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JULY • AUGUST 2014

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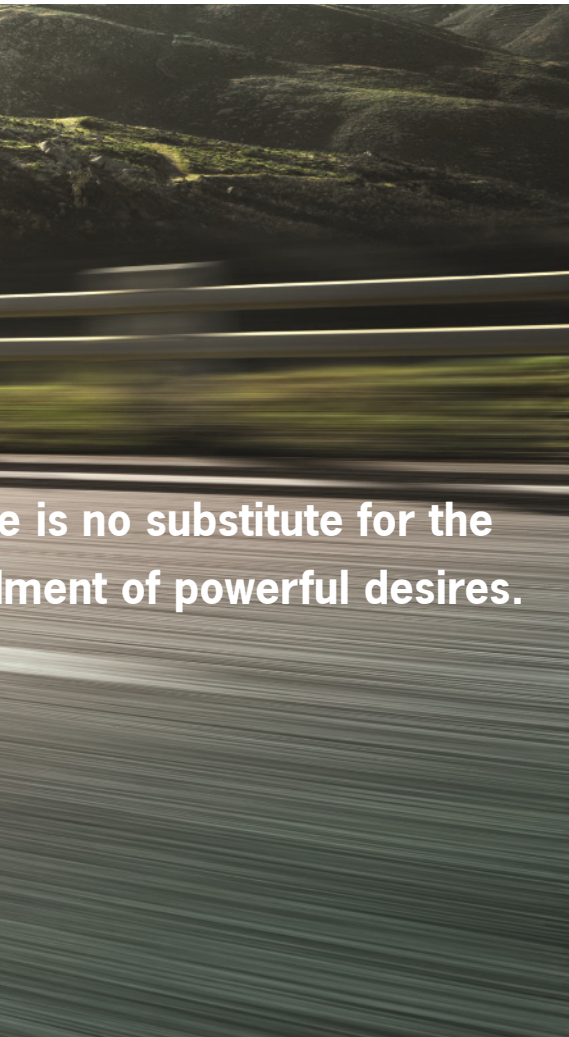


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92. BRIGHT FUTURE

Every bride looks ravishing. Every bride on her honeymoon looks ravishing...and more relaxed. When the weather heats up and the style thermometer is set on high, as in this month's fashion feature, join us as we explore the very best of the latest honeymoon and resort wear.

Photography by Marc Oberlin Styling by Andru

102. ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU

Long loved as an exotic five-star destination, French Polynesia is one of the most desired vacation havens for chic honeymooners. Here, we dive into the glamour of the luxe Four Seasons Bora Bora Resort that will leave you wanting to run off forever to its sandy beaches.

By Jill Skinner

Photography courtesy of Four Seasons Bora Bora Resort

110. LOVE & LACE

Natalie Bond Marries James Bloomingdale

By Jake Gaines Photography by Jenny Lindburg Weddings

114. THE THRILL OF IT ALL

Elizabeth Suffield Marries Adam Wilhite

By Casey Richter Photography by Chris Bailey

118. DESTINATION: LOVE

Chloé Smith Marries Nathan Odio

By Casey Richter Photography by Justine Ungaro Studio

126. LOVE IS IN THE AIR

Ellen Wise Marries Jeremy McMahon

By Meredith Heins Photography by David Sixt

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(On the cover and this page)

LET'S FALL IN LOVE
 Wedding gown by Eugenia Couture, available at Eugeniacouture.com. Talon ring, Tria Persia cuff and Persia disco earring by Stella Flame, available at Stellaflame.com. Boots by Old Gringo, available at Oldgringoboots.com

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THE BROADWAY RESIDENCES BOASTS CONTINUED SUCCESS IN 2014

Luxury Condominiums Prove High-Rise is Desired Option for Buyers

The Broadway Residences, a 20-story one-of-a-kind luxury residential high-rise in the heart of San Antonio, is building on an impressive 2013 record year with the new customizable 2014 Collection. The luxury high-rise reports that it has already closed on four of the 14 2014 Collection homes.

“We are successful because each sale is unique, just like our buyers. The 2014 Collection allows our buyers to add their own personal touch to their condominium. People like the idea of a personalized home, and that is what The 2014 Collection provides,” said Jenifer Brown, vice president of residential sales and marketing at The Broadway San Antonio.

Posting record numbers in 2013, The Broadway Residences reports striking 2014 numbers. Since the unveiling in March, nearly a quarter of the 2014 Collection homes have already sold, accounting for more than \$3 million in sales. The luxury high-rise sold 12 homes last year, posting more than \$15 million dollars in sales — a nearly \$7 million increase from 2012.

While The Broadway Residences comes equipped with hardwood flooring, designer fixtures, granite and marble counters and custom crafted cabinetry, the 2014 Collection now allows residents to select the color scheme that best fits their personal taste. Hardwood flooring is offered in three stains, light, medium and dark, to coincide with choices of paint color, backsplash options and carpet on selected units.

“Condo living in San Antonio is gaining popularity, and with a strong San Antonio housing market, we expect that to continue,” added Brown.

Located at 4242 Broadway, the high-rise sits on 2.5 acres at the gateway to the city near the San Antonio Zoo, San Antonio Country Club and Witte Museum. The residential project offers every luxury of domesticity in a low-maintenance, resort-style setting with on-site hotel-trained staff. Amenities such as a state of the art fitness center with yoga and Pilates studios, media room, pet park, conference room, and catering kitchen cover more than 140,000

square feet. The resort-style pool boasts covered cabanas and a climate-controlled pool with lounge bar, flat-panel TVs, MP3 docking stations and WiFi.

With unique views of San Antonio, and up to 5,839-square-feet of spacious living, The Broadway has gone from one of the city’s best-kept secrets to one of its most desirable communities. The sleek and spacious interiors include floor-to-ceiling windows, an open floor plan, chef’s kitchen, master suites and hardwood floors. Eleven distinctive one, two and three-bedroom floor plans range from 1,262 square feet to a sprawling 5,839 square feet with the option to combine units for a customizable square footage and layout. Homes at The Broadway start in the \$400s and go up to more than \$4 million. The project is a development of San Antonio-based Koontz McCombs, founded in 1997 with properties in San Antonio, Austin, Houston and Port Aransas, Texas. Visit www.thebroadwayresidences.com or call 210.930.4242 today to learn about The Broadway Residences.

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28. CONTRIBUTE

It takes a village to create a magazine and its digital media platform. Here is a look at the many dynamos who have helped make it happen this month.

30. PUBLISH

Publisher Eduardo Bravo is excited about the progress of summer. Here he shares a few of his favorite insights for the warm weather months.

32. EDITOR'S LETTER

Creative Director and Editor-in-Chief Lance Avery Morgan sees that summer is the time for some R&R – that is, reflection and reinvigoration. Along with a few other pursuits, of course.

34. ACQUIRE

Yellow is mellow...usually. Now yummy yellow is the color of the season, whether as an outfit's focus or as a must-have accessory. San Antonio trendsetter extraordinaire Erin Busbee reminds us of her favorite picks of the hottest trend: the return of yellow in all shades and sizes.

36. CURATE

Henri Matisse was one of the modern art movement's greatest talents. Artful Meredith Heins shares why his talents are celebrated at the new exhibit at The San Antonio Museum of Art.

38. BEHAVE

Only the bride wears white at the wedding. So many other reminders are also shared as our Ms. Modern Manners Sharon Schweitzer extols her perfect, nuptial etiquette reminders.

40. REVEAL

Something old, new, borrowed and blue. It's bad luck not to include them in a wedding, yet why? According to Molly Bayme, there is a plethora of traditions of to inspire the special day.

42. DRESS

Men are often confused with summer wedding attire. Black tie? White dinner jacket? Destination wedding chic? Look no further as Allison Haberer shares tips for success on how every man, from groom to guest, can look his sharpest.

44. DESIGN

Searching for the best new design products to inspire your everyday life? Lance Avery Morgan has a few recommendations after his international scout for them.

46. HOST

Summer entertaining can be as elegant now as in any other season. With the right tips, naturally. Consummate host Jake Gaines weighs in with his secrets for successful parties.

48. GUEST

Guests for the weekend, or weeks, can prove both exciting and taxing. Alexandra Del Lago shares her tips with how best to share your home's finest hospitality.

50. EXPLORE

Santa Fe, long fabled for its mystical power, holds an attraction for those seeking a retreat. Join Amber Elliott as she travels there and shares tips with how you can encounter the city's chic desert appeal.

52. REVIVE

Andra Millian knows that traveling in good health is always key...from honeymoons to extended vacations in your summer home. Here are ways to continue living in your finest form.

54. RETREAT

The Ranch at Rock Creek in Montana is much more than a dude ranch, as Greg Haynes Johnson learns, when he saddles up, rides the range, and encounters the resort's sophisticated Western ways.

58. PROMOTE

Join us as we celebrate happenings at the Hotel Granduca in Houston, the Porsche car launch in San Antonio, The Ferrari Kids event, the lure of Solare condominiums on the Texas Gulf Coast, Eric Copper's spring gathering, Ovita Gallery in San Antonio's new exhibition, as well as a visit to Rockport.



