

JANUARY 2016 | PRICELESS

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# WOMAN

CELEBRATING

WOMEN

WINTER *fun* ON A  
BUDGET

*combatting*  
IN-HOME  
**ALLERGENS**

*what I know*  
**NOW**  
SHARING LIFE'S LESSONS

*fresh*  
**STARTS**

*featuring* KELLY HADLEY OF WHALEN DENTISTRY



# Open A New Window, Open A New Door...

BY: STARR MILLER

**MY FAVORITE STORY** has always been *Auntie Mame*. I've read the book so many times that I broke the binding. In the film, I fell in love with Rosalind Russell and can even tolerate Lucille Ball in the movie musical. Mame is my ideal; she sees an obstacle and finds a way around it. Her life changes, and she changes her interior design.

The New Year offers us a chance to pretend we are Mame and reinvent ourselves, our outlook, or even our surroundings. I am a firm believer in the concept that change starts with one step. So, as we start January, I am going to offer some ways you might start fresh, based on the essence of *Mame* and lyrics from the musical:



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🎵 "OPEN A NEW WINDOW."

From a designer's perspective, this may mean new window treatments—or fewer window treatments, allowing the sun to burst into your space and brighten it up. It could mean looking outside and planning a new outdoor space. The trick here is to imagine your view differently.

🎵 "OPEN A NEW DOOR."

I look at this as opportunity. Do you need to update the doors in your house? The hardware? Or do you need to open a room door and reimagine it as a craft room, a wine room, a music room, a new closet, a personal space, or a gym? Maybe you need to step out of your comfort zone and paint your front door a new color or reupholster a sofa. Just use your imagination, and do things differently.

🎵 "TRAVEL A NEW HIGHWAY THAT'S NEVER BEEN TRIED BEFORE."

Take a trip. It could be a day trip or a world cruise. The trick is to plan it now for later in the year. This allows you time to plan it carefully, and affords you the luxury of looking forward to it. When the time to go sneaks up on you, it's like receiving a gift.

🎵 "TOAST WITH A NEW VINTAGE; THE FIZZ DOESN'T FIZZ TOO LONG."

If you always eat or drink the same thing, try something new. It could be Indian food, a new wine varietal, or a new restaurant. It might mean that you pull out your wedding china and crystal to use every weekend. You are special and should treat yourself as such.

🎵 "DANCE TO A NEW RHYTHM."

Dance lessons, anyone? My husband and I have been discussing this for 36 years—is this the year to give it a go? Maybe this means a new radio station or new shoes. Hmmmm....

🎵 "THE FELLOW YOU OUGHT TO BE IS THREE DIMENSIONAL, WHENEVER THEY SAY YOU'RE SLIGHTLY UNCONVENTIONAL."

This is your chance to stop and think about what makes you happy in life. Your perspective is valuable. In my business, we know that collaboration *always* produces the best results; different perspectives shine more light on the answer. If it is in your everyday discussions, your work, or your home, find your voice and make sure it is heard!

Happy New Year!



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MY FAVORITE LINE!