

FIRST LOOK

WEDDING MAGAZINE

THE FACES BEHIND "I DO"

Meet the local experts
making it happen

PLANNING
meets
PERFECTION

GOWN
the GLOW

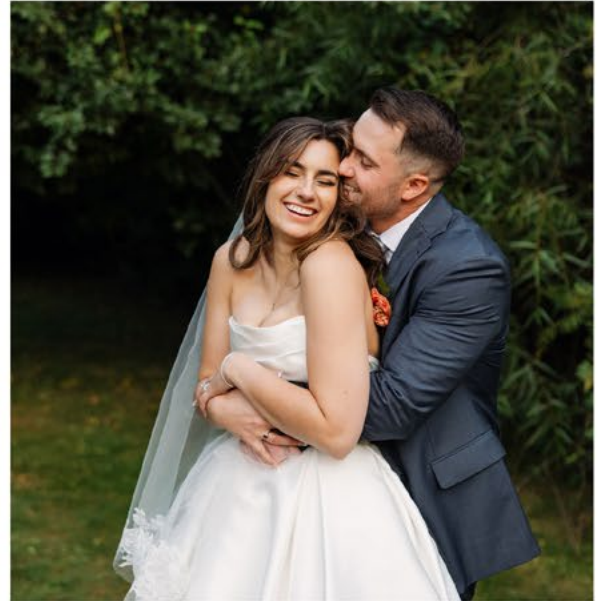
CATERING,
ELEVATED

POWER BEHIND
THE LENS

florals,
REIMAGINED

your dream
INVITATION

Let us celebrate WITH you



WEDDINGS | DESTINATION | BOUDOIR | SENIORS | NEWBORN



JULIE ROSILLO
photography

JULIEROSILLOPHOTOGRAPHY.COM | 814.505.8941





BAVARIAN AID SOCIETY

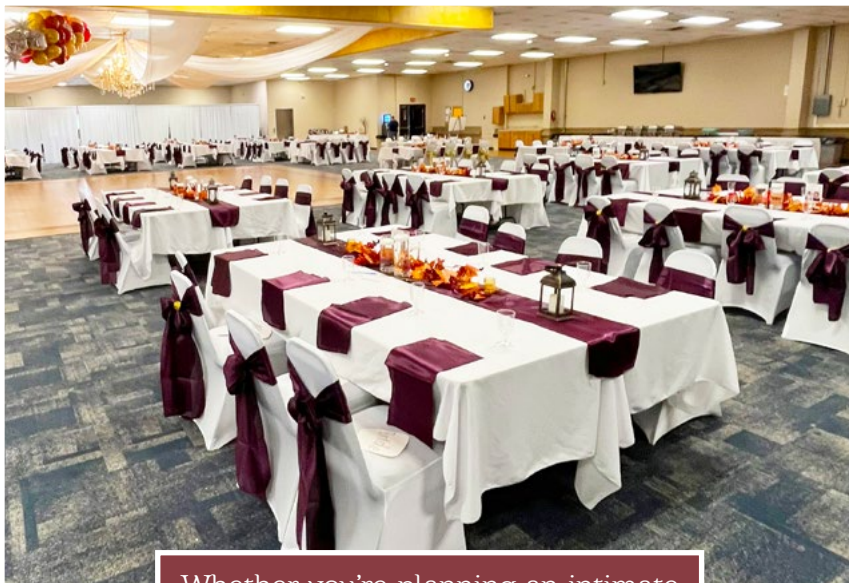
ALTOONA, PA

Now renting to members and non-members!

- Wedding Receptions
- Baby & Bridal Showers
- Corporate Events & Meetings
- Fundraisers
- Anniversary & Birthday Parties
- Retirement Parties
- Reunions & More

Our ballroom will comfortably accommodate 150 to 550 guests. The open layout features a private bar, stage, dance floor and restrooms. With a private entrance and elevator access, the ballroom is the perfect space for any event.

In our party room you will find seating for up to 150 guests. This room features an upper stage level with seating below. You will also find a dance floor and fully stocked auxiliary bar.



Whether you're planning an intimate celebration or a grand gathering, the Bavarian Aid Society provides the perfect setting for any occasion. We have a space to meet your needs. Bring your favorite caterer....We welcome outside licensed caterers. Our Event Coordinator will provide you with a preferred catering list for your convenience.

BAVARIAN AID SOCIETY
112 South 13th Street - Altoona, PA 16602
EventRentals@bavarianhall.com - 814-944-3698 option 3
PHOTOGRAPHER: Two20Studios



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cover credits
 PHOTOGRAPHER: Grin Gallery

DRESS: Premier Bridal Studio

Every Detail Considered



EDITOR'S LETTER

FIRST LOOK

WEDDING MAGAZINE

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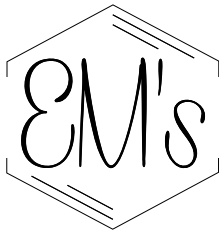
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Welcome to FIRST LOOK WEDDING MAGAZINE, your ultimate asset to planning the wedding of your dreams right here in our local community.

This magazine was created with one vision in mind: to be a one-stop resource for couples who want inspiration, guidance, and access to the best local talent available. Inside these pages, you'll find an exclusive showcase of our area's finest professionals from photographers and florists to invitations, caterers, venues, and everything in between. Every professional featured in these pages has been carefully selected for their creativity, professionalism, expertise, and dedication to making your day unforgettable.

Our goal is simple: to help couples feel confident, informed, and inspired as they plan their wedding. Whether you're looking for breathtaking photography, memorable invitations, exquisite floral designs, amazing catering, or a creative team to bring your vision to life, this magazine is here to show you how professional partnerships can elevate your celebration to the next level.

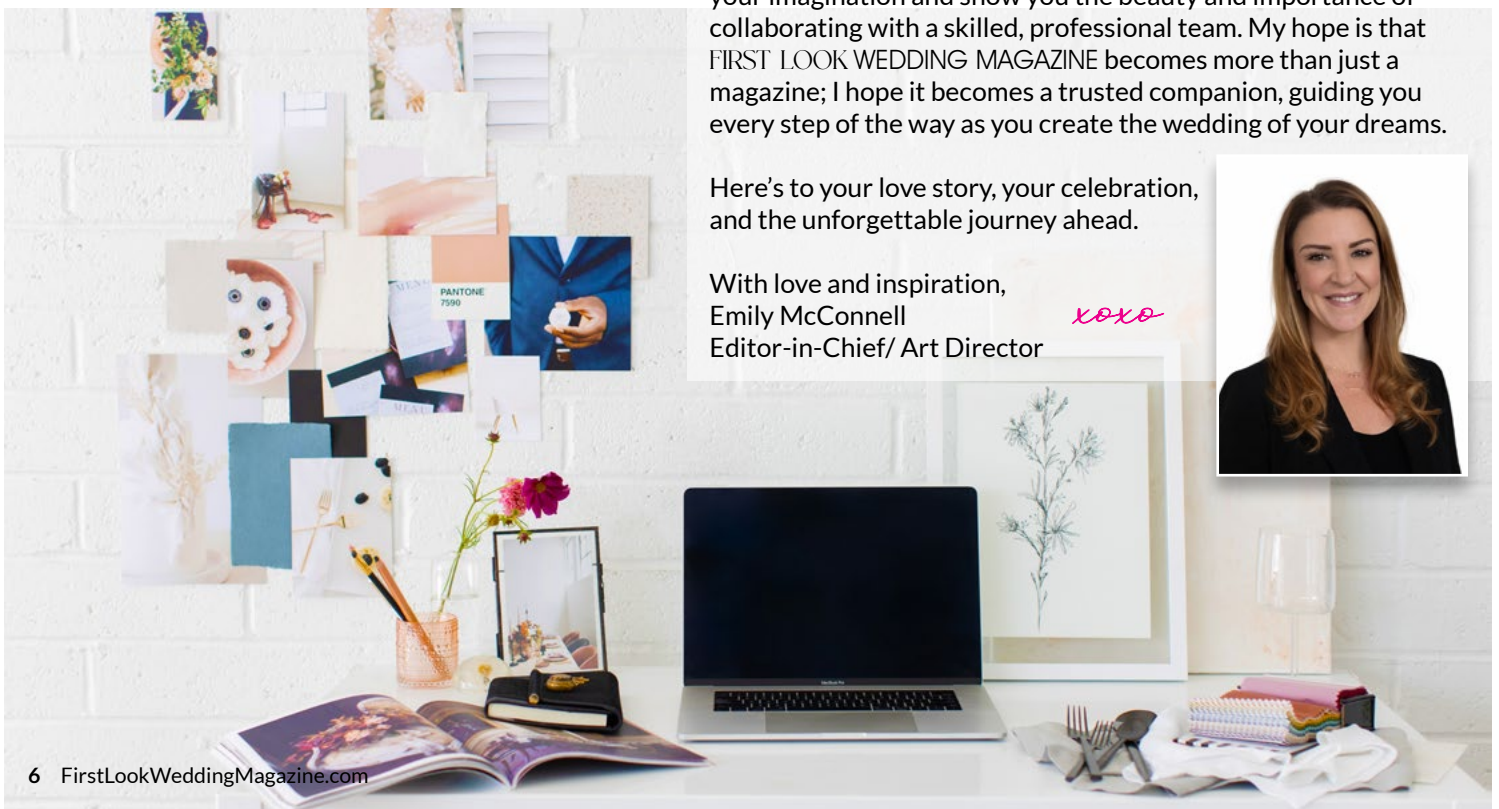
Throughout this issue, you'll discover stunning imagery, practical advice, and real examples of weddings that inspire. We've curated content that not only sparks creativity, but also provides the guidance you need to make planning your big day seamless and joyful.

