



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

DEAR WIPA NC,

AS I SIT DOWN TO WRITE MY FINAL LETTER TO YOU AS PRESIDENT OF WIPA NC, I FIND MYSELF REFLECTING ON THE PAST TWO YEARS WITH A FULL HEART AND IMMENSE GRATITUDE. WHAT AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY IT HAS BEEN TO SERVE THIS VIBRANT AND INSPIRING CHAPTER.

WHEN I STEPPED INTO THIS ROLE, I COULD NOT HAVE IMAGINED THE GROWTH AND SUCCESS WE WOULD ACHIEVE TOGETHER. FROM HOSTING FRIENDSGIVINGS, A MOUNTAINS TO SEA GALA, IMPACTFUL QUARTERLY EVENTS, COUNTLESS COFFEE CHATS, COWORKING DATES, AND BOARD RETREATS TO FOSTERING CONNECTIONS THAT HAVE BLOSSOMED INTO FRIENDSHIPS AND BUSINESS RELATIONSHIPS, THIS CHAPTER HAS TRULY BECOME A CORNERSTONE OF COLLABORATION. OUR MEMBERSHIP HAS GROWN, OUR COMMUNITY HAS DEEPENED, AND OUR VOICE IN THE WEDDING INDUSTRY IS STRONGER THAN EVER.

THIS SUCCESS IS NOT MINE ALONE—IT'S A REFLECTION OF ALL OF YOU. YOUR PASSION, PARTICIPATION, AND UNWAVERING SUPPORT HAVE MADE WIPA NC WHAT IT IS TODAY. THANK YOU FOR TRUSTING ME TO GUIDE THIS CHAPTER. IT HAS BEEN THE HONOR OF A LIFETIME.

WHILE MY TIME AS PRESIDENT IS COMING TO A CLOSE, MY JOURNEY WITH WIPA NC IS FAR FROM OVER. I AM EXCITED TO REMAIN AN ACTIVE MEMBER, CHEERING ON OUR NEW LEADERSHIP AS THEY BUILD UPON THE STRONG FOUNDATION WE'VE CREATED TOGETHER. THE FUTURE OF THIS CHAPTER IS BRIGHT, AND I CANNOT WAIT TO SEE HOW IT CONTINUES TO THRIVE.

THANK YOU, FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART, FOR ALLOWING ME TO LEAD, LEARN, AND GROW ALONGSIDE EACH OF YOU. IT HAS BEEN AN UNFORGETTABLE CHAPTER IN MY LIFE, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS JOURNEY WITH YOU IN NEW AND EXCITING WAYS.

WITH GRATITUDE AND EXCITEMENT,



LAUREN WATSON
WIPA North Carolina | Founding President
Lion House | Owner, Chief Creative Director

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YOUR WIPA NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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MOUNTAINS TO SEA - WIPA NC GALA THE URBAN GARDEN // SEPTEMBER 25TH



THANK YOU TO OUR GALA SPONSORS

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

PRESENTING SPONSORS: **Aisle Planner, Maroo & OMJ Clothing**

VENUE, FOOD & DRINKS: **The Urban Garden at the Ritz Carlton**

PHOTOGRAPHY: **Avonne Photography**

VIDEOGRAPHY: **Light Cannon Films**

GUEST PHOTO STATION: **The Portrait Bar**

DESIGN: **Lion House**

PAPER: **Dominique Alba Studios**

FLORALS: **Mood Fleuriste**

STRINGS: **Deans Duets**

LINENS AND DRAPERY: **Party Tables**

LIGHTING & AV: **Illumination Productions**

CANDLES: **Marnetia ReFour Amaning**

LIVE PAINTER: **Meliya Loosle Art**

DESSERTS: **Paige Patisserie**

BAND: **Sol Fusion**

DANCE FLOOR WRAP: **Carolina Event Wraps**

AFTER PARTY DJ: **DJ Try Adams**

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 “North Carolina”. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on “event videos”.

