

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Collaboration Code at KAS Rugs this Fall High Point Market: Join “The Design Besties” Panel Talk Moderated by Laurie Laizure

High Point, NC – October 2025 — Designers, creatives, and industry leaders are invited to kick off their Sunday at High Point Market with inspiration, connection, and conversation at The Design Besties Panel Talk, happening on Sunday, October 26th in our KAS Rugs showroom IHFC G-270. The talk is titled the “Collaboration Code: Stop Networking, Start Making Friends” and will feature insights from the Design Besties, a panel of inspiring individuals who have come together to redefine what it means to grow together.

Hosted in collaboration with the Interior Design Community, this can't-miss event begins at 9:30 AM with a social hour, seasonal pastries, curated coffee bar and barista — the perfect setting to mingle, caffeinate, and connect with fellow design enthusiasts before the conversation begins.

At 10:30 AM, settle in for a compelling panel discussion featuring the dynamic voices of the Design Besties: Whitney Atkinson, Rhobin Delacruz, Nikki Watson, and Lori Johnson. The panel will be moderated by the ever-insightful Laurie Laizure, founder of the Interior Design Community and a long-time advocate for building meaningful professional relationships in the design world.

Together, the panelists will explore how authentic friendships and intentional networking can uplift creative careers, expand visibility, and unlock new opportunities. This is more than a panel — it's a celebration of community and collaboration in design.

Event Details

- What: The Design Besties Panel Talk
- When: Sunday, October 26th
 - Social Hour & Coffee Bar: 9:30 AM
 - Panel Discussion: 10:30 AM
- Where: KAS Rugs IHFC G-270
- Hosted by: KAS Rugs

Meet the Panelists: The Design Besties

Whitney Atkinson is the creative force behind WUGS Weighted Rugs and WILLOWS Weighted Outdoor Pillows. With a background in interior design and a passion for practical innovation, Whitney has redefined outdoor living with stylish, wind-resistant solutions. Her work has been featured on FOX, NBC, and in *Furniture, Lighting & Décor Magazine*. Know more online at wugsweightedrugs.com

Owner of The Design Quad, Nikki Watson leads the largest-volume home staging company in the U.S., with over 300 homes staged simultaneously in the DFW area. Her journey began with a \$10 loan from her mother and has grown into a nationally recognized brand seen on HGTV, A&E, and more. Nikki is driven by a mission to create, inspire, and serve. Know more online at thedesignquad.com

Rhobin Delacruz brings a bold blend of design and strategy to both residential and commercial projects, with a portfolio that includes GQ, TED, and MTV. A graduate of Parsons School of Design, Rhobin's aesthetic is striking yet purposeful—transforming spaces into meaningful experiences.

Know more online at rhobindelacruz.com

Lori Johnson is known for her dynamic, textural paintings that radiate energy and movement. Her art has been featured by HGTV and the Magnolia Network, and she is a passionate collaborator with nonprofits including Ronald McDonald House and Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Know more online at lorijohnsonfineart.com

About the Moderator

Laurie Laizure is the founder of the Interior Design Community, one of the largest and most engaged platforms for design professionals. Known for her thoughtful moderation and deep industry insights, Laurie brings both warmth and expertise to every conversation she leads.

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of something truly meaningful at High Point Market — where creativity meets connection, and community takes center stage.

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KAS Rugs