As the designer, editor, and creator of this magazine, I've poured my heart into every detail - from the elegant layout and stunning photography to the stories of the incredible professionals featured here. In addition to curating this publication, I also design and print all wedding stationery in-house, including invitations, programs, table numbers, seating charts and more, ensuring couples receive beautifully crafted pieces that reflect their unique style. Every page is designed to spark your imagination and show you the beauty and importance of collaborating with a skilled, professional team. My hope is that FIRST LOOK WEDDING MAGAZINE becomes more than just a magazine; I hope it becomes a trusted companion, guiding you every step of the way as you create the wedding of your dreams.

Here's to your love story, your celebration, and the unforgettable journey ahead.

With love and inspiration,
Emily McConnell
Editor-in-Chief/ Art Director

xoxo



All In One Place



FEATURED PROFESSIONAL

The Bridal Experience

*W*alking into Premier Bridal Studio in Altoona feels like stepping into a Pinterest board come to life. Soft lighting, chic décor, and a calm, welcoming vibe set the tone the moment you walk in. It's stylish without being stuffy, luxurious without being intimidating - and completely designed to make you feel at ease.

Premier Bridal Studio was created to give brides something rare: a truly personal experience. From the second your appointment begins, it's all about you - your style, your vision, your story. The stylists genuinely listen, making dress shopping feel exciting, meaningful, and yes... totally magical.

The studio's curated collection features designers like Calla Blanche, Eva Lendel, Flora, and La Premiere - known for gowns that prioritize quality, photograph beautifully, and feel incredible to wear. Whether you love clean, modern lines, softly romantic vibes, or bold, dramatic looks, there's a gown here that speaks your language. And with their thoughtfully chosen accessories - including veils, jewelry, and other trending bridal items - you can complete your bridal vision with intentional finishing touches.

Inclusivity is at the heart of Premier Bridal Studio. Paige, the owner with nearly a decade of bridal styling experience, believes every woman deserves to feel amazing in her dress. With inclusive sizing, customizable silhouettes, and a team that truly cares, you're never just another bride - you're the main character.

What makes Premier Bridal Studio unforgettable is the moment you step in front of the mirror and everything clicks - the gasp, the happy tears, the "this is it." It's a celebration of your story and the beginning of your next chapter.

If you're searching for a chic, welcoming boutique that's completely focused on you, Premier Bridal Studio is where your journey begins. Step inside, try on the dress of your dreams, and experience a bridal moment as beautiful as the day you're planning.

Premier
BRIDAL STUDIO

PREMIER BRIDAL STUDIO
1419 11th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 656-2382
www.premierbridalstudio.com



*you've been
dreaming of*







PREMIER BRIDAL STUDIO
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Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 656-2382
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A Surprisingly Modern Tradition

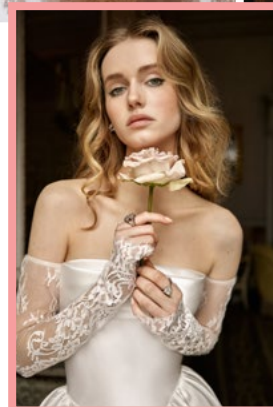
THE WHITE WEDDING DRESS

The iconic white wedding gown feels timeless, but its history is rooted more in fashion than ancient tradition. For centuries, brides simply wore their best dresses - often in dark, practical colors that could be worn again. White was rare, considered both impractical and a sign of wealth.

Everything changed in 1840, when Queen Victoria married Prince Albert in a white silk gown. Her choice, widely publicized, sparked a trend across Europe and America. At first, white symbolized sophistication and status, showing a family could afford a dress that would be worn only once.

Over the next century, white gained new meaning, especially in Western culture, where it became linked with purity and innocence. Hollywood films, photography, and department store bridal salons solidified the “white wedding” as the standard.

Today, brides still gravitate toward white, ivory, and champagne, though colorful gowns and cultural traditions remain just as meaningful. What began as a royal style statement has become one of the most recognizable bridal customs in the modern world.



DRESSES: Premier Bridal Studio

COOKIES RACHEL BITES

is a small-batch bakery creating handcrafted desserts and custom sugar cookies perfect for weddings and special events. Known for creative designs and delicious bite-sized treats, Rachel Bites helps couples add a personal and memorable sweet touch to their big day.



400 Allegheny Street
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

(814) 931-4050

www.rachelbitesllc.com

rachelbites53@yahoo.com



RENT DESIGN PLAN INSTALL

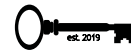


*we create
you celebrate*



leodesigngallery.com • 610.670.6502
1295 Penn Avenue • Wyomissing, PA

THE DANCE LOFT THE DANCE FOLLO



(814) 502-5514 • www.thedanceloftaltona.com



*make your first dance
memorable*

Your wedding dance is a moment you'll remember forever. Our wedding dance lessons help make it effortless, memorable, and stress-free - no matter your style or experience.

We'll talk through your venue, attire, and vision, then get you moving right away. You'll learn the basics, start your dance, and leave with a clear plan leading up to your wedding day.



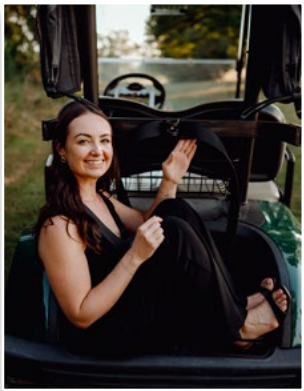
Thoughtfully Planned *Seamlessly Executed*

A team of experienced planners serving Central Pennsylvania



the EVENT *edit*

THE EVENT EDIT
Formerly Bethany Cowher Events
hello@theeventeditco.com
Instagram: @bethanycowherevents
Wedding Wire / The Knot:
Bethany Cowher Events
Photography: Jana Scott Photography,
BKS Images, Sarah Haines Photography,
Catch Light Film & Photo Co



Why Hire a Wedding Planner?