WIPA NORTH CAROLINA FRIENDSGIVING
The Merrimon-Wynne House
November 19th 2024



THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDSGIVING SPONSORS

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VENUE: **The Merrimon-Wynne House**

FOOD & DRINKS: **HL Catering Company**

PHOTOGRAPHY: **Avery Wooten Photography**

VIDEOGRAPHY: **Adam Gilbert Films**

PHOTO BOOTH: **Zim Zoom Photo Booth**

DESIGN: **Sweet Oak Events**

PAPER: **Grey Cove Designs**

FLORALS: **Hathaway Floral Design**

LINENS AND DRAPERY: **Party Tables**

RENTALS: **Curated Events & Cottage Luxe**

DJ: **Carolina DJ Pros**

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UPCOMING EVENTS

WIPA NC CO-WORKING DAY - January 23rd

Mark your calendar. Details to follow

Winter In the Queen City - February 13th

Duke Mansion

Charlotte North Carolina

WIPA NC GALA - July 17th

The Umstead

Cary 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

THE OPTIMIST

1000 Brookside Drive suite 109

Raleigh, NC 27604

ASHEVILLE

RITE RITE COFFEE

37 Wall Street

Asheville, NC 28801

BOARD MEMBER TIP

Always approach connections and new relationships with the readiness and willingness to serve. As small business owners, one can get caught up in the mindset of making connections to better themselves. Although, be aware of your own skillset and abilities to determine what you can bring to their table as well, rather than only making a connection with the intent of something being brought to your table!

DREW COLEMAN
WIPA NC Director of
Marketing and Communications at Large



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



CALI STOTT Cali Stott Artistry

The mastermind and founder behind Cali Stott Artistry is Cali Stott who is a makeup and hair artist. She has been in the beauty industry for eleven years making many special moments with her exceptional makeup skills. Her extensive experience and sheer passion have made her stand out among other Charlotte hair & makeup artists.

Cali Stott's work has involved a wide variety of occasions and categories: portraits, avant-garde shoots, runway shows, commercial projects, pageants, TV & film sets, and weddings. It's her hard work and immense experience in the field that has allowed her team to work across the country from California to New York.



MEMBER DIRECTORY

Beauty Services

Cali Stott - Cali Stott Artistry

Marissa Davis - Reign Beauty

Cakes & Bakers

Randi Smith - Sugar Euphoria

Calligraphy/Stationer/Printing

Amanda Bonaviri - Viri Lovely Designs

Deb Weaver - Olive Paper

Dominique Lee - Dominique Alba Studio

Decor/Rentals

Amanda Cox - Greenhouse Picker Sisters

Ashley Herrera - Party Reflections

Aja Agustiniano - BBJ Linen / La Tavola

Caroline Cash - The Prettiest Pieces

Cheryl-Anne Kast - Cottage Luxe

Holly Barton - Greenhouse Picker Sisters

Ivy Tedrick - NewSouth Event Rentals

Lauren Taylor Scott - Creative Solutions Special Events, Inc

Shannon Thomas - Creative Solutions Special Events, Inc

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Entertainment

- April McConnell** - Deans' Duets
Brandon Alley - Bunn DJ Company of Charlotte
Brian B - DJ Brian B Official
Joe Bunn - Bunn DJ Company
Mitch Fortune - Remix Weddings
Presley Mohler - EastCoast Entertainment (ECE)
Randy Bennett - Bunn DJ Company

Florist

- Brandee Perkins** - Narcisse Greenway Design
Carly Robbins - Floressence Flowers
Eatherley Schultz - Floressence Flowers
Jennifer Megremis - Meraki Blommor
Kate Asire - Kate Asire Flowers
Madelaine Roberts - Mood Fleuriste
Narcisse Cicak - Narcisse Greenway Design

