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MAGAZINE

Best Salons

Who made the cut?

We pick the best salons and
stylists - and the best deals, too.

BY CRISTINA DAGLAS

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Craig Berns
Salon,
Delafield

THE UPSCALE BOUTIQUES

 Small, independent, boutique-style salons continue to open in every corner of the city. Here are some of the best.

TRES JOLIE SOLACE Tucked into Thiensville, this six-stylist salon emphasizes comfort. “I wanted customers to feel like they could be at home instead of a big waiting room,” owner **Mary Keating** says. Her staff follows her lead, putting clients first, like color coach **Mallory Kelley**. “She goes over and beyond,” Keating says. Cuts \$25-65; color \$49 and up. (166 Green Bay Rd., Thiensville, 262-238-0333.)

THE PARLOR Home of the Milwaukee Bucks’ Energie! dance team, stylists at The Parlor have been doing their hair for 10 years. Specializing in curly styles because of owner **Ann Weber’s** personal experience with this difficult-to-cut hair type, this eight-stylist salon is laid-back but professional. The Germantown space was partially inspired by an episode of “Trading Spaces” and includes wood floors, leather chairs and iron tables. Cuts \$21-44, men’s \$16-31; color \$37 and up. (W161 N11629 Church St., Germantown, 262-253-6800.)

EXCLUSIVA HAIR DESIGN & SPA Thirty-year industry vet **Emmy Rothbauer** moved her Downtown space to the Third Ward in February. Completely different than the original Hales Corner spot (open Wednesdays and Fridays), the seven-stylist Third Ward shop has become Exclusiva’s bread and butter. In demand is its enhancement menu that includes the ever-popular gloss treatment, \$20 with another service. Cuts \$32-52, men’s \$20-33; color \$50 and up. (525 E. Chicago St.; 10950 Forest Home Ave., Hales Corners, 414-319-7777.)

GLOW SALON & SPA/HAIR & THINGS From Hair & Things in Waukesha, one of the original blow-dry salons in the metro area, to the urban chic Glow Salon & Spa Downtown, owner **Maia Hanson** knows the industry. Now, niece **Jessica Holm** is following her aunt’s lead, running Glow’s daily operations. If you’re looking for a solid client-stylist relationship, these are the places to go. Hair & Things: cuts \$25-60, men’s \$20; color \$55 and up. (1718 Manhattan Dr., Waukesha, 262-544-4459.) Glow: cuts \$40-80, men’s \$30-60; color \$65 and up. (765 N. Jackson St., 414-727-4569)

CRAIG BERNIS SALON SPA This Delafield salon with around a dozen stylists showcases gorgeous cherry woodwork in a cozy, inviting atmosphere. Although moving toward every stylist doing cut and color, it still has a few specialists. Owner **Craig Bernis** cuts, and **Morine Bangle** colors. She’s also an Aveda Pureprofessional, an honor in the industry. “We do a lot of color,” co-owner **Mary Beth Bernis** says. “That’s one of our fortes.” Cuts \$37-60, men’s \$25-39; color \$50 and up. (645 Wells St., Delafield, 262-646-7406.)

STEVEN EDWARDS COLOR GROUP Even over the phone, **Steven Edward Gengler** can talk anyone through a styling process. He and his dozen stylists set training standards high and require that everyone becomes a board-certified colorist within three years of being on the job. Gengler aside, **Shantay Hebert** and **Tiffany Wilinski** are stylists to try. Pick their brains; they’ll teach you a hairstyling trick or two. Cuts \$32-63, men’s \$30-40; color \$40 and up. (3850 S. Moorland Rd., New Berlin, 262-782-4200.)

SIGNATURE SALON & SPA This Waukesha salon is well-known for its spa treatments, and those influences even filter into hair services. During appointments, clients receive hand and scalp massages. With 18 exceptionally trained stylists, even a haircut can be a pampered experience. Cuts \$33-50, men’s \$26-40; color \$45 and up. (1424 Big Bend Rd., Waukesha, 262-547-6600.)



GLOW

TRENDS FOR GUYS

Men in Milwaukee aren’t adventurous, says Michael Grober of Salon Nova. Nowadays, they’re adopting the styles of two eras, the ’50s and the ’80s. “It’s going back to more sleek, using product, a little longer hair,” says Mary Keating of Tres Jolie Solace. The conservative “Mad Men” look of shorter on the sides, longer on top, combed and perfectly put together is ironic on hipsters and classic for businessmen. “It’s the age-old super-hyper-conservative men’s haircut,” says Brian Houston. It’s in, and it’s pretty fantastic.



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