Your wedding should feel effortless, personal, and unmistakably you. That's where The Event Edit comes in. We're more than planners; we're curators of seamless celebrations, accustomed to handling every detail behind the scenes so couples can stay present for the moments that matter most. With thoughtful organization, and a calm-in-the-chaos approach, The Event Edit will transform your visions into beautiful experiences, ensuring your day unfolds flawlessly from first look to final toast.

-the signature edit-

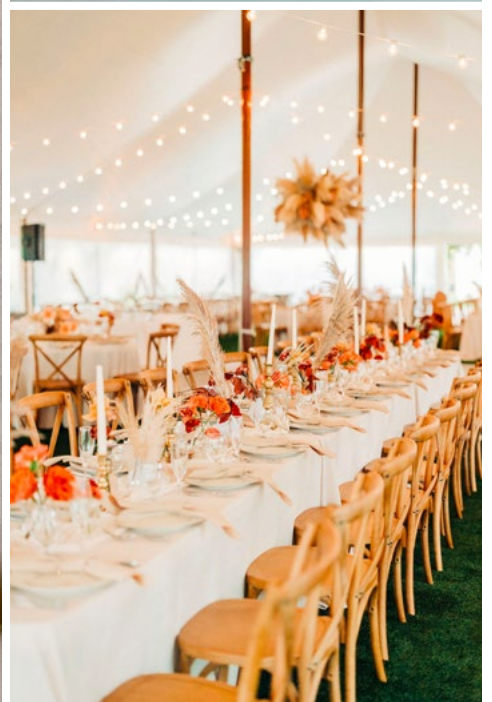
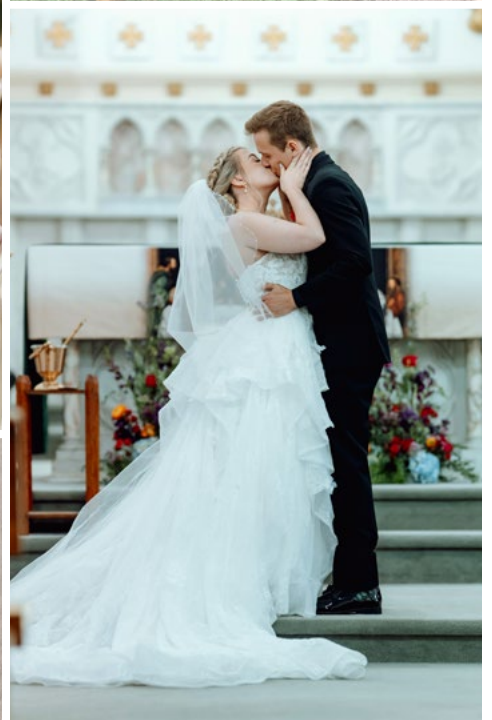
Month-of coordination for couples who planned beautifully and want it executed flawlessly.

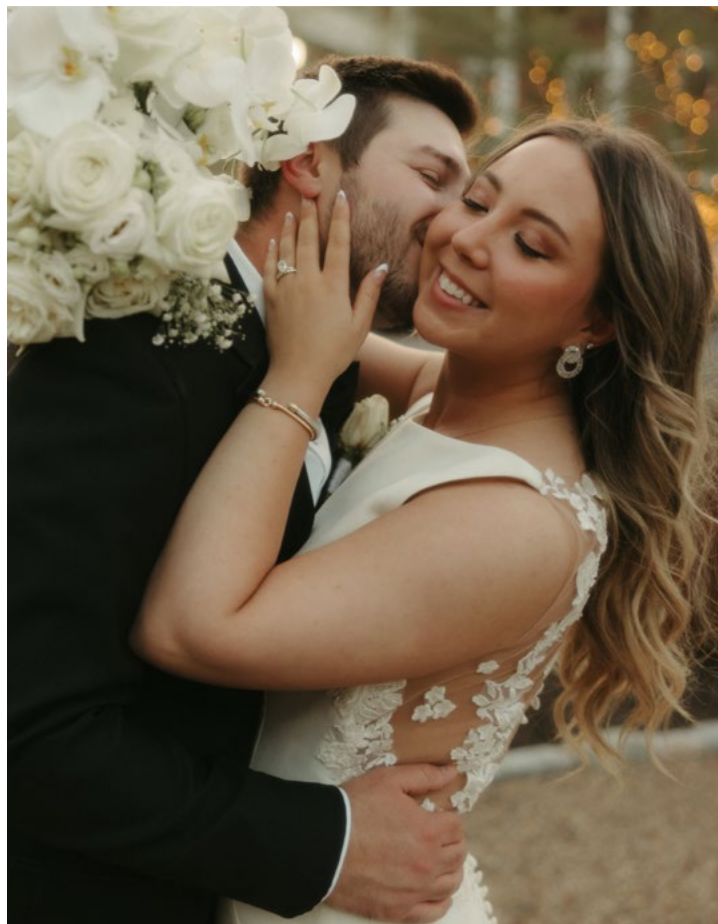
-the partial edit-

Partial coordination for couples who want guidance without giving up creative control.

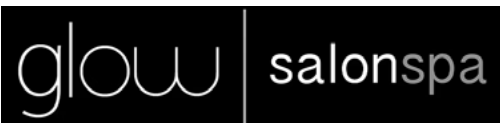
-the full edit-

Full coordination for couples who want every detail handled from "yes" to "I do."





Beauty that feels
like you...
ELEVATED



GLOW SALON & SPA

Sarina Yingling
4000 Broad Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 944-0189
www.glowsalonandspa.biz
www.instagram.com/glowsalon0189

Photography: Haley Mae Photography



Before the first photo is taken, your bridal beauty sets the tone for how you feel on one of the most important days of your life. Even if we're meeting for the first time, my goal is to understand you - your comfort level with makeup, your vision, and how you want to feel on your wedding day.

With over 30 years in the beauty industry, and a deep-rooted love for makeup, I bring both experience and intuition to every appointment. I work closely with each bride, using inspiration photos and thoughtful conversation to create a look that feels authentic, refined, and completely your own.

My approach is centered around enhancing, not masking, your natural beauty. Using high-definition, camera-ready products, I ensure your makeup looks flawless in person and photographs beautifully from every angle, while still feeling like you.

While the bride is always my main focus, I truly love working with the mothers of the bride and groom as well. There's something special about making them feel just as confident, refreshed, and celebrated.

Beauty isn't about transformation - it's about alignment. When the inside matches the outside, it shows.

Whether I'm traveling on-site or welcoming you into the salon, I strive to create a relaxed, supportive experience where you feel heard, comfortable, and truly taken care of.

Because at the end of the day, the most beautiful look is one that feels like you - just elevated.



Makeup Trends

Modern. Fresh. Timeless.

Brides are choosing lightweight, luminous foundations and skin-like finishes that let natural texture shine through.

Soft Sculpting: Subtle contour and cream blush for gentle definition

Natural Eyes: Warm, earthy shadows in taupe, champagne, and bronze define the eyes without looking heavy with fluttery lashes

Romantic Lips: Rose, mauve, and warm berry shades over flat nude tones - rich but soft

Pro Tip: Choosing long-wear, blendable products, primer and setting spray are key for all-day beauty

Beauty Routine

Prep. Polish. Glow.

The secret to radiant bridal beauty isn't a last-minute fix; it's consistency. In the months leading up to your wedding, focus on simple habits that enhance your natural features.

Start Early: Establish a steady skincare routine with gentle cleansing, exfoliation, hydration, and daily SPF. Schedule facials and hair trims well in advance

Refine & Maintain: Book hair and makeup trials 2-3 months out. Add deep conditioning treatments and prioritize strength-based fitness to feel confident in your dress

Final Weeks: Avoid new products, hydrate, sleep well, and schedule your final facial at least two weeks before the big day



FEATURED PROFESSIONAL

YOUR WEDDING'S

Secret Superpower

With 15 years behind the lens, Grin Gallery isn't just your wedding photographer - she's the Swiss Army knife of your big day. Picture this: she bustles the train on your gown, helps glue on rogue eyelashes, coaxes giggles out of your flower kids...and still somehow nails every shot like an old pro.

