaces into dream oases. Gehman Design Remodeling, the Harleysville-based firm he created, has since become a family affair. His son, Elijah Gehman, also a Master Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler, recently spearheaded a project for a pair of empty nesters who updated previously unused basement space into a chic space for creating art.

"The wife of the family is into painting dogs for fun and putting smiles on people's faces," Elijah shares. "We created an art studio for her that she absolutely adores."

The first stunning feature to catch the eye is the black-and-white checkerboard tile floor. One can't tell by looking, but the black and white tiles came from separate manu-



facturers. Elijah says it was a bit of a challenge to make the end result so seamless.

A bespoke blue wall splash brightens the space under semi-custom cabinetry illuminated by light-emitting diodes.

"There are two glass-doored cabinets with glass shelves inside," Dennis shares. "We ran vertical LED strip lights inside each front corner of the cabinets at a 45-degree angle to illuminate everything. The glass shelves add some sparkle and make everything look brighter."

In order to provide electrical power without disturbing the look of the blue wall splash, the remodeling team installed angled power strips so the outlets can be used in an unobtrusive manner. Below, a highly durable engineered quartz countertop is topped with glass for easy cleanup.

At one end of the room, 15-lite French doors connect the space to another finished room in the basement. Floating wooden

shelves are the perfect spot for the artist to showcase some of her paintings, while a set of three crisp white sliding doors that open to nearly nine feet in total carefully conceal household equipment such as an electrical panel and home-monitoring devices.

In all, the clients are ecstatic with their transformed space. As proof: The artist homeowner created a special painting just for Elijah featuring a goat, just like those he raises in his free time. ■



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