Publications

- Meagan Culkin** - Heart of NC Weddings

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Photographer

Alexis Reese - The Reeses

Alicia White - Alicia White Photography

Alisha Croghan - Joshua A Croghan

Amy Kolodziej - Amy Kolo Photography

Anastasiia Ostapovich - Anastasiia Ostapovich

Anna Grace Paulovkin - Anna Grace Photography

Arika Shelest - Arika Jordan Photography

Avery Wooten - Avery Wooten Photography

Brandie Baird - Brandie Baird Photography

Chelsea Busch - Chelsea Renay

Dana Cabbage - Dana Cabbage Weddings

Danielle Flake - Danielle Flake Photography

Dawn Walsh - Dawn Marie Photo

Demi Mabry - Demi Mabry Photography

Emily Payne - Emily March Photography

Gabrielle von Heyking - Gabrielle von Heyking Photographie

Harry McLaughlin - Harry McLaughlin Photography

Hillary Muelleck - Hillary Muelleck Photography

Jamie Vinson - Jamie Vinson Photography

Jennie Raff - Jennie Raff Photography

Jeremy Russell - Jeremy Russell Photography

Jillian Knight - Jillian Knight Photography

Jim Trice - Jim Trice Photography

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Photographer (cont)

Jodi Bowman - Jodi Gray Photography

Joseph Reese - The Reeses

Joshuah Croghan - Joshuah A Croghan

Julia Wade - Julia Wade

Julie Anderson - One Wild Life Photography

Kat Braman - Lorren & Braman

Kelsie Droppa - Kelsie Elizabeth Photography

Kendra Martin - Kendra Martin Photography

Krystal Kast - Krystal Kast Photography

Leslie Frazier - Leslie DeAnn Photography

Mallory Cardillo - Mallory Paige Photography

Megan Travis - Megan Travis Photography

Megan Gielow - Megan Gielow

Perry Vaile - Perry Vaile Photography

Rebecca Coale - Rae Marshall Photography

Samantha Becker - Samantha Jean Becker

Sarah Hinckley - Sarah Hinckley Photography

Sarah Bradshaw - Sarah Bradshaw Photography

Shannon Leopold - Shannon Leopold Photography

Summer Russell - Summer Brooke Photography

Tanya McSween - McSween Photography

Tara Hodges - Tara Hodges Photography

Taylor Main - Taylor Main Photography

Tracy Timmester - Timmester Photography

Wyeth Augustine - Wyeth Augustine Photography

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Planner

Allison Davis - Davis Row

Ashley Snider - Events Without a Hitch

Becca Atchison - Rebecca Rose Events

Betsy Krug - Rebecca Rose Events

Betsy Renehan - Betty Jane and CO

Casey Harris - La Fete Planning and Design

Cassie Sigmon - Olde North State Events

Cheyenne Painter - Sweet Oak Events

Devon Singleton - Yellow Ivy Events

Elizabeth Sarver - Details Wedding Planning

Emily Izakowitz - Events by Emily

Kelly Darash - Bianca Nichole and Co

Lauren O' Brien - Lauren O & Co

Lauren Watson - Lion House

Miriam Ackerman - Scout and Grace Events

Nicole Bloom - Two Sweet Sparrows

Sarah Cook - SoHo Event Design & Planning

Venue

Annalee Johnston - The Elia

Brittanie Pate - The Elia

Priscilla Walls - Clayton 42

MEMBER DIRECTORY

Videographer

Adam Gilbert - Adam Gilbert Films

Annaka Davidson - Davidson Film Co

Cassie Hiatt - Cassie Hiatt Films

Drew Coleman - Drew Coleman Films

Elyse Serrano - Serrano Film Co.

Ernie Pierce - Rosewood Mediahouse 7

Ian Davidson - Davidson Film Co

Jenna Pierce - Rosewood Mediahouse 7

Julian Coley - Julian Coley Films

Leanne Gilbert - Adam Gilbert Films

Luke Brown - Light Cannon Films

Prescott Van Leer - Our Westward Hearts

Trey Mintz - Trey Mintz Films