Owner and lead photographer Marlaina has been all over the map - backyard elopements, formal ballroom affairs, and even destination weddings from Alaska to Costa Rica, Florida to Norfolk. No two days are the same, rain or shine, and she wouldn't have it any other way.

WHY COUPLES CALL HER AN "ASSET"

- She's quietly everywhere helping your aunt find her table, wrangling the bridal party, or keeping the mood light.

- She's goofy, warm, and unafraid to make a fool of herself if that means getting real smiles from everybody.

- She plans, adapts, laughs, and pivots, but never loses sight of the magic she came to capture.

REAL LOVE FROM PAST CLIENTS

- On The Knot, one bride praised Marlaina for her "care, passion and kindness...she handed me water when I didn't know I was dying of thirst...helped everyone keep focus."

- Another said, "Marlaina is a firecracker... she is full of so much energy...the day 10x more fun...her work is undeniably amazing."



GRIN GALLERY
(814) 934-3999
gringallery@gmail.com
www.gringallery.com





NORFOLK, VA



PRINCE GALLITZIN, PA

THAT'S THE GRIN GALLERY PROMISE:

You're not just hiring a photographer. You're getting someone who cares, who laughs, who works hard, and who absolutely will do whatever it takes - even if it means scaling a tree, calming a toddler, or chasing down a rogue boutonniere. Because 15 years in, she knows this: it's not just about the pictures. It's about your story - and joy is her favorite filter.



LOCKE MOUNTAIN, PA



ALASKA



DOMINICAN

Modern Love, COUNTRY SETTING



FARM VENUES have become some of the most sought-after settings for modern couples in our community offering timeless beauty, flexibility, and a deeply personal backdrop for their celebration.

As someone who grew up on a dairy farm, it's especially meaningful to see couples choosing these spaces to begin their own stories. Farms have long been places of hard work, gathering, and legacy - and today, they've become beautiful settings where love is celebrated with intention and style.



Why Couples Are Choosing Farm Venues

NATURAL BEAUTY BUILT IN
Rolling fields, mature trees, golden sunsets, and historic barns create an effortlessly romantic backdrop. With each season bringing its own charm, every wedding feels unique.

UNFORGETTABLE ATMOSPHERE
From twinkle lights in barn rafters to sunset photo backdrops, farm weddings feel immersive and meaningful - a celebration guests truly remember.

RUSTIC MEETS REFINED
Modern farm venues often feature climate-controlled barns, elegant lighting, and curated décor. The look can range from elevated rustic to black-tie under the stars.





Romantic Imagery with a Timeless Touch



Hi! I'm Mia, a Central Pennsylvania wedding photographer. For the past eight years, I've specialized in light-filled, romantic wedding photography with a natural and timeless feel.

My work focuses on soft light, genuine emotion, and the refined details that make each celebration unique. By capturing both the meaningful moments and the quiet in-between ones, I create imagery that allows couples to relive the beauty and feeling of their wedding day for years to come.



MIA BASTILLE PHOTOGRAPHY
(814) 414-8617 - www.miabastille.com

The Couple's Checklist: Why Mama Randazzo's Works

Mama Randazzo's Catering is a Central PA favorite for celebrations of every size - from bridal showers and rehearsal dinners in their modern, cozy Altoona venue to off-premise events for hundreds. With an in-house event coordinator guiding details from first contact through event day, planning stays straight forward and personal.



**Mama
Randazzo's**
CATERING

MAMA RANDAZZO'S CATERING
521 North 4th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 931-4109
www.mamarandazzos.com



FOOD THAT WINS THE ROOM

Big flavor, generous portions, and menus that are easy for guests to love - whether you're going classic or contemporary.

A TEAM THAT RUNS STEADY

They don't just deliver and disappear. Expect hands-on support, smooth pacing, and attentive service from setup through the final course.

POLISHED PRESENTATION THAT STILL FEELS WARM

Thoughtful plating, consistent quality, and professional service - elegant, but never stiff or overdone.



BUILT-IN GUIDANCE (WITHOUT THE STRESS)

In-house event coordinator Alexa Weston helps shape the menu, organize the timeline, and keep day-of details on track so you can actually enjoy your celebration.

FLEXIBLE CUISINE, GROUNDED IN TRADITION

Italian roots are the starting point, not the limit. With 100+ years of combined kitchen experience and trusted specialty support, they can match your theme, dietary needs, and “something different” requests.

CAPACITY + COVERAGE AT A GLANCE

On-Premise Venue

521 North 4th Avenue, Altoona
Comfortable seating up to 130 guests

Off-Premise Catering (Central PA)

Events and receptions up to 600 guests



FEATURED PROFESSIONAL

Petals with Purpose



Located in the heart of Altoona

Peterman's Flower Shop is a trusted name in wedding florals, known for its thoughtful design and dependable service. With decades of experience, the team brings a refined yet approachable touch to every celebration.



PETERMAN'S FLOWER SHOP, INC.
608 North 4th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 943-6115
www.petermansflorist.com

PHOTOGRAPHER: Mia Bastille Photography



Consultation

Each wedding begins with a conversation, transforming a couple's vision into a cohesive floral story. From soft, romantic palettes to more modern, sculptural arrangements, every design is tailored to complement both the setting and the moment.



Our Team

The team at Peterman's ensures that every detail for an event is executed seamlessly while blending their own artistry with precision. Andrea, the owner, and her staff create floral designs that feel personal, expressive, and enduring.



PHOTOGRAPHER: Katie Fri Photography



Love... Sealed...
Delivered



Graphic Studio
design & printing

EM'S GRAPHIC STUDIO
Graphic Design and Printing
(814) 201-2212
emily@emsgraphicstudio.com
www.emsgraphicstudio.com



Long before your guests see your dress, the venue, or the flowers, they experience your wedding through one powerful detail - your invitation. It's the first tangible glimpse into the story you're about to tell as a couple. The textures, colors, typography, and wording all whisper hints of what's to come - whether it's a black-tie affair dripping in elegance or a garden celebration blooming with whimsy and warmth.

Your wedding invitation does more than simply share a date and location. It creates an experience. It sets expectations, conveys emotion, and introduces the aesthetic language of your day.

When I design and print invitations, I focus on capturing that essence - translating a couple's vision into a design that feels uniquely theirs. Every element matters: the weight of the paper, the color palette that reflects your theme, the typography that mirrors your style, and the printing method that adds depth and dimension.

Couples often tell me that seeing their invitations for the first time makes everything feel real. It's a moment when the dream starts taking shape - when your wedding transforms from an idea into a beautifully tangible event.

So, while it may seem like a small piece of the planning puzzle, your invitation suite carries great power. It's the opening chapter of your wedding story - a piece of art that announces: "This is us."

And when it's thoughtfully designed and beautifully printed, it becomes more than stationery. It becomes a keepsake - a reflection of your love, your style, and the unforgettable day that's about to unfold.



FEATURED PROFESSIONAL

Stationery Timeline

SAVE THE DATES: 9 - 12 MONTHS

Save the dates will be the first impression of your wedding vision, so you can coordinate these cards to the style of your wedding invitations and day-of stationery.

BRIDAL SHOWER INVITATIONS: 1 - 2 MONTHS

BRIDAL SHOWER THANK YOU'S: 1 - 2 WEEKS AFTER

WEDDING INVITATIONS: 5 - 6 MONTHS

While I have a quick turnaround time from order to delivery, consider the time if you want to address the invitations yourself. I do offer envelope printing to save time. Make sure to leave enough time to get back those RSVP cards early! I recommend setting your RSVP date one month before your wedding date.