54



34



38



40



42



44

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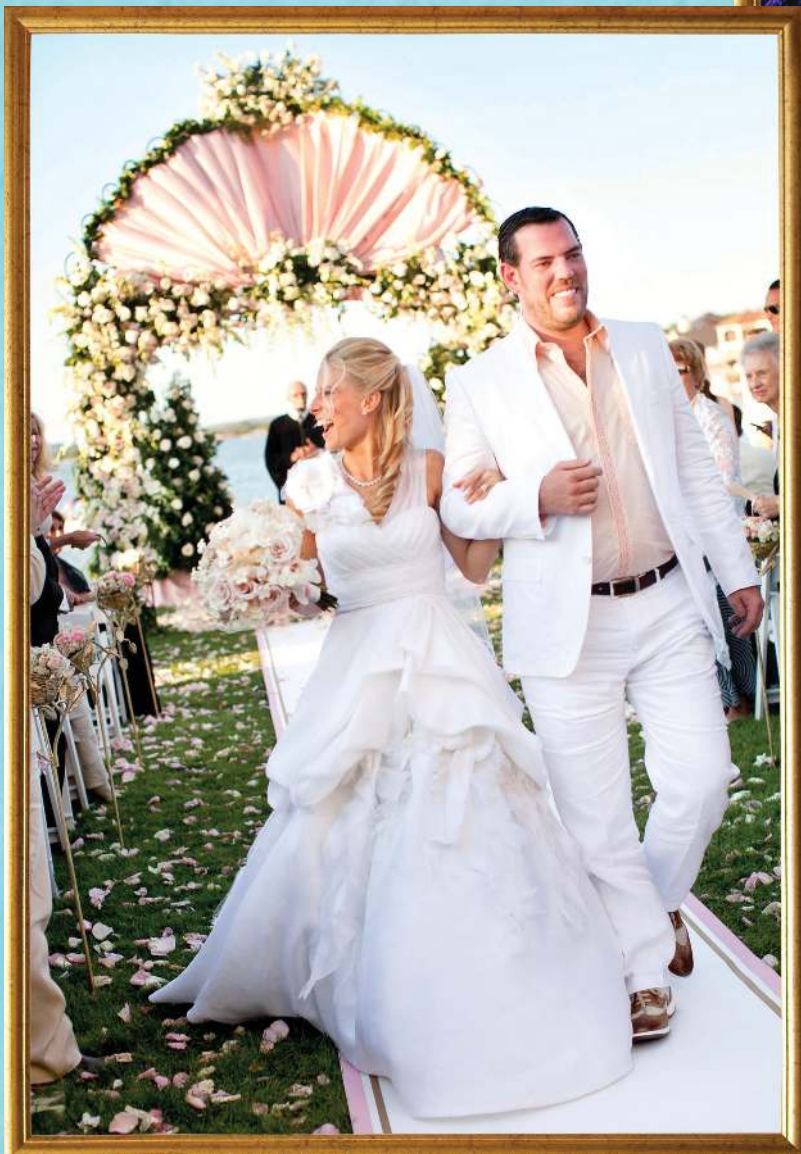


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66

Marie Brown



72

Matthew and Camilla McConaughey, Mack and Sally Brown & Jack and Amy Ingram



80

Sue and Lester Smith



76

Heidi Dillon and Gina Ginsburg

THE VERY BEST EVENTS IN AUSTIN, DALLAS, HOUSTON, SAN ANTONIO, AND SOUTH TEXAS

ENTRANCE

- 66. SAN ANTONIO Fiesta's Coronation & Debutante Events
- 72. AUSTIN The Mack, Jack & McConaughey Gala
- 74. SAN ANTONIO The Art Pace Gala
- 76. DALLAS The Mad Hatter's Tea & Luncheon
- 80. HOUSTON The Houston Grand Opera Ball
- 84. AUSTIN The Contemporary Austin Jones Center Events
- 86. HILL COUNTRY The Texas Commission On The Arts Luncheon
- 88. HOUSTON The Society For The Performing Arts Gala
- 90. AUSTIN The Umlauf Sculpture Garden Event

ARRIVAL

- 130. SAN ANTONIO The Le Chapeau Luncheon
- 133. HOUSTON The Spring Luncheon Round-Up
- 136. DALLAS The Elizabeth Toon Foundation Event
- 138. AUSTIN The Andy Roddick Foundation Gala
- 140. SAN ANTONIO The Mission San Juan Gala

RECALL

- 160. Take a trip back to the Mad Men years, Texas vacation-style, and revisit Six Flags Over Texas in its 1960's glory... when it was the new, hip destination of the time period.



133

Lynn Wyatt and Elena Davis



138

Andy Roddick



84

The Contemporary Jones Center Dinner



74

Art Pace Gala

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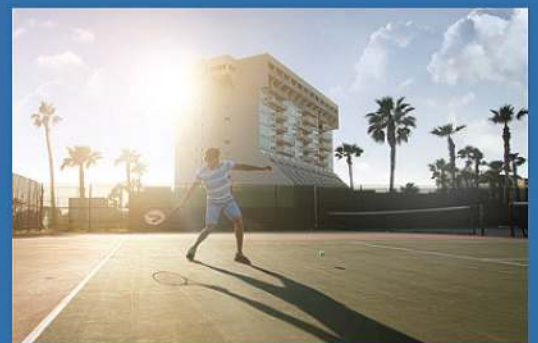
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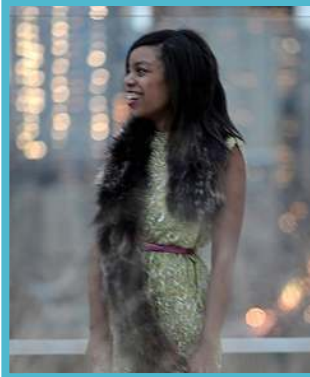
ERIN BUSBEE

San Antonio style maven Erin Busbee founded her own fashion consulting company, Busbee Style, through which she offers fashion styling, personal shopping and closet organizing. She also serves as the regular style expert for the popular south Texas TV show, *San Antonio Living* and is the on-camera fashion stylist in more than a hundred videos for Tyra Banks' TypeF.com and she also writes her own fashion and beauty blog, Busbeestyle.com. This month she's all about floral must-haves in this month's Acquire department, as well as sharing insight from her trip to the Inn at Dos Brisas.



AMBER ELLIOTT

Weighing in this month on her trip to Santa Fe, former New York society ambassador Amber Elliott is a native Texan and veteran style expert. After serving as Editor of *Brilliant* magazine, she left the Lone Star State for crash courses at *Conde Nast Traveler* and *Vogue* before ultimately landing in the special events department of the famed fashion bible. Elliott has written for *Style.com* and assisted on set for *Allure Russia*, *Vogue China*, *Vogue Japan* and *Tatler*, in addition to guest editing fashion news for *Hamptons* magazine. From prepping for shoots at the *Wall Street Journal* to dressing Oscar winners on the West Coast, she's made a career out of living in style.



ROB GIARDINELLI

High tech professional by day, social commentator by night is what best describes our Associate Editor Rob Giardinelli and his multi-tasking when covering the Austin social stories. What may appear seamless actually takes hours of research, interviews, and photo gathering to accurately chronicle the Capital City's charitable event stories. Giardinelli himself is involved several charities and loves sharing how Austinites so generously and passionately give back to the community they love, while weaving interesting social commentary and showcasing the many who work tirelessly to raise awareness toward important issues in the state.



GREG HAYNES JOHNSON

A native of Central Texas and long-time resident of Dallas, Greg Haynes Johnson is an executive in cloud-based technology consulting. Constantly on the go with clients or foodie friends, Greg writes about travel, leisure, food, and culture. In this issue he writes about his experiences at the luxurious Ranch at Rock Creek in Western Montana.



ELLIE LEEPER

Social chronicler Leeper is both a native San Antonian and a social enthusiast who utilizes her passion for the vivacious Texas lifestyle as our Associate Editor. In addition to her contributions to the magazine, Leeper serves as the Public Relations Manager for CRIT-USA in San Antonio, a nonprofit rehabilitation facility opening in October 2014 that will serve physically disabled children and their families.



ANDRA MILLIAN

Andra Millian MATCM, L.Ac., C.H. is a master of Traditional Chinese Medicine who weighs in with our Restore column this month. She is a graduate of the prestigious Yo San University of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Los Angeles. Her rigorous training includes postgraduate work at UCLA Medical Center Pediatric Pain Clinic in Los Angeles, California and specialized training in Neuro Acupuncture for Spinal Chord Injury at Project Walk in Carlsbad, California giving her a unique working background in Integrative Medicine - acupuncture applied to a Western Biomedicine environment. She has been happily living and practicing in Austin, Texas since 2001 and can be reached at AustinOnsiteAcupuncture.com.



MARK OBERLIN

Our feature photographer for this issue's *The Look Of Love* fashion editorial is Los Angeles-based Mark Oberlin. Oberlin has also photographed the collections of many of the West Coast's top fashion designers. He is an acclaimed painter, as well and has exhibited his paintings in Los Angeles, New York City and San Francisco galleries. More of his work can be found at his website at MarkOberlinphotography.com



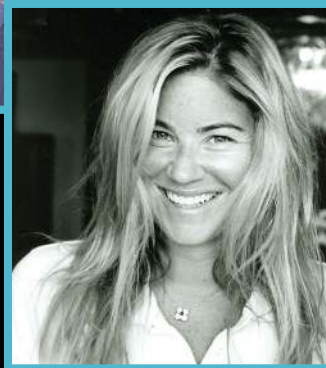
JEN ROOSTH

Our Associate Editor Jennifer Roosth is a Houston-based writer who never ceases to be amazed by the wonderfully generous spirit of the Houston philanthropic community. "It's nice to live in a city where so many are excited about giving back. And in the process," she says. "They throw some mighty fine parties."



