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Anthony Maucieri**Lives in: White Plains****Works in: Briarcliff Manor****Job title: Founder and president****Company: East Hill Cabinetry****Age: 26**

Anthony Maucieri could say the entrepreneurial bug bit him at a very young age during his childhood. He knew he wanted to be a business owner, but wasn't exactly sure in what field or industry. He simply knew he wanted to create something. Now, as president and founder of East Hill Cabinetry in Briarcliff Manor, he has wedded his family upbringing and business savvy into his very own company. "I really enjoy working in collaboration with our clients," he says. "Homes are a place of enormous investment, both financial and emotional, and we are very fortunate to be invited into their homes and to be trusted with such a large investment."

Fine cabinetry and woodwork is a very specialized business. How did you discover it?

Maucieri: "Growing up, I spent a lot of time on jobsites, working with my father. His company is Maucieri Marble and Tile, a tile installation company. I would help him during the summers, providing labor and just helping out. It was never anything I considered doing as I got older, and I was always told not to do what my father did – to work with my mind and not my body. It was when I was in college, right after I met my wife, when it became clear that I could use my mind and my entrepreneurial spirit within the field I had grown up in and had roots in, residential construction. Upon graduation I went to work for my father's company in a management capacity. After a couple of months, it became clear that the vision I had and my skill set did not match up with the way the company was (and needed to be structured). It was then I made the decision to create my own path, follow up on my entrepreneurial aspirations and start East Hill Cabinetry."

You're relatively young to own your own business. What's been the biggest difficulty getting East Hill Cabinetry off the ground?

Maucieri: "Outside of starting up in a difficult economic climate – my age. I was 23 when I started the

company in an industry that skews older. I had to go to great lengths to prove my expertise to suppliers and contractors and especially homeowners, most of whom were double my age. The lesson was twofold: The most obvious lesson is not to make snap judgments of others. The most important lesson was in how we learned to treat our clients; we must continue to go to those great lengths to satisfy our clients, as if we need to continuously prove ourselves. It encourages me to continue to develop myself, because it is remarkable how much stronger you can become with every bit of knowledge you acquire. I am currently finishing the Academy For Entrepreneurial Excellence at the Professional Development Center at Westchester Community College, and hope to find other programs to further my expertise."

How do you hope or plan to grow East Hill?

Maucieri: "We are a young company, still in our growth phase. We feel we are in a position to have significant growth over the next three to five years. We would like to continue adding great people to our team, because we are only going to be as great as the people we have. Most importantly, through this growth we must maintain our relationship with our clients. It is the only way we can sustain growth, because our past clients have been the greatest source of work for us to this point."