Order a few extra invitations and envelopes - a standard rule of thumb is to order 10 more than you think you need. You'll be glad you have them should you or a calligrapher make a mistake while addressing. Additionally, you'll want a few extra copies as mementos for yourself, your family, and your photographer.

MAIL WEDDING INVITATIONS: 2 - 3 MONTHS

DAY-OF STATIONERY: 1 - 2 MONTHS

Once you have your invitations mailed, it is best to order your coordinating day-of stationery. Coordinating your wedding design throughout your ceremony and reception gives a styled, cohesive look!

WEDDING THANK YOU'S: 2 - 3 WEEKS AFTER

For gifts received before the wedding, the general rule is to send thank you cards within two weeks of receipt.

EM'S GRAPHIC STUDIO

Graphic Design and Printing
(814) 201-2212
emily@emsgraphicstudio.com
www.emsgraphicstudio.com



Stationery Checklist

Announcements

- Engagement Announcements
- Engagement Invitations
- Engagement Thank You Cards

Bridal Shower

- Bridal Shower Invitations
- Bridal Shower Thank You Cards

Save the Date

- Save The Date Announcements

Rehearsal

- Rehearsal Dinner Invitations

Thank You's

- Wedding Thank You Cards

Invitations

- Wedding Invitations/Styles**
 - Acrylic, Frosted, Deckled, Flat, Laser Cut, Pockets, Shapes
- Printing Methods**
 - Digital, Foil, Letterpress, Screen, UV, White Ink
- Invitation Backing**
 - Color, Custom, Glitter, Matte, Metallic, Pattern, Pearl Linen, Shimmer, Vellum, Velvet
- RSVP Cards and Detailed Cards**
- Envelopes**
 - Color, Custom, Glitter, Matte, Metallic, Pattern, Pearl Linen, Shimmer, Vellum, Velvet
- Envelopes with Printed Addresses**
- Envelope Liners**
 - Color, Custom, Glitter, Matte, Metallic, Pattern, Pearl Linen, Shimmer, Vellum, Velvet
- Belly Bands**
 - Custom, Glitter, Matte, Metallic, Pattern, Pearl Linen, Ribbon, Shimmer, Vellum, Velvet, Wax
- Wax Seals**

Ceremony

- Directional Signs
- Family Name Signs
- Popsicle Stick Fan Programs
- Reserved Seating Signs
- Unplugged Ceremony Signs
- Welcome Signs
- Wedding Programs

Reception

- Advice and Wishes Signs
- Bar Menus
- Cards and Gifts Signs
- Dessert Table Menus
- Favors / Goodie Bags
- Food Menus
- Guest Book Signs
- In Loving Memory Signs
- Napkins / Coasters
- Place Cards / Escort Cards
- Photo Booth Signs
- Seating Charts
- Signs for Food / Treats
- Sweetheart Table Signs
- Table Numbers
- Welcome Signs



EM'S GRAPHIC STUDIO
 Graphic Design and Printing
 (814) 201-2212
 emily@emsgraphicstudio.com
 www.emsgraphicstudio.com

OUR FAVORITE COLOR PALETTE



For couples craving a mix of elegance and playful energy, teal and coral are a standout pairing. Teal offers cool sophistication and depth, while coral brings warmth and vibrant charm. Together, they evoke coastal inspiration - perfect for summer or destination weddings - yet they also adapt beautifully to indoor celebrations with metallic accents like gold or copper.

Florals and fashion shine in this palette: think coral garden roses and peonies against teal linens, glassware, or stationery, and bridal parties styled in teal with coral bouquets for a bold, balanced look. Modern yet timeless, this color duo delivers personality without sacrificing refinement, making teal and coral a standout choice for a stylish celebration.





OUR FAVORITE COLOR PALETTE

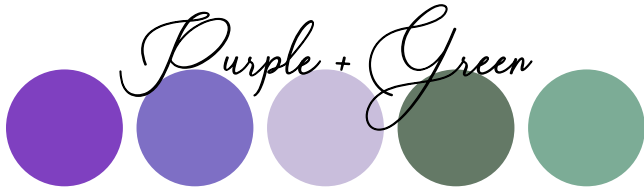


Pink, orange, and yellow create a joyful palette that feels fresh, modern, and full of sunshine. Pink brings romance, orange adds playful energy, and yellow infuses warmth - together they evoke summer gardens, citrus cocktails, and sunset skies. Whether used in florals, stationery, or fashion, this trio photographs beautifully and instantly lifts the mood, making it a perfect choice for couples who want a vibrant yet stylish celebration.





OUR FAVORITE COLOR PALETTE



Purple and green create a wedding palette that feels both enchanting and refined. The lush tones of green evoke natural beauty - think soft eucalyptus and garden foliage - while shades of purple bring in a sense of regal romance, from delicate lilac to deep amethyst. Together, the pairing feels fresh and grounded yet undeniably elegant. Florals, linens, and stationery instantly come to life with this duo, making it ideal for garden celebrations, outdoor estates, or any couple drawn to rich, organic color stories. The result is a wedding aesthetic that feels like a modern fairytale rooted in nature.





Local Gifts

for your crew!

When it comes to gifting your bridesmaids, groomsmen and family, the key is to balance luxury with personalization, making each gift feel thoughtful and special. Here are some local and hand made gift ideas that will leave a lasting impression:



2



Gold-filled, hypoallergenic, and nickel-free jewelry and custom charm necklaces, handmade in Altoona, PA.



4

Raise a glass to something local—artisan wines make thoughtful wedding favors and memorable gifts for your guests and bridal party. Elegant, personal, and easy to customize, they're a perfect way to share a taste of your celebration.



6

Don't forget the little luxuries: specialty coffee, signature sips, and sweet treats - while checking off your wedding to-do list.



1

Handcrafted bath & body products made from high quality ingredients in Roaring Spring. We offer custom labeling - perfect for gifts and events!

3

Find the perfect gifts for your flower girls and bridesmaids! Stop downtown at Premier Bridal Studio.



5

Locally-owned Boutique offering trendy clothing, unique gifts, local products and so much more!



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4. OAK SPRING WINERY: www.oswineryaltoona.com - Altoona, PA
5. HUMBLE AND KIND BOUTIQUE: www.humbleandkindboutique.com - Altoona, PA
6. DANIKAY'S KAFE: www.facebook.com/danikayskafe - Roaring Spring, PA

Master of Edible Art

A wedding cake should be more than dessert - it should be a statement. Lisa Becker's Bakery creates edible works of art designed to be admired as much as they're enjoyed.

Known for sculptural designs and refined palettes, each cake is thoughtfully crafted to complement the wedding aesthetic. From timeless tiers to fashion-inspired creations, every detail is intentional - elegant textures, hand-crafted florals, and luxurious finishes.



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OUR COVER COUPLE

Johanna
+ Mike

The Allegheny
County Courthouse
Pittsburgh, PA

THEIR STORY: I met my husband during my birthday party at Rocky Patel's Burn (cigar lounge in Pittsburgh). He was working at Robert Morris University at the time and his teammates told him he needed to get out for a night. A cigar lounge is not a place he would normally frequent, but he said there was something that told him he needed to go! I saw him walk in and as soon as I saw him I felt "something" and wanted to meet him. My friend Joy made it her life's mission to make it happen and we had the best time. By the end of the evening, Joy and I were friends with Mike and all of his friends and someone anonymously donated a bunch of bottles of champagne to us.

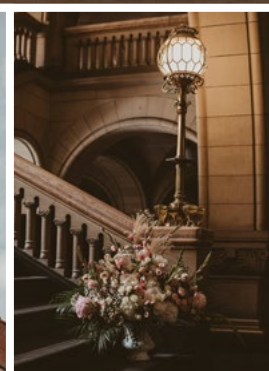


THEIR STYLE & THEME: I wanted a bohemian type feel to the décor, but also wanted to keep it very simple as to not take away from the beauty of the courthouse and its structures. Going with the Pittsburgh love theme, I had my food chosen based off dishes that are popular to this area - pierogies and kielbasa along with other common foods - roast, salad, fresh pasta station, etc. Another typical Pittsburgh thing to do is have a “cookie table” where friends and family bake the cookies for you.