SHARON SCHWEITZER

Our Ms. Modern Manners expert Sharon Schweitzer is a global and cross-cultural consultant, an attorney, and the founder of Protocol & Etiquette Worldwide in Austin, Texas. Blending her experience as a board certified labor and employment lawyer with protocol officer and intercultural management training and her travel to all seven continents, her customized training for clients worldwide creates a better understanding of how global culture and etiquette. She has been published in local, national and international media including *European Business Express*, *Texas Lawyer*, *Boston Business Journal*, and others since 2008. Photography by Korey Howell Photography.



LARA SHRIFTMAN

Our West Coast Lifestyle Editor Lara Shriftman co-founded Harrison & Shriftman in 1995, an agency that specializes in public relations, marketing and events for high-profile luxury brands. In addition to serving as a correspondent for *Extra* with her own segment, *Party Confidential*, Shriftman has authored four books on entertaining, *Fete Accompli*, *Fete Accompli Workbook*, *Party Confidential* and *Party Confidential: New Etiquette for Fabulous Entertaining*.



JILL SKINNER

Jill Skinner, our writer for this month's exotic travel feature, *On An Island With You*, is the Chief Program Officer for Make-A-Wish Central & South Texas. Prior to her career in non-profit, she spent 20 years in Los Angeles in the music and television industries. She was a four-time Emmy® nominee for her work as a writer/producer on *Dr. Phil* and after her successful stint in California, she returned to Austin to pursue other passions. Skinner has a degree in Communications from The University of Texas, and in her spare time, volunteers for other non-profit organizations, including the Austin Humane Society, Animal Trustees of Austin, and Meals on Wheels.



ANDRU WALLACE

Fashion and beauty guru Andru Wallace, who styled this month's *The Look Of Love* fashion feature, believes the business of fashion begins with being sultry and sleek from the inside out. For Wallace, everything is a source of inspiration and he is constantly in the process of creating and capturing eccentric ideas and using the stories that fuel them to produce three-dimensional embodiments. He believes that a true artist can never rest, because even in their sleep they are in the act of creation. His work can also be seen at Stylingbyandru.com.

Simon G.



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SOAKING UP SUMMER

HAPPY SUMMER AND IF YOU ARE READING THIS IN Texas, we are here enjoying the warmth with you. If you are on a coast or in the mountains, thank you for bringing us along. This issue is packed with all the summer you could ever want, so enjoy it in the sizzling heat or a cool respite, wherever you may be. Around here we love summer and I wanted to take an opportunity of what most resonates to our team, based on an informal poll we took:

Take A Dip. We love the sights and sounds of the pool and beach. The water's waves splashing and the sounds of children making sand castles or kids playing Marco Polo always takes us back to our own childhood.

July 4th. We love a parade and it is one of those great holidays that requires no present shopping... just enjoying a cookout and the fireworks.

Summer Blast. As the sweaters and coats have been packed away, make way for white and bright colors, as well as linens.

At The Movies. The studios save their blockbusters for summer. Part froth, part action, all fun, we like a two hour diversion into a world that may be very different from our own.

Sunshine On My Shoulders. A summer tan, when garnered safely, almost always looks good on anyone. We love the smell of tropical sunscreen, too, since it reminds us of our teen years.

Tasty Treats. Ice cream, gelato, yogurt, a frozen margarita... whatever your pleasure, the mix of a cold pleasure on a warm day does wonders for the senses.

Virtues Of Vacation. Education is so valuable and so is a break from it during the summer. We love our family vacations without school schedules taken into account for several months.

Summer Shares. Getting away from it all, with family or friends, renews the senses. Seeing new sights and sharing fresh experiences creates a lifetime bond.

We hope we've inspired you to take more advantage of our gorgeous region these summer months. Get your rest for our fall issues we are working on now. You'll be dazzled as we bring you new sights, sounds and the personalities that make our state so special.

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Live Well, Laugh Often, Love Much

THAT LINE, *LIVE WELL, LAUGH OFTEN, LOVE MUCH* IS ONE of my favorite ways to toast a world of happiness wishes, especially to a married couple as they embark upon their new lives together. It also reminds me of how much has changed since I first started attending weddings as a little boy. At a young age I realized the importance of witnessing two people who commit to each other in a public forum surrounded by family and loved ones. My attire, from mini-size tuxedo to a light blue leisure suit, has changed almost as much as the scope of weddings has in the ensuing decades. The Carpenters' *We've Only Just Begun* rang out during most of them, literally and metaphorically, as many of the brides either wore (or had bouquets that contained) an overabundance of the fleur d'jour, Baby's Breath.

Most weddings were church ceremony affairs, unless it was a small, second marriage, which was considered the only kind of destination wedding possible before the later era of private jetting. If the bride and groom were married in a smaller market, the reception was either in the church's fellowship hall, or perhaps a reserved area of a restaurant or country club. If the wedding was a fancier occasion, a hotel was enlisted as the venue with simple décor and simple food as the fare: filet mignon, baked potatoes and a vegetable.

Things changed as the world's affluence grew exponentially, as well as marriage rights being equalized, and so have weddings and honeymoons, as we see in this issue. From Texas to Mexico to Bora Bora, we present some of the most beautiful weddings (and a honeymoon) we have ever seen. Naturally, at any wedding, every bride is beautiful and the groom is at his handsomest, and these ceremonies are an exemplary example of just that. These nuptials, grand and chic, represent what couples do today when tying the proverbial knot. Inside, butterflies floating within those about to embark upon the most important decision of their lives, just like every wedding couple before them about to experience the great unknown. It's all part of the human story.

Once the wedding is over, the rest begins for the busy bride and groom as they set into their accommodations. But what to wear? Here we show inspiring fashions to keep every bride at her warm-weather chicest as she stays looking cool. To reflect that sensibility, the photographer/stylist team of Mark Oberlin and Andru Wallace create breathtaking inspiration in this month's fashion feature, *Bright Future*, while Jill Skinner writes about a once-in-a-lifetime honeymoon adventure in *On An Island With You* and our team of experts weigh in on summer nuptials dressing, wedding etiquette, how age-old wedding traditions became a mainstay, jaunts to Santa Fe and Montana, and so much more.

As with any endeavor; weddings, travel and beyond, it's all about the people with whom you surround yourself, isn't it. This month we've selected and media



sponsored a plethora of events that reflect the best and brightest of Texas philanthropy that includes black tie galas, celebrity-packed events, and chapeau-filled luncheons raised tens of millions of dollars for causes that are in the hearts of thousands, with each dollar making a tremendous significance to programs, scholarships, facilities.... and lives.

So, we love our world. *Your* world. The world of high achievers and exemplary performers that we chronicle and celebrate. As you canvas the globe this summer, keep us close and keep us posted on your adventures and we'll see you back in the ballroom shortly. 📍

XO Lance Avery Morgan
lance@thesocietydiaries.com



(Right)

Will and Anna Anami Hardeman, Lance Avery Morgan and Rob Giardinelli, Photography by Ashley Garmon

(Below right)

Rob Giardinelli, Natalie and James Bloomingdale, and Lance Avery Morgan, Photography by Jenny Lindberg Weddings



Portrait photography by Jen Perez
Styling by Amanda Donley
Location: The Driskill Hotel



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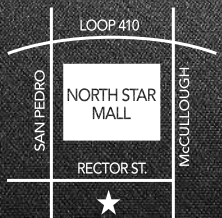
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**I LOVE WU**

Fabulous shoes make me giddy. These snake-print, strappy, leather sandals by Jason Wu are definitely in that category. \$1,195. Availability and photo courtesy of Neiman-Marcus.com

**BOLD ACCENT**

This bold, yellow and ecru, geometric "Cannage" rug comes from Roche Bobois' Collection Les Contemporains. \$5,555. Availability and photo courtesy of Roche-Bobois.com

HELLO, Yellow

Nothing says summer quite like bright, sunny yellow, does it? Adding citrusy cheer to your closet and home this season with this head-turning, happy-making color. Soak in these sunny styles, hand-picked by **our very own dynamic style editor Erin Busbee...**

**GOOD MORNING, SUNSHINE**

Pair this silk, neon, tulle skirt by Thakoon Addition with a white button down shirt, for a fresh, summery look. \$540. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com

**STRAPLESS SIMPLICITY**

The search is over. This elegant and eye-catching "Jesse" strapless, draped gown by BCBG is perfect for your next soiree. \$298. Availability and photo courtesy of Julian Gold

**SWEET & SPORTY**

Tennis ace, Maria Sharapova, has launched her own line of candy, Sugarpova. Buy a bag of Porsche 911 yogurt gummies called "Speedy," or these gummies that look like tennis balls called, "Sporty." \$5.99. Availability and photos courtesy of Sugarpova.com

BLAZING COLOR

This fabulous, fitted blazer by Akris Punto paired with white skinny jeans will be one of your go-to, fresh summer looks. \$1,390. Availability and photos courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com

**MAKE A POINT**

Finding fashionable, flat shoes is no easy feat, but these Christian Louboutin "Pigalle" spiked, patent leather, pointed-toe flats are sophisticated, edgy and just plain fun. \$1,095. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com





SUMMER'S STATEMENT

Keep everything else simple when you wear this handmade, gorgeous, gold-plated, brass and Swarovski "Shourouk" statement necklace by Barbara Safran. \$1,266. Availability and photo courtesy of LuisaViaRoma.com



GOLDEN GIRL

You will make quite an entrance at the gala in this striking, one-shoulder, floor-length, crepe "Grite" gown by Escada. \$2,895. Availability and photo courtesy of Style.com & us.escada.com

Lauren Bacall, 1950s

CITRUS CARRYALL

Proenza Scholer adds some edge to this citrus shade, with the "PS1" tiny, leather satchel. This sleek, versatile, top handle bag also has a shoulder strap. \$1,475. Availability and photo courtesy of SaksFifthAvenue.com



SWAROVSKI STILETTOS, ANYONE?

