



A MESSAGE

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hey, WIPA North Carolina family!

Fall has officially arrived! For so many of us, that means it's the height of our busiest season. Between weddings, events, travel, and deadlines, it's easy to blink and realize we've been running on autopilot. I want to take a moment to remind each of us to pause, even if only for a few minutes, and check in with how we're really doing.

As entrepreneurs and creatives, we pour so much of ourselves into serving our clients with excellence, but sometimes forget to extend that same care towards ourselves. You deserve rest. You deserve space to breathe and reset. Take that walk outside, schedule an ACTUAL day off, put your phone down for an hour and just be. Those small moments of stillness are often what help us reconnect with ourselves and in turn with why we love this industry in the first place.

I've learned that the most sustainable success comes from balance. NOT hustle and perfection. So as we move through this season together, I encourage you to treat yourself with the same compassion, grace, and attentiveness that you show your clients. You can't pour from an empty cup, and you shouldn't have to.

This community is full of the most passionate, talented, and hardworking people I know, and I'm so grateful to walk alongside each of you! Thank you for continuing to show up for one another and for making WIPA North Carolina such a special place to belong!

Wishing you peace, energy, and inspiration as you close out this season strong, aaaaaand hopefully with a little more rest, too :)

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE,

DEMI MABRY



DEMI MABRY

WIPA North Carolina | President

Demi Mabry Photography | Owner, Lead Photographer

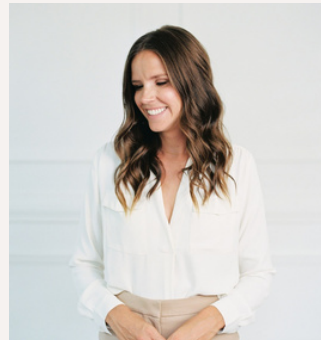
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WEPA!!! WIPA AT THE MAXWELL SEPTEMBER 10 2025



[DOWNLOAD THE PHOTOS HERE.](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

We could not have pulled off this event without our amazing team of sponsors. Make sure to give them a follow and tag them in any photos you share!

[VENUE: THE MAXWELL](#)

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Accessing Past Educational Event Videos

WIPA members have access to videos from past events from all chapters! Once logged into WIPA.org, navigate to “chapters” from the menu. Click on the chapter you want to see a video from, such as “Nashville”. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on “event videos”.

COCKTAIL CHATS

We will be alternating between Coffee Chats and Cocktail Chats every other **FIRST THURSDAY** of the month! December 2nd **will be our next Cocktail Chats - so Save the Date!** See you all there at 6:30pm!

CHARLOTTE

*SUFFOLK PUNCH
2911 Griffith Street
Charlotte, NC 28203*

WINSTON-SALEM

*JOYNER'S BAR
854 W 4TH St
Winston-Salem, NC 27101*

RALEIGH

*WATTS & WARD
200 S Blount St
Raleigh, NC 27601*

ASHEVILLE

*THE ROOF @ THE RADICAL
95 Roberts St
Asheville, NC 28801*

WILMINGTON

*IBIS COFFEE & COCKTAILS
921 Princess St
Wilmington, NC 28401*

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL FRIENDSGIVING

November 13

The Mint Museum Uptown
Charlotte, North Carolina

COFFEE CHATS

First Thursday of the month

CHARLOTTE

SUFFOLK PUNCH
2911 Griffith Street
Charlotte, NC 28203

WINSTON-SALEM

FOOTNOTE COFFEE & COCKTAILS
634 W Fourth Street Unit 120
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

RALEIGH

SUGAR EUPHORIA
606 N Person St
Raleigh, NC 27604

ASHEVILLE

COOPERATIVE COFFEE ROASTERS
210 Haywood Rd
Asheville, NC 28806

WILMINGTON

IBIS COFFEE & COCKTAILS
921 Princess St
Wilmington, NC 28401

BOARD MEMBER TIP

LAUREN O'BRIEN

Director of Education

Owner | Creative Director, Lauren O & Co.

