



## Meet the Season One Brother vs. Brother Competitors:



**Oliver Aguilar**

**Chicago, Ill.**

**Secret Strengths: Painting, Carpentry, Creating Artwork, Power Tools, Masonry**

Raised in Detroit, Mich., interior designer and architect Oliver Aguilar works as a project manager and space planner for a commercial firm in Chicago. A self-described “quirky and free-spirited designer,” Oliver earned a bachelor’s degree in interior design from Michigan State University and later a second bachelor’s degree in architecture at Lawrence Technological Institute in Detroit. He says he is a passionate designer who has worked with many design and architecture companies while also moonlighting as a freelance photographer. Oliver has completed dozens of design projects, including multiple residential, restaurants, hotel lobbies, and retail and commercial venues. He says he takes a unique approach to create his signature design style by merging art, transitional material and recycled products to make a one-of-a-kind space.



**Christy Biberich**

**West Hollywood, Calif.**

**Secret Strengths: Sewing and Draping, Custom Furniture, Woodworking**

Christy Biberich, the owner and principal consultant of a successful interior design firm, grew up in a small town dreaming of becoming a designer. After earning bachelor degrees in theatre art and architecture at the University of Pittsburgh, Christy went on to work as an organization and design consultant for several companies, as well as a designer of closets and kitchens. Christy, now an entrepreneur, says she gets a thrill from implementing her unique organizational vision to any space and describes her favorite design style as “comfortable.” Her common-sense approach to renovation makes her a tough competitor.



**Inez Escamila**  
**Austin, Texas**

**Secret Strengths: Welding, Metal Work, Creating Artwork and Power Tools**

As a child, Inez says she was the ultimate tomboy. She spent evenings in the garage with her father where they worked on cars and created artwork out of scraps. Inez, who recently completed her own full home remodel, earned an associate's degree in applied science in welding from Austin Community College and a bachelor's degree in sculpture from Texas State University. Today, Inez owns her own welding and fabrication business and teaches welding at a local community college. She describes herself as "extremely competitive" and enjoys rock climbing and cycling as hobbies. Inez says she tries to strike a balance between a streamlined contemporary aesthetic and a funky eclectic look.



**David Font**  
**Miami, Fla.**

**Secret Strengths: Floral and Greenery Design, Carpentry**

David, a landscape architect and business owner, grew up in Miami. As a child, David says he was drawn to music and later attended college on a music scholarship, but after a change of heart, he says he followed his dream to study architecture. With a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Florida and design experience in Italy, David says he loves what he does and can bring a fresh perspective because of his unique experience and training. His work includes the redesign and construction of an 18-hole golf course and dozens of resorts in the U.S., Caribbean and South/Central America. David, who describes his style as "Asian-infused contemporary with a tropical touch," says he is confident that his work ethic and team-player mentality will bring him victory in the competition.



**Brett Karns**  
**Studio City, Calif.**

**Secret Strengths: Painting, Carpentry, Power Tools, Real Estate Knowledge**

Brett Karns is self-proclaimed do-it-yourselfer who pioneered his own path into the design field. Despite having no formal design training, he has successfully rehabbed and flipped more than a dozen homes and apartment buildings. He says his success and confidence in his hands-on approach and design ability—and a 20-year career as a real estate agent—helps him identify how to add real value to any property. Brett describes his design style as "traditional with a modern flair."



**Mark O'Mara**  
**New York, N.Y.**

**Secret Strengths: Carpentry, Power Tools, Masonry, Styling and Accessorizing**

Originally from Baltimore, Md., New York City resident Mark O'Mara's interest in design originated in middle school when an art teacher demonstrated how to draw space and perspectives on paper. His passion for design continued and in 2004 he received a bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Tennessee. Mark is a designer and independent contractor with experience in plumbing, HVAC and framing and says he knows how to execute any project from initial design to completion. Professionally, Mark has designed several residential and commercial projects and describes his personal design style as "organic and functional."



**Tiffany "Torche" Perkins**  
**Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.**

**Secret Strengths: Welding, Painting, Power Tools, Styling, Creating Artwork**

Tiffany "Torche" Perkins, who received a master of fine arts degree in sculpture from the Academy of Art in San Francisco and a bachelor's degree in industrial design from the Art Institute of Ft. Lauderdale, is a freelance artist whose favorite projects include everything from metal artwork to a large-scale barn renovation and gym redesign. Torche says her time in the Navy gave her a focused confidence she didn't have before entering the service and that she dreams of showing HGTV viewers how art, design and renovation can be fused into a singular vision. She describes herself as an unreserved artist who knows her tattoos and sharp tongue make her instantly memorable. Torche describes her design style as "experimental industrial."



**Monica Reese**  
**West Long Branch, N.J.**

**Secret Strengths: Creating Artwork, Styling and Accessorizing**

Growing up in North Carolina, Monica remembers going to fabric stores with her seamstress mother and getting lost in the beautiful textures and colors. At age 12, she says she fell in love with design when she redecorated her bedroom with peach walls and green shag carpet. After working in the corporate world, Monica decided to pursue her passion and earned a master's degree in interior design from Pratt Institute in New York. While there Monica studied under world-class designers and worked internationally through a study abroad program in Milan, Italy. Monica, a mom of two, says she is driven and proud of her successes as the owner of an interior design firm that handled every type of design job from furniture showrooms to luxury weddings. She describes her design style as "modern classic with a bit of unexpected fun."



**Shannon Thompson**  
**Houston, Texas**

**Secret Strengths: Real Estate Knowledge, Styling and Accessorizing**

Shannon, a mom of two, discovered a love for decorating when she began redesigning friends' homes. Encouraged by her success, she opened her own design business and for the past twelve years she has designed residential and commercial spaces. Shannon, who says she gets an adrenaline rush from remodeling, also received her real estate license so that she can redesign and then flip homes for a profit. Shannon describes her design style as "transitional and classic with an edge of modern" and says she knows that her passion for beautiful design will make her a standout competitor.



**Francis Toumbakaris**  
**New York, N.Y.**

**Secret Strengths: Painting, Carpentry, Power Tools, Styling and Accessorizing**

Francis, originally from Athens, Greece, first started in construction and design in New York as a handyman. He says that soon he went from completing simple jobs to doing full-scale renovations in Manhattan apartments. Now the owner of a contracting and design company, Francis says he thinks of his projects as his children and finds it impossible to choose a favorite. A former dancer, he says he thrives on the artistic side of home design and brings a visual flair to his work, which he describes as "comfortable luxury with a classic urban feel."

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