Who doesn't need a pair of Swarovski and suede stilettos like these? A winning combination by Le Silla. \$1,235. Availability and photo courtesy of LuisaViaRoma.com

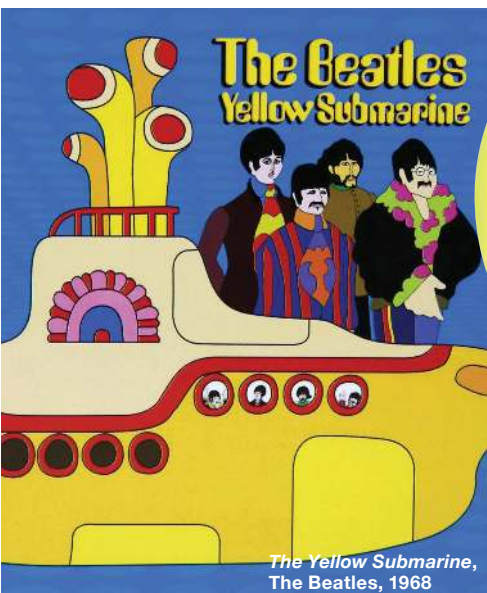


LUXURY OUTDOOR LOUNGING

Sink back into these large, luxurious, upholstered, "Escapade" sofas and create an enviable, outdoor living space with easy-care removable covers \$9,255. Availability and photo courtesy of Roche-Bobois.com

SWEET SEAT

I love this mix of traditional and handcrafted in this maple "Gretna" dining chair that's upholstered with a modern, zebra print in yellow. \$816. Availability and photo courtesy of NeimanMarcus.com



The Yellow Submarine, The Beatles, 1968

DROP EVERYTHING...

Simple, stylish, and affordable. These brightly colored neon, lucite, deco drop earrings by Alexis Bittar are a no-brainer. \$80. Availability and photo courtesy of SaksFifthAvenue.com



RAY OF SUNSHINE

I love the idea of pairing a simple white T-shirt with this stunning, high waisted, "Cady" maxi skirt by Fausto Puglisi. Effortless glamour. \$2,618. Availability and photos courtesy of LuisaViaRoma.com



A *COLORFUL* LIFE

Matisse Exhibit at San Antonio Museum of Art A Must-See For Aficionados

By Meredith Heins Photography courtesy of San Antonio Museum of Art

© 2014 Succession H. Matisse / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York



Left:
Henri Matisse
French, 1869-1954
Ballet Dancer Seated on a Stool, 1927

Oil on canvas; h. 32 1/8 in. (81.6 cm), w. 23 7/8 in. (60.6 cm)

The Baltimore Museum of Art: The Cone Collection, formed by Dr. Claribel Cone and Miss Etta Cone of Baltimore, Maryland, BMA 1950.254

Photography by Mitro Hood

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Right:
Henri Matisse
French, 1869-1954
The Yellow Dress, 1929-1931

Oil on canvas; h. 39 9/16 in. (100.5 cm), w. 32 1/8 in. (81.6 cm)

The Baltimore Museum of Art: The Cone Collection, formed by Dr. Claribel Cone and Miss Etta Cone of Baltimore, Maryland, BMA 1950.256

Photography by Mitro Hood

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YOUR SUMMER TO-DO LIST JUST BECAME MUCH MORE COLORFUL. Thanks to one of our favorite cultural institutions, the San Antonio Museum of Art, a breathtaking exhibition of masterworks from the Baltimore Museum will exhibit through September. *Matisse: Life in Color* features almost 50 paintings and sculptures, and 30 works on paper spanning six decades of artist Henri Matisse's life. Texas is proud to present perhaps the finest collection of Matisse's work as it offers a once in a lifetime opportunity for San Antonio to share such beauty.

One of the 20th century's preeminent artists, Henri Matisse, fundamentally altered modern art with discovering the "essential character of things" through balance and serenity. Not only is it pleasing to the eye, but his art also changed the conventional perspective and form into simplified areas of pure color, flat shapes, and decorative patterns. While the majority of the artwork in *Matisse: Life in Color* comes from the renowned Cone Collection, formed by Baltimore sisters Dr. Claribel Cone and Miss Etta Cone, we have the treat of having it in

the heart of Texas. The sisters assembled one of the largest private collections of the work of Matisse in the world and is a must-see for art aficionados.

Among the exhibition highlights of *Matisse: Life in Color*, Masterworks from the Baltimore Museum of Art include *Large Reclining Nude* (1935), *The Yellow Dress* (1929-1931), *Seated Odalisque*, *Left Knee Bent*, *Ornamental Background and Checkerboard*, (1928), and *The Serpentine* (original model 1909; this cast c. 1930).

The San Antonio Museum of Art is housed in the historic Lone Star Brewery on the Museum Reach of the San Antonio Riverwalk. The collection contains more than 25,000 works representing 5,000 years of history and cultures from around the world. Our suggestion: put *color* on your summer bucket list. 🎨

For more information, visit Samuseum.org.

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Wedding Grace

Summer weddings are always a special time. **Our Ms. Modern Manners, Sharon Schweitzer, JD**, loves them, too, and this month shares her insight on the do's and don'ts for any wedding you may have on the horizon

Dear Ms. Manners,

My long-term boyfriend and I are about to become engaged. Who should be the first to know about my engagement?

Excitedly Engaged

Dear Engaged and Enthralled,

I send my best wishes to you, to the bride-to-be, and also my congratulations to your prospective groom. Sharing this important and exciting life event with immediate family first is wise. First priority is your family and parents, and if it applies, your children (together or from a previous union). Then, Godparents and special family members deserve an instantaneous visit or call. You and your fiancé may proceed to announce your engagement to BFFs and close friends. Posting on social media is a personal style choice.

Dear Ms. Manners,

If I know someone can't attend my wedding, do I send an invitation anyway?

Inviting and Wondering

Dear Invitationally Speaking,

Instead of sending an invitation, I recommend you send a wedding announcement instead, darling. Traditionally these cards are nearly identical in style to the wedding invitation. Announcements are mailed a day or two *after* the wedding to distant relatives, far-flung friends, and business colleagues who are not invited to the wedding. They are mailed in lieu of an invitation, and gifts are not expected.

Dear Ms. Manners,

How do I get my guests to RSVP to my engagement and wedding festivities?

Response Requested

Dear First Responder,

Repondez' s'il vous plait That, of course, is French for *respond if you please*. Modern manners require that guests RSVP within 48 hours, or a week at most. As you know, enclosing a self-addressed, stamped reply with the invitation is de rigueur. On-line wedding sites streamline the RSVP process, too. You may also enlist polite family members or friends to gently telephone non-responsive guests 10 ten days prior to the final headcount due date. Be sure to make sure that the caller's tone of voice is kind and warm.



Dear Ms. Manners,

How much should I spend on a wedding gift?

Spending Sanely

Dear Gift-Giver,

Ah, the search for the perfect gift. Please keep in mind that as a guest, it is your prerogative as to the selection of a gift. A thoughtful couple will register together for gifts in various price ranges. If the gift registry items are out of your range, instead consider a store gift card. Stay within your budget and avoid overextending yourself. Also, remember to factor in the possibility of destination weddings, showers, engagement gifts, and bachelor and bachelorette parties to your expenses.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

I have been a groomsman in many weddings. Do I have to ask those grooms to be in mine?

Groomed And Present

Dear Groom-Adjacent,

I well understand your dilemma. No, serving as a groomsman is not an event with a reciprocating obligation. Wedding parties are often comprised of the bride and groom's family members. Consider yourself honored to be a serial groomsman.

Dear Ms. Modern Manners,

How do I handle guests who ask to bring their children... even after we've made it clear they are not invited due to space and budgetary parameters?

Still Kid Loving

Dear Kiddie Loving Bride-To-Be,

Please advise your guest, with warmth in your voice, that while their children are precious, there have been no accommodations made for children to attend the wedding festivities. Express, in the nicest way, that you hope they can make other arrangements for the children so they will be able to attend. Remember, if you make an exception for their child, then you must do so for all children.

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I *Thee* Wed

Intriguing Wedding Superstitions
& Traditions Explained

By Molly Bayme

AT WEDDINGS, RINGS ARE PLACED ON left ring fingers. Brides wear white veils, white gowns, something old, new, borrowed, and blue, and put a sixpence in their shoe, but do you ever wonder why? Marvel no more....we are going to explain some of the most intriguing and renowned wedding superstitions and traditions that have become custom at weddings today.