THE VENUE: Mike and I were married in downtown Pittsburgh at the Allegheny County Courthouse. The courthouse typically marries couples indoors and their court yard is used as the reception area. The courthouse is truly a gorgeous structure giving off goth vibes and is one of the oldest buildings in the downtown area (completed in 1888). We loved it not only for its beauty that sticks out amongst all of the modern buildings of downtown, but also because we love Pittsburgh and this historic landmark seemed to make sense as the right choice.

ADVICE FOR OTHER COUPLES: As many people say, you really need to try and sit back and enjoy the day as much as possible. It is very overwhelming, but this is a day where so many loved ones gather at the very same time and it is so special and important. Sit back, relax, and make sure you get to eat your food!

Photography: Grin Gallery **Catering:** The Chef & I Catering **Venue:** The Allegheny County Courthouse **Florals:** Burke & Haas Always In Bloom **Wedding Cake:** Pastries A La Carte **Beer:** Vecenie’s Distributing **DJ:** BPM Deeja’s



Jaimie + Jake

Gillbrook Farms
Warriors Mark, PA



THEIR STORY: Jake and I met at a bar in Arlington, VA called Whitlows, in March 2020. My friend and I wanted to go out for a girls night, just some drinks and dancing. Little did I know I'd meet my soulmate. We both were dancing and singing our hearts out along to this awesome cover band (Jake thinks they were awful lol). One of our core memories from this night is dancing together to the Cranberries (Zombie). About a week later he asked me out on a date. It was while COVID was just starting to ramp up, so we ended up going to a state park with some drinks and then did burgers on his tailgate. And the rest is history!

PHOTOGRAPHER: Julie Rosillo Photography



THE VENUE: We absolutely fell in love with Gillbrook farms when we first toured it. Ashley took us all over the grounds and Jaimie and I felt as if this was where we were meant to be married. After the tour, before we could even drive out the main gate, we stopped to call Ashley to book it immediately. If we could, we'd get married all over again at this venue.

FAVORITE DETAIL: Jake's favorite detail was that our band pulled off an amazing surprise and learned our final dance song just for us, and performed it with the full band. Our private dance was Brandy (You're a Fine Girl)- it is one of Jaimie's favorite songs.

SPECIAL MEMORIES: My sister and I, Maggie, are very close - And we ended up having our own dance during the first dances. Besides marrying the man of my dreams, this moment was one of the most memorable parts of my day. We danced to a childhood song that was on repeat at our grandparents' house when we were growing up, 'Crazy' by Patsy Cline. To this day, anytime Patsy comes on, I can't help but think of how special it was to share that moment with my sister.

ADVICE FOR OTHER COUPLES: The best advice that we can give another couple is get as many pictures done before the ceremony so you can enjoy your cocktail hour with your friends and family. Also, do your best to stay by your partner's side. A wedding is full of amazing moments and it's even better to experience those moments together!

Hair & Makeup: Glow Salon & Spa **Florist:** Pocketful of Posies **Cake:** Maggie B's Bakery **DJ/ Band:** The Bachelor Boys **Videographer:** Lightwave Event Artists **Photographer:** Julie Rosillo Photography **Food:** Gearhart's Meats **Bartender:** Timmy C Professional Bartending LLC **Desserts:** Family and Friends provided the cookie table **Decorations:** Mostly wild flowers & décor from the venue. My mom had an army of her friends who handmade all the table arrangements **Coordinator:** Ashley Diehl with Gillbrook Farms **Dress Designer:** Made with Love from Lovely Bride, Washington, DC **Jewelry:** Kranichs Jewelers **Bridesmaid Dress Designer:** Various Designers, Reformation, Baltic born, etc.





Jen
+ Ryan

Hyatt House Southside
Pittsburgh, PA

THEIR STORY: We met as co-workers at Sheetz. After Ryan left to pursue a different career in State College, PA, he hosted a house party and we caught back up and began dating shortly after.



THE VENUE: We picked Pittsburgh as a neutral travel spot for both sides of the family's travel - Hyatt House was specifically chosen because we loved their rooftop setting and view.

FAVORITE DETAIL: I LOVED my flowers and swags from the chandeliers - the flower arch was probably my favorite detail, followed by the inside of the tent with chandeliers and purple swags draped between them.

ADVICE FOR OTHER COUPLES: Don't let the wedding day and planning become bigger than you. We knew from the beginning we wanted our wedding to be a fun gathering, not super formal or pretentious but beautiful and FUN. It was important we had good company, good music and good food so everyone could just enjoy the ambiance and celebrate. It wasn't ever super stressful, and planning it never felt like a chore.

Venue: Hyatt House Southside
Florist/ Floral Design: Mocha Rose Décor (chandeliers, swags): Gray Phoenix
DJ/Music: Fireside Events
Catering/Table Settings: JPC Event Group
Photographer: Two20Studios
Invitations/ Seating Chart/ Paper Printed Items and Décor: EM's Graphic Studio



styling your WEDDING RECEPTION

A reception isn't just dinner - it's an experience. Today's couples design immersive, personal environments through thoughtful décor, lighting, florals, and layout.

CURATED FLOORPLANS

Modern receptions feel like lounges, blending dining with soft seating, interactive bars, and a statement dance floor that anchors the space.



FLORALS BEYOND THE CENTERPIECE

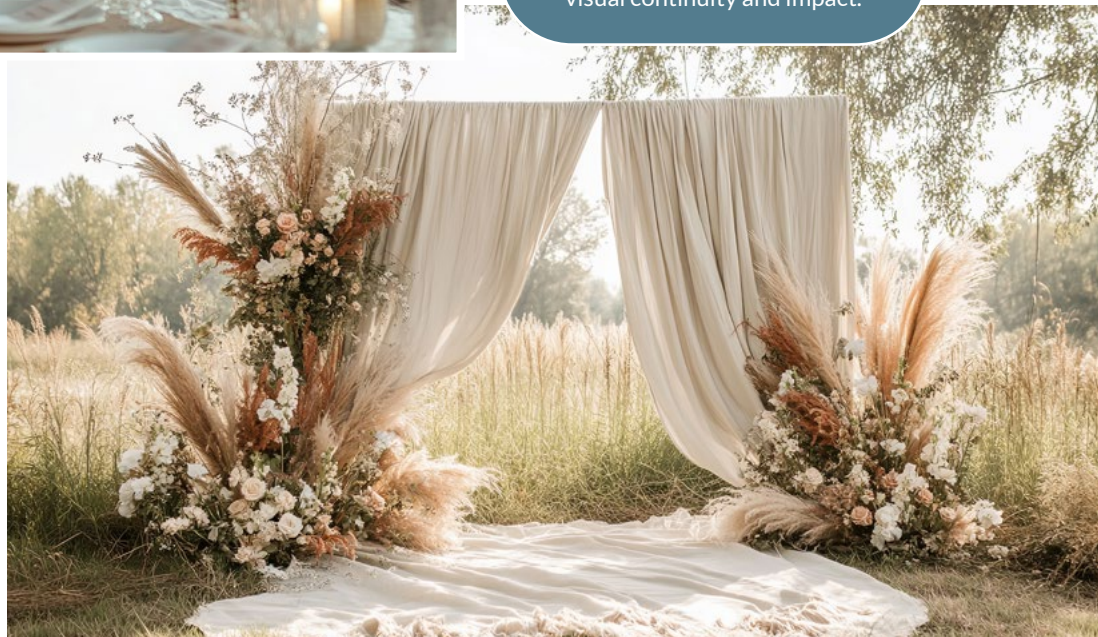
Florals now go beyond the table - think entry installations, ceilings, and styled bars to create visual continuity and impact.

