

SEATTLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER | DEC 2025

WIPA

Wedding Industry Professionals Association

SEATTLE

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@ SARAH ANNE THOMPSON

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Dear WIPA Seattle Members,

As we close out an incredible year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what we've accomplished together and share a glimpse of what's ahead for WIPA Seattle.

A few weeks ago, we gathered for our Second Annual Gala – Paint the Town Red, a night filled with celebration, connection, and purpose.

This event wasn't just about sparkle; it was about impact. Thanks to your generosity, proceeds from ticket sales will fund scholarships for Seattle members to attend WIPA's first-ever National Conference in 2026 - a dream that began years ago and is now becoming reality.

Additional funds raised through our silent auction and raise-the-paddle have gone to support Mary's Place, an organization making a profound difference for families experiencing homelessness. Together, we proved that our community can create meaningful change.

This gala also marked a personal milestone: my final speech as your Chapter President. Serving on this board since 2019 and leading as President for the past two years has been one of the most transformative experiences of my career. I've grown as a leader, built lifelong friendships, and witnessed the power of relationships rooted in purpose and heart. I'm deeply grateful for the dedication of our board and the passion each of you brings to WIPA—because of you, our events have sold out, membership retention has soared, and we've reached a place where we can truly invest back into our members.

While I'm stepping down as Chapter President, I'm thrilled to continue serving on the National Executive Board as Treasurer. I'm equally excited to pass the torch to Sara Hill, who will lead the Seattle chapter with energy, vision, and commitment.

As we look ahead, my wish for this chapter is simple: that we remain a pillar of excellence, inclusion, and community—setting the standard for how our industry supports and uplifts one another, not just here in Seattle, but nationwide.

Here's to the past, the present, and the exciting future ahead. Thank you for being part of this journey.

Warmly,
Mallory Bailey



- Mallory Bailey | President** | *CORT Party Rental*
- Kimberly Person | Vice President** | *Into Dust Photography*
- Jenny Kang | Chapter Secretary** | *Jenny Kang Photography*
- Maggie Averman | Chapter Treasurer** | *Shooby Doo Catering*
- Jenn Tai | Director of Marketing & Communication** | *Jenn Tai & Co*
- Shaunae Teske | Director at Large, Marketing & Communication** | *Shaunae Teske Photography*
- Stefanie Wright | Director at Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging** | *Forever Events*
- Kara Galvan | Director of Education** | *Your Perfect Bridesmaid*
- Sarah Anne Thompson | Director of Membership** | *Sarah Anne Photography*
- Erin Witt | Director at Large, Membership** | *Erin Witt Photography*
- Elizabeth Vincent | Director of Membership Retention** | *Honey & Harmony Catering*
- Sara Hill | Director of Programs** | *Wander Design and Rentals*
- Sara Wright | Director at Large, Programs** | *Wander Event Co*
- Taylor Brock | Director of Sponsorship** | *Ravishing Radish Catering*
- Olivia Sposari | Director of Community Engagement** | *Sparkman Cellars*
- Rebecca Grant | Immediate Past President** | *New Creations Weddings & Events*

YOUR 2026 BOARD



SARA HILL
WANDER EVENT RENTALS
President



ELIZABETH VINCENT
HONEY & HARMONY CATERING
Vice President



DYLAN MANDER
PIXEL DUST WEDDINGS
Secretary



KELVIN LOZANO
KANERI FILMS
Treasurer



KIM PERSON
INTO DUST PHOTOGRAPHY
Director of Membership



ERIN WITT
ERIN WITT PHOTOGRAPHY
Director at Large, Membership



AARON SHOOK
PERFECT STORM MOMENTS
Director of Membership Retention



TAYLOR BROCK
RAVISHING RADISH
Director of Sponsorship



LEXI HAMILL
KINETIC BOTANY
Director of Programs



SARA WRIGHT
WANDER EVENT CO.
Director at Large, Programs - Gala



KARA GALVAN
YOUR PERFECT BRIDESMAID
Director of Education



HOLLY GOODMAN
SABLEWOOD PAPER COMPANY
Director at Large, Education



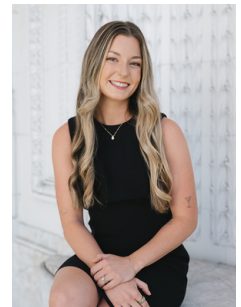
JENNY KANG
JENNY KANG PHOTOGRAPHY
Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging



