



For Immediate Release

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## 5 Happy & Healthy Workspace Trends for 2023: Local industry pros share

**Birmingham, MI** – (December 16, 2022) – Hybrid work is not going anywhere, and savvy employers will create appealing and healthy workspaces to bring workers back, says Shari Stein, co-owner of DesignTeam Plus, a Birmingham-based architecture and interior design firm. **Here is what to look for in work spaces for 2023:**

### 1. BIOPHILIC DESIGN

Is a design process or some would argue a holistic movement that seeks to increase occupants' connection with the natural world, using green materials, lighting, plants, and animals. "Humans have a fundamental need to interact with nature," says Stein. "Plants return oxygen to the air, clean it, make you feel good, and keep the space healthy." Stein says 50% of her surveyed clients prioritize plants in the workplace. [In addition, studies have shown evidence-based](#) mental health benefits to access to greenery, including increased productivity.

### 2. CURL-UP COLLABORATION

The generation that curates their content, latte, and music preferences will demand a reinvented workspace. Wise employers will provide flexibility and collaborative workspaces, accommodating those who want to curl up on a sofa with their laptop – or work intensely at a desk. "During the pandemic, true collaboration was missed," said Stein. Essential to the bottom line is the spark of creativity that comes from those chance meetings at the coffee maker and the copier.

### 3. PHONE BOOTHS 2.0

It's back – that mid-century classic, deployed by Superman and Dr. Who, is now reinvented as [Nests, pods, or booths](#). "During the pandemic, employers spread out employee workstations as much as possible," says Val Kemp, Vice President at RE/MAX Commercial Connection, "and private meeting areas were eliminated." Nests or pods offer the perfect solution, says Julie Greenfield, a Huntington Woods-based rep for [Buzzi Space](#). "They come with lights, air purifier systems, acoustic panels, and casters for repositioning," she says. "High-tech businesses and co-working spaces are first adopters but look for this anywhere people gather."

### 4. CAFÉS & BARS

The café look is still hot. Increasingly, businesses are incorporating high-top tables in café style eating areas. "People want their break areas to look more like coffee shops than cafeterias," says Stein. Bars are big for in-house entertaining. Bar design, says Stein, helps staffers feel like they have been transported someplace else.

### 5. SUSTAINABILITY & MORE

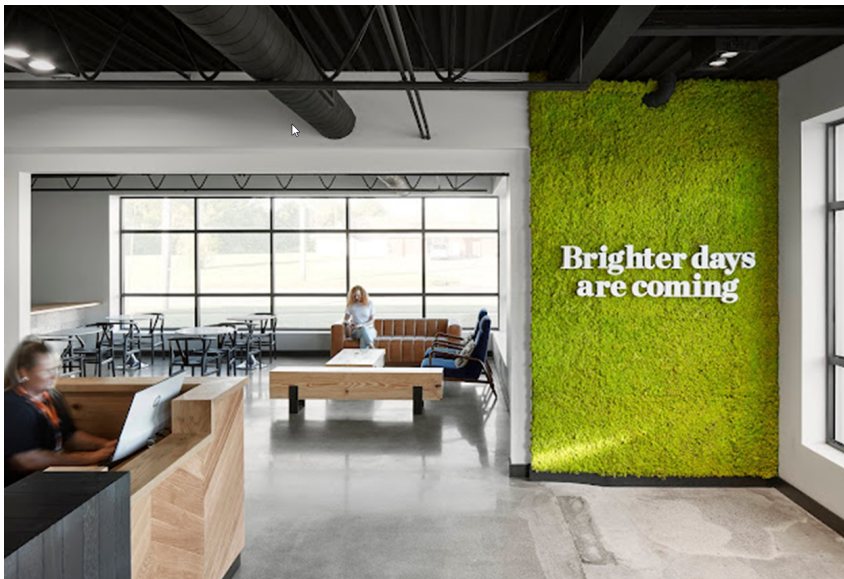
The movement to create healthy buildings is growing. *Building health impacts occupant wellness* and employers are taking note. Sustainability includes air quality, materials such as furniture and flooring, and natural light.

(Photos of Buzzi Space and Biophilic Design below)

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Courtesy of Buzzi Space.



Biophilic Design  
Photo credit: DesignTeam Plus