

MODERN LUXURY

# Interiors

CHICAGO

HELLO,  
SPRING!

OUTER  
LIMITS

THE BEST PRODUCTS,  
PROJECTS & INTEL FOR  
OUTDOOR STYLE

PLUS

FLYING HIGH: COLLECTING  
ARTIST HEBRU BRANTLEY

DESIGN TRAVEL TO MOROCCO,  
PALM SPRINGS & THE SEVEN SEAS

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT:  
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS



Sagegreenlife's Nathan Beckner (below) has installed a variety of green walls, such as this interior application in a Chicago home.



## GREEN LIVING

## OFF the WALL

Spring is the perfect time to amp up your plants. Nathan Beckner, a horticulturist and designer for Chicago-based green wall-design firm Sagegreenlife ([sagegreenlife.com](http://sagegreenlife.com)), gives us the lowdown on going green and no-fail flora. —Jessie Sardina

**How did you first discover your love for plants?** My grandmother was an avid botanist and had an affinity for roses. I had always loved visiting Gethsemane Garden Center in Andersonville. If you haven't been, you must go. I worked there as the rosarian, caring for more than 4000 roses for four years before starting at Sagegreenlife. **What are some of the benefits of green walls?** At Sagegreenlife, we create living installations for exteriors, roof decks and indoor spaces. The benefits really are incredible. On the functional side of things, green walls are naturally great at sound abatement and acting as

air purifiers. On a more emotional level, people are intuitively drawn to greenery and tend to congregate near it. There have been studies done in Europe that show that office spaces with plants lead to higher productivity and fewer sick days for employees. **Any tips for green walls in an interior?** I've seen many designers begin to play with scale and think about greenery as living art. Tropical plants are certainly having a moment as well, particularly the Boston fern. **Any plant recommendations for someone lacking a green thumb?** Sansevieria. It's often called Mother-in-Law's Tongue because, well, you can't get rid of it.



## LOOMING LARGE

## ON THE FLOOR

If you've read **Ellen DeGeneres'** 2015 book, *Home*, or seen *Ellen's Design Challenge* on HGTV, you know that, even though she found fame in comedy, DeGeneres is a serial renovator who is serious about interior design. It's fitting, then, that her lifestyle brand, ED Ellen DeGeneres, would expand into the home market. In addition to a furniture line with Thomasville and a tabletop collection with Royal Doulton, both of which debuted earlier this year, DeGeneres has launched an assortment of rugs created in partnership with Dallas-based Loloi ([loloirugs.com](http://loloirugs.com)). Hitting stores in late April, the line features seven diverse collections, including

Gramercy's plush solids, Tribu's handwoven tribal motifs and Villa's understated wool creations. The rugs share an earthy, toned-down aesthetic that also appears in Loloi and DeGeneres' three new throw collections and more than 60 decorative pillows. 8-foot-by-10-foot rugs \$699-\$2,259, at Walter E. Smith Furniture + Design, 2009 N. Clybourn

Ave., [smithe.com](http://smithe.com)

—Rhonda Reinhart

From top: Comedian and interior design enthusiast Ellen DeGeneres; the talk show host's collaboration with Loloi features an earthy collection of rugs, pillows and throws.





GREEN LIVING

## OFF *the* WALL



Spring is the perfect time to amp up your plants. Nathan Beckner, a horticulturist and designer for Chicago-based green wall-design firm Sagegreenlife ([sagegreenlife.com](http://sagegreenlife.com)), gives us the lowdown on going green and no-fail flora. —*Jessie Sardina*

**How did you first discover your love for plants?** My grandmother was an avid botanist and had an affinity for roses. I had always loved visiting Gethsemane Garden Center in Andersonville. If you haven't been, you must go. I worked there as the rosarian, caring for more than 4000 roses for four years before starting at Sagegreenlife. **What are some of the benefits of green walls?** At Sagegreenlife, we create living installations for exteriors, roof decks and indoor spaces. The benefits really are incredible. On the functional side of things, green walls are naturally great at sound abatement and acting as

air purifiers. On a more emotional level, people are intuitively drawn to greenery and tend to congregate near it. There have been studies done in Europe that show that office spaces with plants lead to higher productivity and fewer sick days for employees. **Any tips for green walls in an interior?** I've seen many designers begin to play with scale and think about greenery as living art. Tropical plants are certainly having a moment as well, particularly the Boston fern. **Any plant recommendations for someone lacking a green thumb?** Sansevieria. It's often called Mother-in-Law's Tongue because, well, you can't get rid of it.