Being part of WIPA has been one of the most rewarding parts of my career. It's not just about the networking or the events, it's the people.

WIPA has given me a community of creative professionals who genuinely want to see each other win, and that's rare in an industry that can sometimes feel isolating.

As Director of Education, I'm passionate about creating space for honest learning and real conversation. Education isn't just about adding tools to your belt; it's about perspective, humility, and growth. Don't be afraid to speak up or share your experiences. Your voice adds value!

That's what I love about WIPA: we're committed to challenging the status quo, and you can feel that intention in our events and in the many creatives who make up WIPA NC. Whether you're new or seasoned, show up, stay open, and stay curious. The magic always happens in the conversations and connections beyond the events.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



CHRIS HODGE

Kevin Lear on Main

I first stepped into the world of flowers in 2001, joining Kevin Lear on Main with a broom in one hand and the task of hauling heavy props in the other.

Nearly 25 years later, not much has changed—I'm still sweeping floors and carrying props—but now with the perspective of experience and a renewed passion for the craft. What began as simple work has grown into a calling.

Along with our weddings and events, Kevin Lear on Main proudly operates two retail locations in South Carolina, serving both our community and couples celebrating life's biggest moments.

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Beauty Services

Katie Lee O'Neil - Collective Beauty

Marissa Davis - Reign Beauty

Cakes & Bakers

Lindsey Paige - Paige Patisserie

Calligraphy/Stationer/Printing

Alison Perry - Cute Buttons Gift & Paper
Boutique

Deb Weaver - Olive Paper

Catering

Nick Wilson - 1618 on Location

Content Creation

Sierra Hutchinson - Moments to Hold

Decor/Rentals

Aja Agustiniano - BBJ Linen / La Tavola

Ashley Herrera - Party Reflections

Aundrea Hopkins - Party Reflections

Brian Glad - TCS Event Rentals

Catherine Perry - White Birch Rentals

Cheryl-Anne Kast - Cottage Luxe

Emily Siezar Lopez - White Birch Rentals

Mari Bonner - Carolina's Luxury Event Rentals

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Entertainment

- April McConnell** - Deans' Duets
Brandon Alley - Bunn DJ Company of Charlotte
Brian B - DJ Brian B Official
Danielle Soria - Dow Oak Events
Ethan McGugin - Dow Oak Events
Jason Huggins - Stylus SE
Joe Bunn - Bunn DJ Company
Mitch Fortune - Remix Weddings
Presley Mohler - EastCoast Entertainment (ECE)
Spencer McAvoy - Stylus SE

Florist

- Chris Hodge** - Kevin Lear on Main
David Zelaya Arias - Dazel by David Zelaya
Eatherley Schultz - Floressence Flowers
Elizabeth Larkin Hodges - Philo Floral
Emmy Burke - Remi + Gold
Jennifer Megremis - Meraki Blommor
Kate Asire - Kate Asire Flowers
Kelly Morrison - Color Fields, LLC
Natalia Januszewski - Floressence Flowers
Nicole Osterberg - Bask Floral Studio, LLC

