


DIY A concrete fountain beside the path and a square firepit near the table are finishing touches, built by the owners.



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FRIENDLY HEDGE
Phormium 'Firebird'
and *P. tenax* flank the
freestanding gate,
creating light screening.

SLOPE CHANGERS
Edged with concrete,
the raised patio and its
planter-retaining wall
level the yard and make
it more livable.

5 WINNER
Outdoor entertaining

FRONT YARD LIVING

The judges were impressed that this family in Greenbrae, California, "created space where none existed before," turning a sloped front yard into a modern play den. Concrete planters are placed along the sidewalk, with a firepit and raised patio inside. Phormiums and a gate add screening, while not totally blocking out the street. "This garden could change the whole neighborhood," said one judge.

DESIGN Ive Haugeland, Shades of Green Landscape Architecture, Sausalito, CA (shadesofgreenla.com or 415/332-1485)