TABLESCAPES THAT TELL A STORY

Tables set the tone. Layer textures, add sculptural florals, and include personalized details like menus or place cards for a refined, guest-focused feel.

THE TAKEAWAY

Great design isn't about more - it's about harmony. When every element works together, the reception becomes an unforgettable experience.



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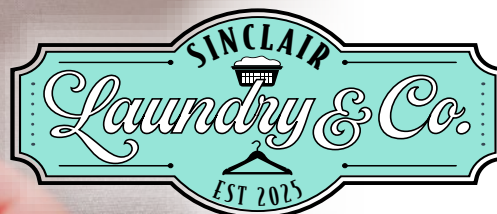


Host your bridal shower or wedding reception in a setting as remarkable as your love story. Our spacious patio features exposed brick, a built-in gazebo for ceremonies or toasts, and a cozy fire pit for evenings that linger. With dedicated party staff handling every detail, you can relax and celebrate.

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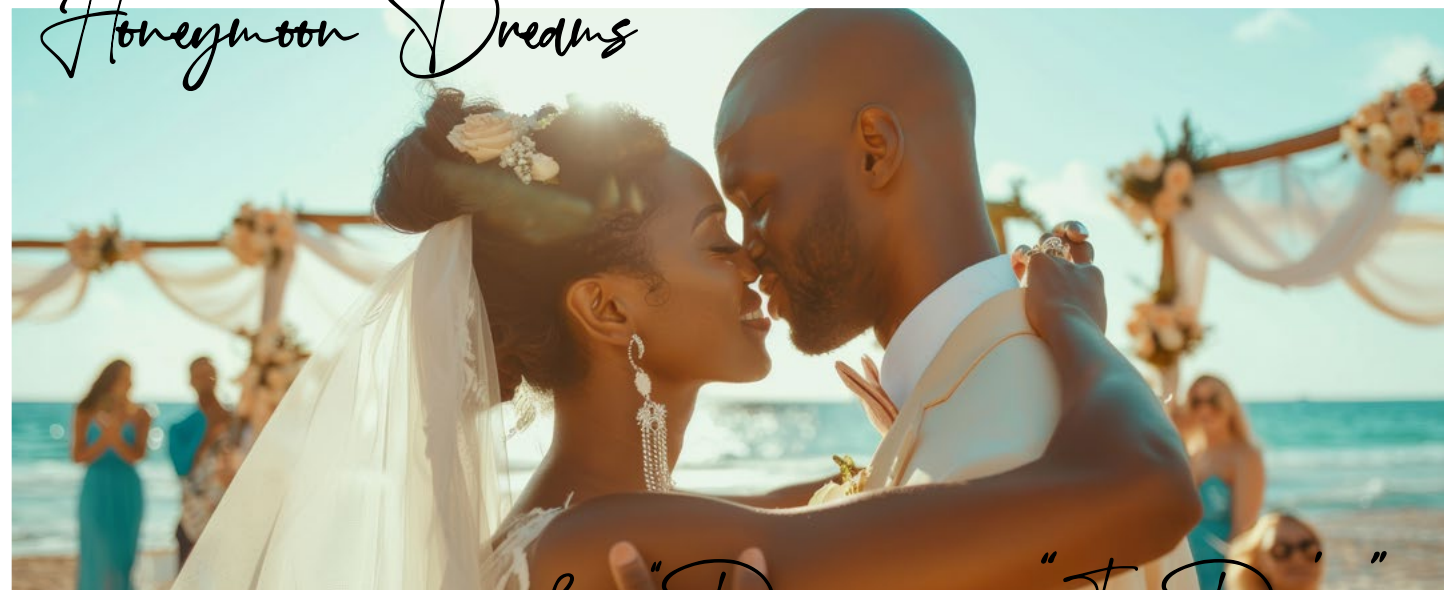
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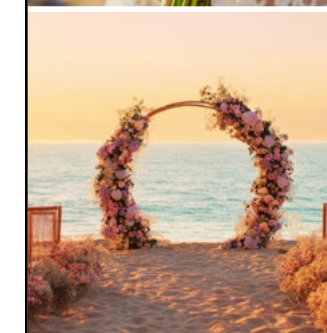
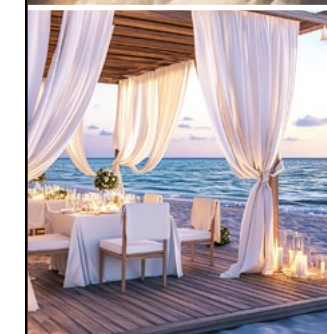
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Honeymoon Dreams



& "Destination I Do's"



Honeymoons / Destination Weddings Bridal Registry

After the last dance comes one of the most exciting chapters: celebrating your love somewhere extraordinary. Today's couples are turning honeymoons and destination weddings into meaningful travel experiences that reflect who they are together.

Modern honeymoons go beyond the traditional beach escape. While tropical destinations remain popular, many couples are opting for immersive experiences like wine tastings in Europe, adventurous safaris, scenic mountain retreats, or multi-stop journeys that balance exploration and relaxation.

Destination weddings offer an equally memorable option, blending a stunning setting with an intimate celebration. By combining the wedding and honeymoon, couples create a shared experience that feels more like a vacation with loved ones than a single-day event.

Wherever you go, it's about more than the destination; it's about beginning your next chapter together, one adventure at a time.

Planning your dream wedding should be as joyful as the day itself. At Ketrow KURTZ Travel, we specialize in crafting unforgettable wedding experiences and destination weddings tailored just for you. From romantic beachside ceremonies to elegant destination celebrations, we handle every detail - from venue selection to travel arrangements - so you can focus on love and laughter. Let us unlock a world of possibilities for your special day, with personalized service, exclusive perks, and seamless planning that turns your wedding journey into a beautiful story you'll cherish forever.



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TRAVEL

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www.ketrowtravel.com



the ultimate *Wedding Checklist*

to keep everything on track, from engagement to the big day.
This checklist is divided into timelines and covers everything you might need!

12 + MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Announce Your Engagement**
Send out engagement announcements
Create a wedding website (optional but helpful)
- Set a Budget**
Determine a total wedding budget
Allocate funds to each category (venue, catering, dress, etc.)
- Create Your Guest List**
List everyone you want to invite (finalize later)
- Choose a Wedding Date**
Pick a date or season
- Book a Wedding Planner (if desired)**
Find a planner to help with planning/coordination on the day
- Reserve the Wedding Venue**
Book the ceremony and reception venues
- Hire Key Vendors**
Photographer
Videographer
Caterer
Stationery
Entertainment (DJ/band)
Florist
Officiant
Hair & makeup artists
Cake designer
Wedding rentals (chairs, linens, etc.)
- Start Shopping for Your Wedding Dress**
Consider tailoring and fitting time



9 - 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Choose Your Wedding Party**
Select bridesmaids, groomsmen, flower girls, and ring bearers
- Book the Wedding Officiant**
Finalize who will marry you (religious leader, officiant, friend)
- Select and Order Invitations and Save the Dates**
Choose your wedding stationery (invitations, save-the-dates)
- Start Researching Honeymoon Destinations**
Decide on your honeymoon location and start booking
- Register for Gifts**
Set up your wedding gift registry (at stores and online)



6 - 9 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Order Bridesmaids' Dresses and Groomsmen Suits**
Choose your bridal party's attire and schedule for fittings
- Finalize Your Guest List**
Confirm final headcount and make sure your save-the-dates have gone out
- Create Your Wedding Day Timeline**
Plan the ceremony details, reception flow, and key moments
- Buy Wedding Rings**