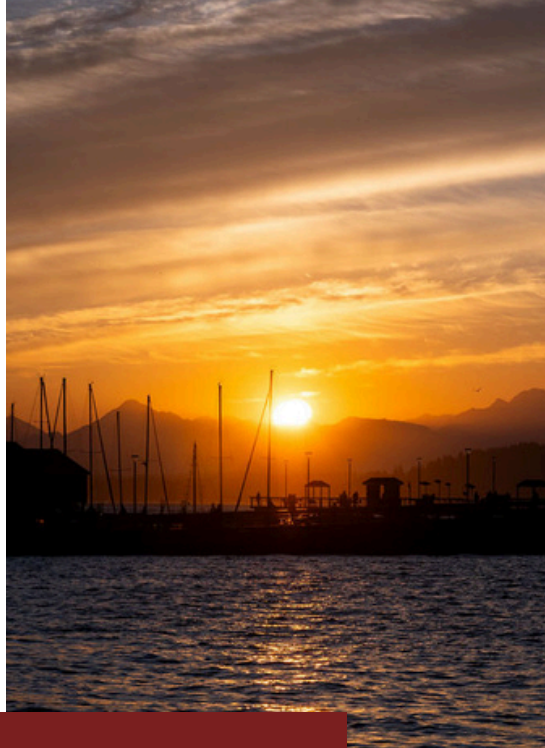
JENN TAI
JENN TAI & CO
Director of Marketing & Communications



SHAUNAE TESKE
SHAUNAE TESKE PHOTOGRAPHY
Director at Large, Marketing & Communications



OLIVIA SPOSARI
SPARKMAN CELLARS
Director of Community Engagement



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Q4 2025 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

BEYOND “BRIDE & GROOM” A Q(UEER) & A(LLY) CONVERSATION ON EVOLVING WEDDING CULTURE

Our final meeting for 2025 was an insightful one with a lively, vibrant discussion on the language and actions of inclusion for our LGBTQIA+ friends and colleagues. Led by WIPA Seattle Secretary Jenny Kang, our panel comprised of David Schwatz of Orion Entertainment, Jenny GG of Jenny GG Photography, Holly Stevens of A Queer Photog and Morgan Henry Kerr of MOMAD Productions.

Our panel began by discussing the meaning of true allyship beyond pronouns, including deep understanding of the differences in wedding cultures and in hiring practices, baking inclusion into every aspect of our business meaningfully and authentically. The panel touched on the importance of leading with curiosity, open hearts and minds in our industry where hospitality and a welcoming approach is key to our success.

The meeting was produced by the team at Gather + Cheer, led by Eva Larson. Themed “Golden Hour in the Pacific Northwest”, the Edmonds Waterfront Center was transformed into a lavish setting of warm, autumnal colors in coppers, oranges and reds, complete with a stunning sunset.

Thank you to all our partners for helping to end our year of education so splendidly!

More photos available on our [facebook page](#), thanks to Erin Witt Photography.

THANK YOU Q4 2025 VENDOR PARTNERS!

- VENUE** - EDMONDS WATERFRONT CENTER
- CATERING** - SHOOPY DOO CATERING
- PLANNING & EVENT DESIGN** - GATHER + CHEER
- FLORALS** - TWISTED BRAMBLE
- RENTALS** - GRAND EVENT RENTALS | WANDER DESIGN & RENTALS
- STATIONERY** - MANGO INK
- SIGNAGE** - SEATTLE GIANT LETTERS
- DESSERTS** - THE SWEET SIDE
- DJ** - JORDAN SALAZAR
- LIGHTING** - CRIMSON HAZE EVENT LIGHTING
- TENTS** - SPERRY TENTS
- PHOTOBOOTH** - PHOTOBX SEATTLE
- PHOTOGRAPHY** - ERIN WITT PHOTOGRAPHY
- VIDEOGRAPHY** - EMERALD MEDIA WEDDING & ELOPEMENT FILMS
- WINE** - SPARKMAN CELLARS





GALA 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

SEATTLE WEDDING INDUSTRY PAINTS THE TOWN RED!

*A CELEBRATION IN CRIMSON AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL SEATTLE BELLEVUE
RAISES \$20K FOR MARY'S PLACE!*

What a night it was!

Over 225 of Seattle's wedding industry professionals gathered in resplendent red and gold to paint the town red on Tuesday, November 21st, 2025 at the Intercontinental Seattle Bellevue.

Drenched in rich, dramatic merlot from floor to ceiling with accents of gold, our 2025 Gala was a sight to behold. The ballroom and foyer of the Intercontinental was transformed into an old-world ballroom reimagined with modern glamour, creating a mood of mystique and elegance. Shadows and highlights dance along the rich drapery, giving a theatrical, operatic ambience to our evening.

Together, we raised \$20k for Mary's Place, a Seattle-based nonprofit dedicated to ensuring no family sleeps outside. Along with our successful night of fundraising, we also recognized some outstanding WIPA Seattle members in our Awards Ceremony (more below!).

