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**Best in American Living Awards™ Program Announces 2018 Hall of Fame Inductees**

**LAS VEGAS, Feb. 21** – The Best in American Living Awards™ (BALA) program inducted its sixth class into the BALA Hall of Fame during the annual NAHB International Builders’ Show in Las Vegas. The Hall of Fame awards recognize innovative, well-respected individuals and companies in the building industry who have significantly affected residential design and construction.

The 2018 BALA Hall of Fame class includes:

**Jillian Pritchard Cooke.** Cooke is the founder of Wellness Within Your Walls, which offers education and certifications to building and design professionals and connects them with healthy eco-sensitive products to create sustainable, non-toxic indoor environments for their clients. Cooke is also the founder of interior design firm DES-SYN which was established in 1991 and primarily serves the residential building industry. She opened BEE in Atlanta in 2010, a retail boutique promoting fashion and home furnishing products that meet a variety of non-toxic, sensitivity, and ecological standards. Cooke has more than 30 years of experience with design projects in New York, Philadelphia, Boston Los Angeles, London, and Atlanta.

**Arthur C. Danielian, FAIA.** During his 55-plus years career, Danielian has made his mark in the field of residential architecture. He pioneered innovative residential housing concepts such as wide and shallow lot configurations, combo/condos, and various improvements of the zero-lot-line concept, which had a substantial and positive impact on master planned communities in Orange County, Calif., and beyond. He was one of the first architects to embrace a market-driven design model, working with market researchers to identify market profiles for each of his builder clients. In addition to exemplary achievement in his profession, Danielian has given back to the homebuilding industry in many ways and helped mentor the next generation of architectural students and industry professionals.

**Mike Kephart.** Mike Kephart is the founder of Kephart Architects, a firm focused on the design of residential communities. Since his retirement in 2008, the concept of “housing for later life” has consumed his attention, both for his own needs and the growing number of people aged 50 and older. He founded Sidekick Homes, a company that produces accessory dwelling units that that are accessible for people with a wide range of abilities and can be placed on single-family lots adjacent to existing homes or used as new construction. He also co-authored a book about the later-life housing, called “Building for Boomers.”

Additional information about the 2018 BALA Hall of Fame inductees can be found at bestinamericanliving.com.

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ABOUT NAHB: The National Association of Home Builders is a Washington-based trade association representing more than 140,000 members involved in home building, remodeling, multifamily construction, property management, subcontracting, design, housing finance, building product manufacturing and other aspects of residential and light commercial construction. NAHB is affiliated with 700 state and local home builders associations around the country. NAHB's builder members will construct about 80 percent of the new housing units projected for this year.