When a couple becomes engaged, an engagement ring is placed on the bride-to-be's fourth finger of her left hand. During a wedding ceremony, brides and grooms exchange rings and place them on the fourth finger of their significant other's left hand. What is so momentous about the fourth finger of the left hand? According to an ancient Roman legend, a vein in the fourth finger of the left hand led to the heart. As charming as this legend is, it unfortunately was proven to be a myth. Despite this, wedding and engagement rings are still worn on the fourth finger of the left hand.

Speaking of wedding ensemble accoutrements, the traditional bride wears a veil during her wedding ceremony. Hundreds of years ago, the veil was added to the bride's ensemble to protect the bride from evil spirits and to ensure she would have the best of luck during her special day. In addition, the veil is also seen as a symbol of modesty and purity. Brides started wearing veils to portray just that, and the tradition stayed. The veil is not the only piece of the wedding outfit that is a symbol of purity. Brides also wear white dresses on their wedding days to signify this. Both wedding veils and white wedding dresses have become a staple in the bride's wedding attire.

In addition to wearing a wedding ring, white veils, and white gowns brides also wear "something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue,



and a six pence in her shoe," but why? Having "something old" encapsulates the endurance of the bride's family, and it is hoped this same endurance will rub off on the bride and groom as they start their own family. "Something new" further portrays the new life the bride and groom are about to begin. A bride is supposed to attain "something borrowed" from a happily married woman in a healthy marriage. This is done in an attempt to transfer the luck of the woman from whom the "something borrowed" item came directly to the bride-to-be. As far as "something blue" goes, blue is a color of loyalty and wearing "something blue" on your wedding day will bring loyalty to your marriage. Finally, if a bride's father puts a sixpence in the bride's shoe on her wedding day, then it is believed that wealth will be brought to the marriage. With all of the good luck this tradition brings, what bride wouldn't want to participate in it?

Many may view traditions and superstitions as frivolous; however, they are far from that. Not only will following these traditions and superstitions potentially enhance your marriage, but they also add an element of history and enjoyment to the wedding ceremony. Join in the superstition and tradition: wear your wedding and engagement rings on left ring finger. And brides, wear white veils, white gowns, something old, new, borrowed, and blue, and put a sixpence in your shoe. What harm could it do? 🍀

SOMETHING OLD. SOMETHING NEW. AND ALL THINGS MAGICAL.

Presenting the most alluring venue in San Antonio, filled with history, romance and the spirit of Texas. The Jack Guenther Pavilion and the McNutt Courtyard & Sculpture Garden at the Briscoe Western Art Museum offer a sophisticated elegance sure to create the wedding of every bride's dream.

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Jack Guenther
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Smooth *Operator*



J. Hilburn tuxedo

How is a man supposed to interpret the ever-ambiguous dress codes listed on wedding invitations? From “black tie,” to “semi-formal,” to even “fashion forward,” **our style-seeking Allison Haberer** offers a go-to guide to make sure you are on trend, and more importantly, feel as handsome as possible



Haspel suit



J. Hilburn suit

IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN THAT MANY MEN may dread: wedding season. The flowers are blooming, the sun is shining, the birds are chirping, and the bridezillas are out in full force. So how is the modern gentlemen expected to survive this time of the year and how exactly is he supposed to dress?

First, keeping it classic is the best advice. If you want to take a fashion risk, why not go lighter in color and in the suit's weight? We love the Haspel suiting choices for men very much these days. They are a revived classic brand that is easy to wear as a favorite T-shirt and jeans. If you will be attending an outdoor wedding, especially in the blistering heat, pick a light suit in lightweight linen. You'll be the coolest guy at the wedding. Literally. Khaki suits are also very in for summer weddings, yet, as with all suiting, be sure to keep the cut slim, as well as keep the fabric in a year-round cotton. Add a white shirt, a bold tie... and you're ready to go.

Another one of our absolute favorite looks for men is colored suits. Shades of light blue or grey tend to be the most versatile. If color is too extreme for you, why not change things up and add a brightly colored shirt? You can be bold and go for summery pink or choose lavender, grey, or light green. It is an easy and affordable way to freshen up your look without going too extreme and detracting from the bride.



Haspel suits

And how about the finer points about wedding dressing? J. Hilburn, the personal clothier company, has great recommendations like: when the invitation says black tie, that means a tuxedo. Period. The company has loads of custom choices for tuxedos and just about anything else a man wears. They also recommend that when the groom is wearing a jacket, so do you. Choose a brighter necktie to make that dark suit come alive. If you're going to be traditional and stick with a tie, why not find something in a bold color or a pattern to which you are normally are not drawn? We love a good, small patterned tie, or you can try something checkered or striped.

Summer is your time to take a fashion risk, yet just make sure to remember whose day it is. And men, learn how to tie a tie or a bow tie. It's practically a right of passage. Experiment with bow ties or pocket squares in unique colors or patterns that will bring new life to your tired old suits. When in doubt, black is best and navy will never go out of style with the tuxedo.

Remember to add in small details like a great classic watch, and a nice pair of sunglasses if the wedding is going to be outdoors. Shoes are another way to add some life to your outfit, yet it is easier to own a few pair of neutral shoes that can be worn with any suit. They can be a lace-up or a slip-on. Summer weddings scream for shades like cream and grey, yet the most important thing you can wear to a wedding is your smile, always the best accessory worn anytime of day or night. 📍

For more information on J. Hilburn, visit Heddalayne.jhilburn.com and for Haspel clothing, visit Haspel.com.



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HOT DESIGN

Baby it's hot outside, but it's cool in the world of high design. **Join Lance Avery Morgan** in his unquenched quest for unique style items to make everyday much more festive. Here are some summer picks to inspire your own home and patio



LUXE LOUNGER

Like the sail of a ship, the Wave Hammock by Royal Botania has such a small base, it appears to be floating in midair. \$23,439. At Royalbotania.com¹

SQUARE DEAL

Perry Ellis' latest fragrance offering, Cobalt, is a calm, cool and collected scent for the adventurously modern guy. The bottle's angles will look world class in any man's medicine cabinet. A 3.4oz bottle for \$65. At Macy's and Perryellis.com²



PICNIC CHIC

Plastic is fine, but why not use something more substantial when you can? San Francisco's March has summery splatterware serving pieces make any table brighter and more grown up. From \$88. At Marchsf.com³



FINE, WINE

Angle33's new concrete wine thermals come in 12 colors and can be customized (i.e. bride/groom's names, monograms, wedding date, etc.) and are a sexy, sleek and sophisticated addition to any table or bar. From \$64.99. At Angle33.com⁴



TIME WILL TELL

Like having your favorite luxe wristwatch on the wall, this polished nickel-plated steel is a sleek, artful timepiece measuring 22.5"w x 22.5"h. \$199. By Ethan Allen at Ethanallen.com⁵



JUST FUEL IT

This cool Fuelband activity tracker and fuel monitor will have you feeling more athletic. From your morning workout to your big night out, it is uniquely designed to measure whole-body movement no matter your age, weight or gender. \$149. Nike.com⁶



DRINK DRY

An embroidered anything means high style. An embroidered linen napkin means high style for summer. These delightful, instant classics are 6 inches square. \$32 for a boxed set of 4. At Augustmorgan.com⁷



City Style

Imagine waking up in a room that makes *you* happy. At Susan Castor Design Studio, that's our speciality, and we will work within your budget and your style to design the most beautiful, functional interiors possible. Whether you love clean and modern or refined and elegant, our professional designers have the resources, experience, and the vision to create a living space that will make you smile every single time you come home. Contact our designers in Corpus Christi to schedule a consultation. **Susan Castor Design Studio, making *your* style.**

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SUSAN CASTOR
collection



From The *TERRACE*

As the weather heats up, with summer well under way, we love gathering with friends and family in an elegant environment. **Man-about-globe Jake Gaines** shares his personal hosting insight that applies to a terrace in Cote D'Azur, or your every own poolside patio

BE OUR GUEST

THICK, COMFORTABLE CUSHIONS ON THE chairs will encourage guests to linger at the table. Create cozy conversation settings in odd numbers so that no one is compelled to stand.

Don't get overly fussy with china since an eclectic mix always feels more welcoming. Pair your grandmother's Royal Crown Derby with Crate & Barrel for a variety in shapes and color.

Repurpose indoor furniture to create an outdoor "room." A den's ottoman layered with bright pillows, or a 70's faux marble side table, will add dash to any exterior.

Colorful beach balls floating in the pool, or large, fresh floating flowers like peonies or gardenias, always create an aquatic statement. They can also be used as a table centerpiece by pouring water into a large serving platter, then trim the stems off each flower so they will float.

SLIMMER DINNER

On a steamy night, your guests will be happy with simple fare: sparkling drinks and savory little bites, crudités, sweet treats, and other light items to go with heavier BBQ.

To keep dairy-based dips chilled and fresh, fill a large bowl with ice, sprinkle it with kosher salt and place the dip bowl on top.

Set up a lemonade stand to keep guests hydrated on hot afternoons. Place garnished glasses within easy reach on a dessert stand. How about getting the kids in a hosting spirit and have them hand out the drinks in the front yard as guests arrive?