We cannot wait to do this again in 2026. THANK YOU to all our Seattle industry friends for showing up and showing out!



**HELP YOUR
DONATION
GO FURTHER**

ASK IF YOU OR YOUR
PARTNER'S COMPANY
DOES CORPORATE
MATCHING!





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CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNERS!

MEMBER OF THE YEAR: **DAVID SCHWARTZ, ORION ENTERTAINMENT**

EVENT PARTNER OF THE YEAR: **SHOOPY DOO CATERING**

BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR: **JENN TAI, JENN TAI & CO**

RISING STAR: **KELVIN LOZANO, KANERI FILMS**

INDUSTRY INNOVATOR: **TAMARA BERNDT, OFF THE WALL DESIGN STUDIO**

OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR: **BREEANN GALE, PINK BLOSSOM EVENTS**

HEART OF GOLD: **LAUREL DOSCH, SHOOPY DOO CATERING**

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:

JUDI TSUCHIDA, FENA FLOWERS



THANK YOU GALA 2025 PARTNERS!



INTERCONTINENTAL®
SEATTLE BELLEVUE

WE

WANDER EVENT CO.



CORT® PARTY RENTAL



Jordan Kahn
MUSIC COMPANY

321 FOTO
CONFETE PARTY BOX
CONTENT BY CHRISTINA
JESSIE LORENZ MUSIC
JO MALONE LONDON
KANERI FILMS
LIGHTSMITHS
LOGAN WESTOM PHOTOGRAPHY
MICHELLE WIGHT MAKEUP ARTISTRY
NADIRA DESIGN
ORION ENTERTAINMENT
PERFECT PRESS
QUEST EVENTS
WANDER DESIGN + RENTALS



MORE PHOTOS ON OUR FB PAGE AND INSTAGRAM!



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



SAVE THE DATES FOR 2026!

Q1: SEMIAHMOO RESORT & SPA
TUESDAY JANUARY 20TH

Q2: INAUGURAL MASTERMIND
COMING APRIL 2026

Q3: ADMIRALS HOUSE
TUESDAY JULY 21ST

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Calling all event pros, dreamers, and adventurers! This December we're heading for the second star to the right and straight on till morning for a Night in Neverland.

Join members and guests from ILEA, NACE, MPI, WIPA, and NSA for an enchanting evening where imagination reigns and we never grow up - but we do grow our network!

Grab your pixie dust, polish your hook, and get ready to channel your inner mischievous fairy, daring pirate, shimmering mermaid, or wild Lost Boy and enter a world of wonder. Will you explore the Jolly Roger with Captain Hook, join the Lost Boys in their hideout, or spend the evening soaring above the clouds of London? Wherever you go, remember that all you need is faith, trust, and a little pixie dust (and perhaps some business cards), because in Neverland you may be lost, but you're never alone.

**THINK HAPPY THOUGHTS
AND REGISTER NOW!**

MEMBERS HUB

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- Mariah Mallek | Creature Coffee Catering
- Brittany Mina | Caleb + Britt Photography
- Aaron Shook | Perfect Storm Moments
- Hannah Roze | Plannerd
- Ashley Griffith | Grit City Weddings + Events
- Diana Thornton | Hidden Hand Events
- Julia Kinnunen | Julia Kinnunen Photography
- Angela May | Hampton Inn & Suites Seattle Downtown
- Jaimie Johnson | Ridgewood Films
- Jennifer Jones | Imperia Lake Union
- Allie Dykstra | Alexander Photo
- Joshua Fields | Music by J. Fields
- Eric Klippert | King Street Ballroom - Embassy Suites by Hilton
- Vicky Schroeder | King Street Ballroom - Embassy Suites by Hilton
- Bella Akana | Alexander Party Rentals
- Craig Edwards | Alexander Party Rentals
- Luis Vargus | Alexander Party Rentals
- Cindee Chadwick | Isidros LLC
- Phia McDonnell | Landmark Event Co.
- Lindsay Miller-Ramsey | Gourmondo Cafe & Catering
- Cassidy Kent | Emmett Joseph
- Jen Patterson | Jen Patterson Photo
- Shiloh Abbott | The Bubble Soiree
- Cameron Locke | Foodz Catering
- Katherine Mabanta-Eagan | K Catering
- Nicole Nicholas-Nash | Hotel Sorrento
- Candice Luth | Luth Weddings and Events
- Linda Kress | Bell Harbor International Conference Center

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MEMBERSHIP CHANGE
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[NEW MEMBERS SPOTLIGHT](#)

[DEI SPOTLIGHT](#)

SHARE TIPS & TRICKS! [HOT TAKES](#)

PRO-TIP

TURN ON
AUTO-
RENEWAL
FOR DUES!



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SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



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