Publications

- Meagan Culkin** - Heart of NC Weddings

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Photographer

Alexis Reese - The Reeses

Alicia White - Alicia White Photography

Alisha Croghan - Him & Her Photography

Amber Hatley - Amber Hatley Photography

Amy Ellis - Amy Ellis Photography

Amy Kolodziej - Amy Kolo Photography

Anastasiia Ostapovich - Anastasiia Ostapovich

Anna Grace Paulovkin - Anna Grace Photography

Anne Marie Greco - Brian Anthony Photography

Arika Shelest - Arika Jordan Photography

Avery Wooten - Avery Wooten Photography

Brandie Baird - Brandie Baird Photography

Brennan Sherman - Brennan Rieder

Brian Greco - Brian Anthony Photography

Bryson Allen - Moving Mountains Photography

Caroline Howard - Photographs by Caroline Ro

Chanel Norman Moore - Chanel Productions

Christian Freudenberg - In Bloom Photography

Dana Cubbage - Dana Cubbage Weddings

Danielle Flake - Danielle Flake Photography

Dawn Walsh - Dawn Marie Photo

Demi Mabry - Demi Mabry Photography

Ellie McKinney - Ellie McKinney Photography

Emily Payne - Emily March Photography

Emma Jo Marsh - Emma Jo Marsh Photography

Gabrielle von Heyking - Gabrielle von Heyking Photographie

Harry McLaughlin - Harry McLaughlin Photography

Jessica Turner - Jessica Turner Photography

Jillian Knight - Jillian Knight Photography

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Photographer (cont)

Joshuah Croghan - Him & Her Photography

Julia Wade - Julia Wade

Julie Anderson - One Wild Life Photography

Kelsey Mard - Kelsey Mard Photography

Kendra Martin - Kendra Martin Photography

Kevyn Dixon Cress - Kevyn Dixon Photography

Leslie Frazier - Leslie DeAnn Photography

Megan Gielow - Megan Gielow

Megan Travis - Megan Travis Photography

Perry Adams - Perry Vaile Photography

Rachael McIntosh - Rachael McIntosh Photography

Rebecca Coale - Rae Marshall Photography

Samantha Becker - Samantha Jean Becker

Sarah Hinckley - Sarah Hinckley Photography

Shawn Adams Perry Vaile Photography

Shelby Alexis-Dry Southard - Southard Creative Co.

Tanya McSween - McSween Photography

Tara Hodges - Tara Hodges Photography

Tuuba Tuncer - Tuuba Tuncer Photography

Tyler Reese - The Reeses

Wyeth Augustine - Wyeth Augustine Photography

Yaseli Olivera - Yaseli Olivera Photography

Zack Bradley - Zack Bradley Photography

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Planner

Abigail Okland - The Plannerie

Alexandra Ryan - Memorable Moments by Mrs. Alexandra

Allison Davis - Davis Row

Angela Brown Cameron - Event Lady Productions

Baylye Burnette - Burnette Events

Chelsy Ferguson - The Gathering Co.

Cherish Roeder - Divine Inspiration Weddings

Cheyenne Painter - Sweet Oak Events

Corrie Slagle - Lily & Garnet Events

Devon Singleton - Yellow Ivy Events

Diana Sullivan - Jubilee Events

Emily Budz - Lauren O & Co

Emily Izakowitz - Events by Emily

Haines Jones - Significant Events

Isabel Bowen - The Yellow Rose Weddings

Ishita Singh - Ishani Events

Kasie Harold - Near & Far Event Co.

Kelly Darash - Bianca Nichole and Co

Kristen Zywicki - Crafted Charm

Lauren Boyd - Near & Far Event co.

Lauren Frappier - LS Planning & Co.

Lauren O' Brien - Lauren O & Co

Lauren Watson - Lion House

Leif Heron - Heron Events

Levi Duncan - Invitation Only, LLC

Loraine Cook - Invitation Only, LLC

Matt Starnes - Hospitality Butler

Natalie Tkach - Sweetly Gathered

Sage Johnston - The Gathering Co.

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Planner (cont)

Sherrissa Becton - Destiny Event, Inc.

Sarah Cook - SoHo Event Design & Planning

Taryn Stark Wyant - Taryn Stark Wyant Event
Planning

Venue

Amanda Honeycutt - The Bradford

Brittanie Pate - The Elia

Chelsea Hand - The Maxwell

Hannah Smith - The Bradford

Jackson Caster - Cross Fox Farms

Kinsey Kiser - The Elia

Meris Gantt - Chetola Resort

Nicole Parker - The Maxwell

Sarah Fisher - Chetola Resort

Videographer

Cassie Hiatt - Cassie Hiatt Films

Drew Coleman - Drew Coleman Films

Leanne Gilbert - Adam Gilbert Films

Nolan Reynolds - NC Wedding Films

Trey Mintz - Trey Mintz Films