Set up tables in separate areas with drinks in one spot, desserts in another. It encourages your guests to roam around the venue. You can also stock a vintage bar cart with essentials: glasses, plates, ice, a cocktail shaker, and vintage swizzle sticks.



NIGHT LIGHT

At twilight, make sure you provide plenty of lighting. Place paper lanterns draped from tree limbs, or lit lanterns 12 inches from limbs (with dark extension cords that blend in).

Add battery-operated candles that provide you with the same glowing light, with no worries of wind or dripping wax. Also, consider hanging an outdoor chandelier to a mighty oak to add more sparkle to your scene.

To protect your guests from pesky visitors, encircle your party area with citronella candles or incense sticks to light when night falls. Mosquitoes? What mosquitoes? 🦟



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID SIXT

Weekend's WELCOME

Around here, especially around the summer, we love hosting guests and we want to help them feel especially welcome by preparing a guest room to make it comfortable. Consider what *you'd* expect to find in a 5-star hotel and create a guest room that measures up to that standard, as **our inimitably chic entertaining expert, Alexandra Del Lago shows us**



FOUR IN FOR THE WEEKEND? AN OVERNIGHT GUEST WHO is your hubby's fraternity brother staying while in town for a banking conference? *Of course, we will be here and of course we'd love you to stay . . .* Seem familiar? Whether they are planned, or last minute arrangements have to be made, it is a breeze to host guests knowing your comfortable guest room is already set up for your visitors. If you create it once, it will always be in place. All it will need is refreshing for each new visitor. Here is what I recommend doing:

Linens & Things

Don't give your guest a cast-off mattress you have and instead, find a great one that will provide a comfortable night's sleep. Add high thread count, wonderful bed linens, a featherbed mattress topper, choice of pillows, a cozy down comforter, extra blankets, and freshly ironed pillowcases. Keep an extra set of bed and bath linens on hand for your guests. Accidents happen. Or, you may have one of those wonderful guests who insists on changing the sheets when they leave.

Baggage Claim

Set aside space to place a foldable luggage rack, a small table, or bench to set down a suitcase. No one loves stooping over to the floor to pull out a clean pair of socks.

Clear The Decks

In a guest room, less is more: more space, more comfort, and more welcoming. Get rid of anything that you would not find in the room of a better hotel. Keep only the most useful items in the room, like an alarm clock.

Take A Seat

Some people absolutely do not sit on a bed, so your guests should not have to. Place an upholstered armchair, or two, in the room with a table and lamp close by.

Hang Loose

Clear at least a foot or two of pole space in the closet with six to eight good hangers. Or, buy an over-the-door hook that can accommodate some hanging clothes.

Top Drawer

If your guestroom has a dresser, be sure to clear out one or two drawers for small items for odds and ends best left out of sight.

Really Simple

If you provide a notepad and pens, scissors, tissue, and a hair dryer then you have all the bases covered. Let guests know where to find the iron and ironing board. Also, a can of spray starch will help with touch-ups on the shirts of your male guests.

Privacy, Please

A large shade tree just outside the window may shield everything going on, but your guest won't know that, so select window coverings that create privacy and light control.

Lock & Key

If your guests are coming and going during their stay, share an extra set of keys to your home (and car keys if your guests will be using it) and color-code the sets to confirm their return to your possession.

Tourist Attraction

If your guests will be scooting around town without you, they might appreciate area maps, brochures on the hot spots, and directions to your home. Make a list of the best shopping areas, museums, parks, and your favorite restaurants. The Chamber of Commerce in your city can also supply that. Then, place all the items in a basket that you keep in the guest room so you will not have to re-gather everything for another guest.

Snack Time

Wrapped treats, fresh fruit or cookies and a bottle of water in the guest room provides a tasty snack without sneaking down to your kitchen in the middle of the night.

Book Worm

Short mysteries, travel books, or an assortment of magazines (I recommend current and past issues of *The Society Diaries*) creates quiet-time activities for your guest.

Entertainment's Center

Supplying a TV in the guest room is a nice touch. Add a DVD or CD player and some of your favorite movies. 🎬

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JULY • AUGUST 2014

STYLE *By Southwest*



Santa Fe is the original South By Southwest. ***Our girl-on-the-go Amber Elliott*** explores the ruggedly chic terrain's sites, sounds and must-do activities

Photography by Chris Corrie, Ryan Hefferman, and Robert Reck

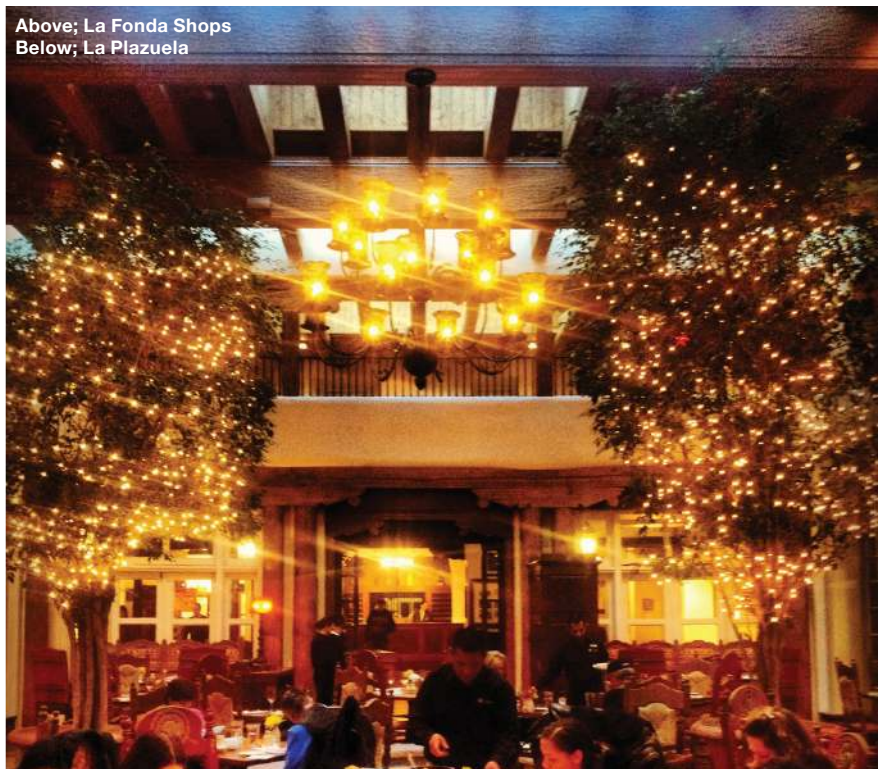
FALLING IN LOVE WITH SANTA FE COMES ALL TOO EASILY.

Behind a veil of historically renowned sights and plethora of art connoisseurs' delights lies a stylish, rarely-seen side of the town that oozes unexpected decadence. Hence, an escape to the boutique hideaway, La Fonda on the Plaza, provides a unique vantage point: the intersection old world charm with all the glorious bells & whistles of today's luxury.

New Mexico's "Land of Enchantment" moniker is well-deserved. The Spanish-settled city of Albuquerque embraces a recent surge of tourism thanks to AMC's *Breaking Bad* fandemonium, while winter sports lovers flock to Taos for its snow-kissed slopes. Still, the ever-charming town of Santa Fe remains the state's most treasured jewel. Nestled high above the rest between mountains and endless stretches of sand, there's something different about the nation's oldest capital city. Is it the altitude? Perhaps.

Long-time subscribers might suggest that a certain *je ne sais quoi* lures repeat visitors to a place so mystic, it warrants many nicknames "the City Different"

Above; La Fonda Shops
Below; La Plazuela



“the City Incongruous” and formerly, “The Royal Town of the Holy Faith of St. Francis of Assisi”. Speaking of, those seeking the royal treatment should look no further; Santa Fe is a secluded playground for nearly every covetable vice.

PLAY

Whether a collecting or simply admiring, Santa Fe is an art lover’s utopia. Traditionally speaking, there is no shortage of exhibits to explore like the Museum of International Folk Art, the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum, or countless others. For an off-the-beaten-path experience, Canyon Road provides an endless stretch of galleries featuring contemporary works from emerging talent. Come winter, the district springs to life during ARTFeast’s Annual Edible Art Tour. Fashion-minded visitors take solace in the city’s many shopping offerings; most notably, for exquisite silver jewelry and Southwestern-influenced accessories that are so distinctive to the region. O’Farrell Hat Company houses an impressive assortment of completely customizable hats, the ultimate destination for a cover-worthy souvenir. Try to blend in with the denizens and test drive a newly acquired bespoke headpiece at The Palace Saloon for a night of dancing and live music. On the opposite spectrum, clock in serious R&R at the BODY of Santa Fe Spa and indulge in one of their famous facials.

DINE

Thanks to the foodie frenzy, there’s no shortage of fine dining and farm-to-table grazing downtown. Il Piatto Farmhouse Kitchen remains the most sought-after reservation du jour; the Italian eatery utilizes a well-curated wine list and every item on the menu is locally sourced. Chef Matt Yohalem can often be spotted at the Santa Fe Farmers Market on Saturday mornings, an incredible stop for hot apple cider, flavored honey or must-have blueberry lavender muffins to pair with a cup of fresh, locally sourced coffee. Adventurous types will enjoy traditional New Mexican culinary classes at the Santa Fe School of Cooking where small groups learn to prepare flour tortillas, carne adovada (red chile marinated pork), chiles rellenos and more, all from scratch. The adjacent boutique is well stocked with exceptional hostess gifts like turquoise napkin ring holders and exotic spice blends. However, for bona fide fare in an unforgettable setting, look no further than the La Plazuela and dine under the starlit trees in their sunken dining room; the tableside guacamole and house-made mole’ sauce are unmatched. No cooking required.