Notes

4 - 6 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Order Wedding Invitations**
Order invitations, RSVP's, detailed cards and special add ons
- Plan and Schedule Your Wedding Rehearsal Dinner**
- Meet and Choose Your Ceremony Music**
- Book Transportation for the Wedding Day**
Rent vehicles for the wedding party, family, and yourself
- Finalize Your Wedding Cake Design**
Confirm cake details (flavors, decoration)
- Order Your Wedding Dress (if you haven't already)**
Ensure dress is ordered and allow time for fittings

2 - 4 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Finalize Details with Vendors**
Confirm all bookings and payments for your vendors
- Finalize Your Wedding Rehearsal Dinner Guest List**
- Write Your Vows**
Personalize your vows if you're writing your own

1 - 2 MONTHS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Mail Invitations**
Send out wedding invitations (6 weeks before the wedding)
- Get Final Fittings for Your Wedding Dress**
- Plan Seating Chart**
Organize your seating chart for the reception
- Final Check of Wedding Party Attire**
Confirm that everyone has their outfits for the wedding
- Arrange Your Bachelor/Bachelorette Parties**
Plan and book activities
- Order Wedding Favors**

2 - 4 WEEKS BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Confirm Wedding Day Details with All Vendors**
- Order all your Wedding Day Printing**
Seating chart, place cards, menus, table numbers, programs
- Pick Up Wedding Rings**
- Prepare for the Wedding Day**
Emergency kit (sewing kit, pain relievers, deodorant, etc.)
Finalize your personal grooming and beauty appointments
- Get Marriage License**

1 WEEK BEFORE THE WEDDING

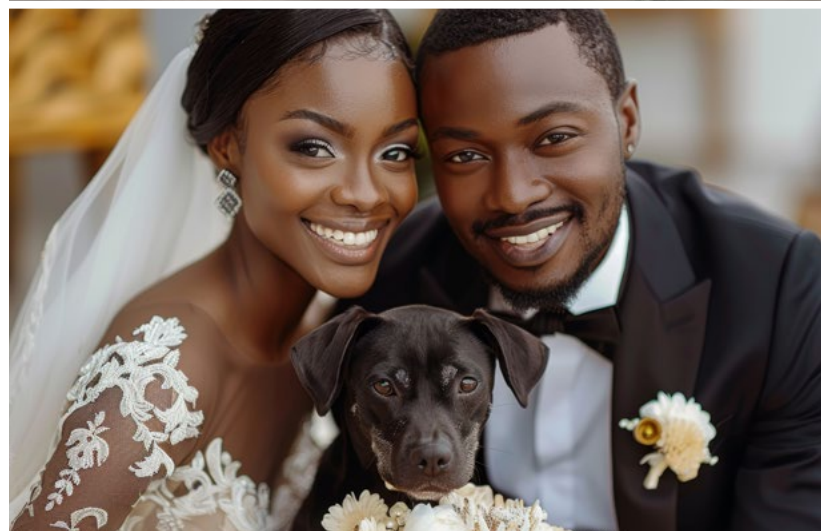
- Confirm Arrival Times with All Vendors**
Ensure vendors know exactly when and where they need to be
- Have a Final Dress Fitting**
Ensure your dress fits perfectly
- Pack for the Honeymoon**
Gather travel documents, outfits, etc. for your honeymoon

DAY BEFORE THE WEDDING

- Rehearse the Ceremony**
Wedding rehearsal with your wedding party and officiant

WEDDING DAY

- Enjoy Your Day!**
Relax, stay calm, and soak in every moment of your big day



Notes

SIGNATURE COCKTAILS

are a great way to personalize your wedding and elevate the overall experience for your guests.

A well-crafted signature drink can be inspired by your relationship, wedding theme, or favorite flavors.

Signature

VELVET MARTINI

A creamy, luxurious martini with a vanilla bean and chocolate flavor

2 oz premium vanilla vodka
1 oz white crème de cacao
¼ oz heavy cream
Chocolate rim
Chocolate shavings (garnish)



ROYAL REFRESHER

A fruity, vibrant cocktail that adds a touch of royalty with raspberry and lavender notes

2 oz premium gin
1 oz fresh lemon juice
¾ oz lavender syrup
½ oz raspberry puree
Fresh raspberries (garnish)



CHAMPAGNE LOVE

A timeless, elegant drink that's both celebratory and sophisticated

1 sugar cube
3 dashes Angostura bitters
Champagne
1 dash of fresh lemon
Lemon twist (garnish)



Cocktails



ROSÉ SPRITZ

A chic and modern take on the traditional spritz, perfect for a light, refreshing drink

3 oz premium rosé wine
1 oz elderflower liqueur
1 oz fresh lemon juice
Prosecco (to top)
Rose petal (garnish)



CUCUMBER COOLER

A fresh and rejuvenating cocktail with the coolness of cucumber and the subtle tang of lime

2 oz premium gin
1 oz fresh lime juice
½ oz simple syrup
3 cucumber slices
Club soda (to top)
Mint sprig (garnish)



POMEGRANATE MARTINI

A festive and high-end twist on the classic martini, with fresh pomegranate flavors

2 oz premium vodka
1 oz pomegranate juice
½ oz fresh lime juice
½ oz simple syrup
Pomegranate seeds (garnish)

THESE COCKTAILS will certainly add an element of luxury and fun to your wedding celebration, offering guests a unique experience with every sip. Enjoy!

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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Haley Mae Photography

www.haleymccloskey.com

Julie Rosillo Photography

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Diamond Lane Farm

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The Event Edit

Formerly Bethany Cowher Events
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FIRST LOOK WEDDING MAGAZINE

With Gratitude

As you begin planning one of life's most meaningful celebrations, we hope this magazine has connected you with the talented professionals who will help bring your vision to life.

To all the couples reading this - may your day be everything you've dreamed of and the beginning of a beautiful life together.

Thank you to every local professional featured within these pages - your creativity, passion, and dedication make each wedding truly remarkable.

And a heartfelt thank you to my family and friends for your constant support, guidance, and the many recommendations along the way - this magazine wouldn't be what it is without you.
xoxo, EM



Start Your Forever Here



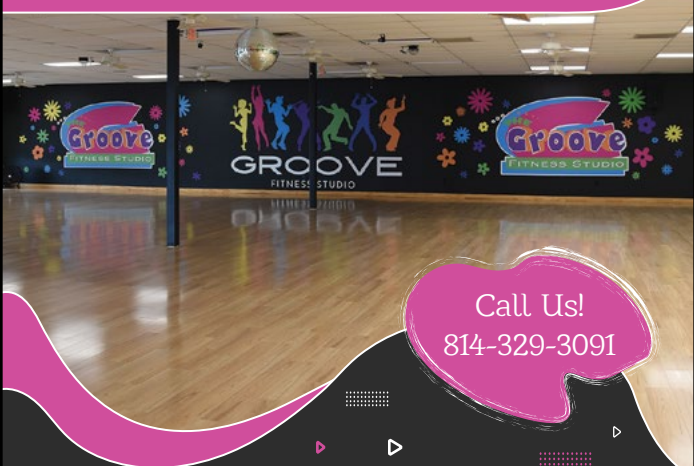
Between engagement photos and wedding plans, there's another beautiful milestone waiting. Your first home together. From "just engaged" to "just married," I'll help you find a space where your next chapter unfolds naturally - warm, welcoming, and filled with possibility.

Rachel Wagner, Owner

-  railcityrealty.com
-  814.931.4826 Cell: 814.931.1948
-  rachelsellsaltoona@gmail.com



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the balloon master

Bride
To Be



I trained in balloon artistry for five years at a professional balloon college, mastering advanced techniques before earning my Certified Balloon Master title in 2022.

As a "deco-twister," I blend multiple balloon disciplines—combining twisting, sculptural builds, distortion, and both classic and organic décor—to create one-of-a-kind designs.

What I love most is transforming simple materials into something imaginative, joyful, and memorable—bringing creativity to life in a way people can truly experience.



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