STAY

Accommodations are everything and for a proper retreat, the strongest indicator of an impending authentic experience is a congregation of locals. In that sense, the centrally located La Fonda on the Plaza serves as sort of social city hall. On any given evening, Santa Fe natives fill the hotels recently renovated halls for premium margaritas and dancing in the La Fiesta Lounge – the Don Rael is a house favorite boasting four liqueurs that will have toes tapping in no time. Weather permitting, enjoy cocktails at the penthouse level’s Bell Tower Bar which offers sweeping views of the city that are especially majestic at dusk. In fact, one could make a true staycation of the grounds and simply float from the guest room to La Fonda’s enclosed Jacuzzi and heated pool to the neighboring in-house spa and into one of the hotel’s many shops for an outfit change before dinner at La Plazuela and then stroll back to the suite for quality shut eye under a hand-painted headboard. A stone’s throw away, the Inn at the Five Graces also offers intimate, beautifully-appointed accommodations within walking distance of the famed Basilica Church. Or, for large groups and corporate-friendly gatherings, the Inn and Spa at Loretto is particularly well-suited for banquet style settings requiring ample event space. ☺



The Bell Tower at La Fonda



Museum of International Folk Art Costume Exhibit



Margaritas at La Fonda



A suite at La Fonda



Lounging at La Fonda



Poolside at La Fonda

WEALTH OF HEALTH

Happy travels can be happier, whether dashing off to a honeymoon, or a family vacation abroad, with the right, healthy tips. Here are **Austin acupuncturist Andra Millian's** top five must-dos (and a few don'ts) for healthy and happy landings on your next sojourn



WATER, WATER!

Yes, we're all soaking up azure seas, fragrant waterfalls and floating in infinite infinity pools, however, the water I am referring to goes into your body, not around it. Low humidity on airplanes can cause dehydration, so drink enough water to function properly. Symptoms can include feeling sluggish, constipation, sleepiness or sleeplessness, dry skin, leg cramps and colossal hangovers. No fun. At 48 hours preflight make sure to drink 16 oz. of pure, filtered water at least 8 times a day. Vitamin water is a great way to replenish electrolytes missing from your cells. While flying carry some packets of multi flavored EmergenC to flavor your in-flight H2O (available at grocery stores and pharmacies). They're so easy to pack in a carry-on and will not get confiscated by security like liquids. While flying, avoid caffeinated drinks like coffee, tea and sodas, as well as alcohol. All are very drying, so why let dehydration cramp your summer style when it's so easy to avoid it?

SLEEP, SNOOZE, RESET, RECHARGE

Before you hit the hammock at your favorite summer get away, especially if you are jumping time zones to get there, invest in a black-out eye mask. Some airlines still offer them. Take advantage of any 'lights out' time on board to turn off your movie or computer and actually catch some sleep to start adjusting to your new time zone. Here's a trick: be sure to cover not only your eyes but also your 'third eye' located about half an inch above the bridge of your nose. Your pineal gland is located behind that area and is a very important gland produces melatonin which sets the body clocks circadian rhythms and helps you adjust to your new time zone. When you arrive at your destination, immediately set your watch to your arrival time zone. Stay up as long as you can, with no naps until the sun sets.

Get a good night's sleep with the help of some of my favorite herbal remedies and wake rested and ready for fun. Some of my favorite Chinese herbal remedies are: Health Concerns' Schizandria Dreams and Evergreen Herbs' Schizandria ZZZ that will give you a drug-free snooze. You may also ask your favorite health care provider if an additional Melatonin supplement is a good fit for you.

MOVE THOSE FEET

Swollen ankles and long flights are not natural pals. To avoid this all too familiar and potentially hazardous discomfort, make sure you get up often during even a short flight and walk the isles. Invest in a pair of flight compression socks. if you happen to be in France for your holiday you can drop into any local pharmacy and get fitted for a custom pair. They are an inexpensive and worthwhile souvenir - and there are even color choices. Or, bring your favorite comfy slippers on board (some airlines still provide them) and wear them while flying, and again, drink loads of fresh water. Your feet will love you for it.

SNACK PACK

Pack a few healthy snacks in case you get laid over or delayed. Bring a few of your favorite protein bars or try some Metagenics Ultra Meal bars. These are a complete meal in a low calorie bar and are real life-savers on busy travel days. Stay even healthier by taking a daily, full spectrum probiotic and one that doesn't need refrigeration is best - like Florastor by Biocodex. Unlike most probiotics, it will live through any antibody that you may have the misfortune contracting while traveling.

GAIN IMMUNITY

Lastly, boost your immune system's natural "windscreen." As we know, airplanes are hotbeds of air-borne microbes. Immune boosters like vitamin C and Zinc have been shown to help the immune system fight colds, flus and other air-borne illnesses. I love the very common Chinese herbal formula, Jade Windscreen Decoction, and my favorite is called Astra C is by Health Concerns and is a combination of Vitamin C, Zinc and Jade Windscreen Decoction. I take it 48-hours before my flight, in flight and for two days post-flight. You might also consider taking along an inexpensive air filtering facemask to wear in-flight, especially if you are traveling to a country with heavy air pollution. No matter where your travels take you, bon voyage and keep your health at its best. 🌟



THE ETHEREAL ROOM

BAIRD & BAIRD
PATRICIA PECKINPAUGH JEWELRY



BIG SKY LUXE

The Ranch at Rock Creek in Philipsburg, Montana is no ordinary dude ranch. Far from it, as a matter of fact. Saddle up as our *man-about-resort* **Greg Haynes Johnson** explores the wide-open West from his five-star point of view.

AS TEXANS, WE ALL HAVE CONNECTIONS TO VARIOUS versions of the beloved “ranch.” Be it a sprawling ranch of hundreds of thousands of acres or, a country get-away on a smaller scale, it’s a major perk of living in the Lone Star State. So, when hearing about a “dude ranch” in Montana, my expectations were only stick-pony high.

When we landed in the Missoula airport, however, the folks that were there to greet us weren’t wearing kitschy cowboy drag and claiming handles like “Festus,” “Tex,” or “Maverick.” They were authentic, friendly, and focused on making us feel like old friends. As our driver whisked us quickly thru the hour and a half drive, away from the “big city” of Missoula toward Rock Creek Ranch, the relaxed conversation, passing mountains, and elevation-only scenery made quick work of my jaded mood. In spite of my still low-expectations, I began to realize again the great fortune of exploring this opportunity.

Immediately I was taken by the sprawling setting. There were no prairie-schooner dioramas or broken spoke props. Instead, there was a stately gathering of functioning facilities. This was no dude ranch. This was the real thing.

King of the Ranch

Jim Manly, a Connecticut investment banker with a life-long dream of owning a functioning ranch, created the Ranch at Rock Creek. Initially intended for his family and friends, he started building accommodations on the almost 7,000-acre property for his visitors. Knowing that he wanted the ranch to continue for his children and children’s children, Manly decided to open the ranch to guests with the plan to establish it as a world-class destination for the most affluent adventurers.

Log Cabin Luxury

At around \$1,000 per person, per night, the Granite Lodge guestrooms are the most modestly priced accommodations at the Ranch. Each guest room has a different theme and is richly decorated with congruency to the mountain surroundings. The more spectacular accommodations at the Ranch, include luxurious tents, cabins, and private houses.



Lodging at The Ranch at Rock Creek

One of the tents is the Sweet Grass – a peaceful two bedroom “tent.” Each of its two master suites includes a king-size bed, a full bath, and fireplace – overlooking the rushing Rock Creek. The houses are completely private log homes with as many as five bedrooms. I stayed with my group in the Moose House, with each evening ending in front of the fireplace with a nightcap of cabernet. The log houses are \$6,000 to \$7,200 per night, but can house an entire family or several friends.

Haute Comfort Cuisine

Manly, the owner, hand-selected Chef Josh Drage from a long line of candidates, each vetted and then invited to “audition” by cooking for a period of time. He chose Drage for many reasons and the most surprising criteria the owner considered was the chef’s ability to make a “killer” meatloaf - a favorite dish of Manly’s childhood. Don’t let the simple fare confuse you, though. Chef Drage could be just as successful in some of the world’s top restaurants and his epicurean philosophy represents his passion for pure, locally-sourced ingredients – some he even grows on the ranch.

Adventurous Activities

We’d been offered in-advance a set of options for each of day of our stay. After some coaxing from fellow travelers I decided to take some chances and try things completely out of my comfort zone.



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Sporting Clays

It had been bad enough demonstrating my poor marksmanship with just my brothers as an audience while growing up. The thought of doing this with a professional instructor and a group of Jet-Setting swells gave me chills. Fortunately I manned-up and took my turn with a shotgun. The range Rock Creek created has a dozen stations, all computer controlled – apparently impressive to even those most experienced at clay shooting. The instructor would describe the direction and angle of each station then, with the press of a handheld button, would deliver the “pigeon” at our “pull” command. With the instructor’s patient coaching and the friendly support of my fellow shooters, I was amazed that I could bag ¾ of my careening targets. Beaming, I could’ve been done with the day then. But, no, there were more triumphs to enjoy.

Cross-Country Skiing

Admittedly, most guests won’t get to enjoy owner Jim Manley as their cross-country guide, yet you can’t go wrong with the crew typically available. Another sport I hadn’t tried was cross-country skiing and I expected nothing but exertion out of this jaunt. Was I wrong. The scenery was so stunning and the sound of the wind in the pines made this the shortest two hours I can remember.

A Day of Downhill

Truly my favorite sport of all is downhill skiing. While not the most aggressive skier, I feel fairly confident on most blue or black (ish) runs. Close to Philipsburg, the Discovery Ski Area is one of those great, remote ski resorts that don’t rely on enormous crowds of showy, once-a-year skiers mostly interested in parading their après outfits sipping \$25 cocktails. Discovery is perfect for those who will gladly travel further for great skiing away from crowds. Even on a busy day you can get in twice the runs at Discovery than at other areas with packed lift lines. As guests of the Ranch, we were led past the rental lines to a private area where our boots and skis were ready to go. Having my equipment prepared for me, and even having help donning my boots, was a fantastic surprise. Within minutes we were on our first run.

After an amazing day of skiing, we refreshed with locally brewed beers in the beyond-quaint setting of Philipsburg. It was their winter beer festival so we enjoyed a variety of craft brews with locals that were all first-name friends of the Ranch crew.

Sports Aplenty

The long list of activities includes hiking, mountain biking, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, and even bowling in the on-site bowling alley and theatre. The Ranch has recently added a selection of helicopter adventures, from heli-fishing to mountaintop, starlit dinners. There are very few places in the world that can offer this type of experience.

Inclusive, Exclusive Ranch

Rock Creek Ranch owner Jim Manley doesn’t want to his guests pulling out their wallets to tip or having to sign checks. The nightly rates include all meals, drinks, many of the activities, and all gratuities.

Since our last evening at the Ranch was a Sunday, we finished our stay with Chef Drage’s signature meatloaf in the dining room. We again shared great laughs, over great food and wine. As new, life-long friends, we said our good-byes and all promised to meet-up again soon at the Ranch at Rock Creek. Perhaps it will be sooner than expected. 🍷



The Springfield Suite



The Silver Dollar Saloon at The Ranch at Rock Creek

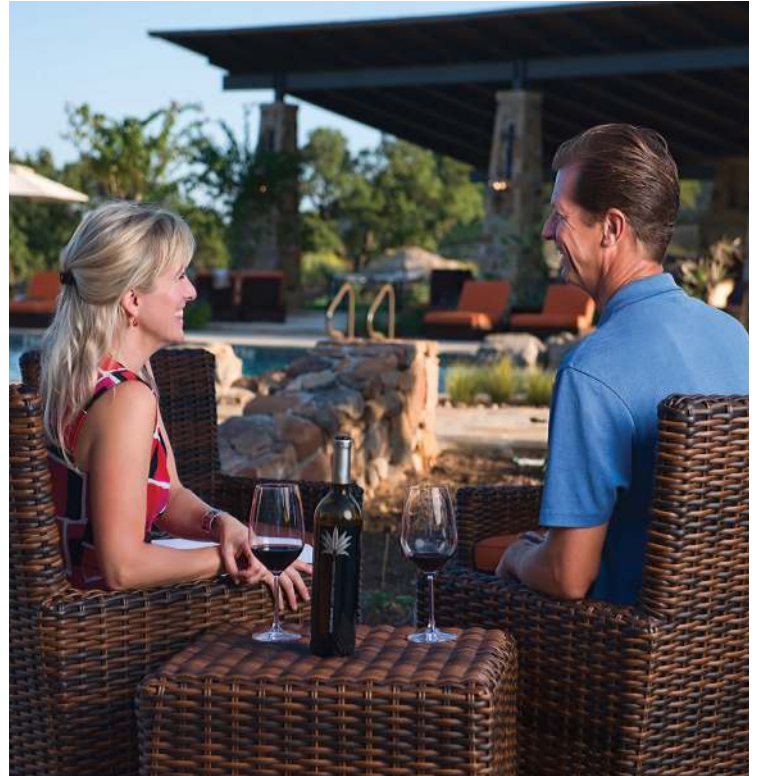


Patio time at The Ranch at Rock Creek



Fly fishing at The Ranch at Rock Creek

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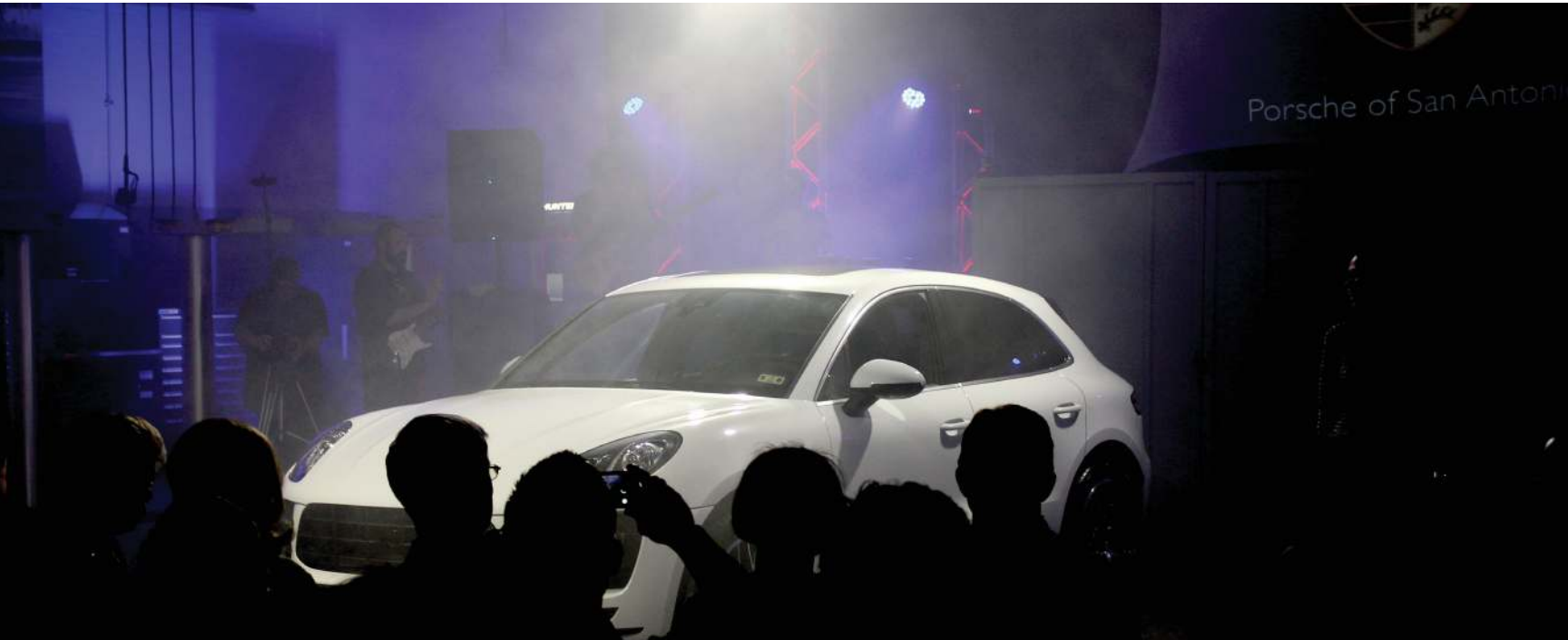
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Photography by Ben Balditt

2015 Porsche Macan

PORSCHE OF SAN ANTONIO RECENTLY CELEBRATED THE launch of the new 2015 Porsche Macan this spring.

A fun filled evening of mingling, magic, music, munchies and martinis preceded the unveiling of the long awaited 2015 Porsche Macan. During an intense music and light show, the highly anticipated Macan emerged through the fog to the delight of excited Porsche enthusiasts.

Once the Macan was unveiled, guests were invited to get an up-close look and a hands-on demonstration of this amazing new addition to the Porsche family. Porsche. There is no substitute. 📍



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Escape To *GRANDUCA*

By Leslie Bowlin Photography courtesy of Hotel Granduca



Poolside at Hotel Granduca

THE KEY TO SURVIVING A HOT TEXAS SUMMER? IT LIES IN finding the perfect getaway... where you can relax poolside sipping a cocktail amid the lull of the fountains while the rest of the world melts away.

Imagine yourself transported to the beautifully-appointed Hotel Granduca, nestled in the heart of Houston's Uptown Park. The gardens and veranda are lush with majestic palms, fountains and cozy intimate spaces for private conversation and individual contemplation.

It is here, luxuriating among the cozy and intimate cabanas, where those "in the know" spend the lazy days of summer. Although you are in the heart of the city, the serene, classical surroundings will transport you to the elegance and ambiance of Old World Italy, complete with Italian hospitality and charm.

THE SOCIETY DIARIES.COM

When it's time to take a break, Hotel Granduca features a variety of rooms and suites to fit your needs, all offering stunning views. For the ultimate in fine dining, the acclaimed Ristorante Cavour offers authentic Northern Italian cuisine, turning any evening into a special occasion.

The hotel was created by Giorgio Borlenghi, with interior design by his sister Ermy Borlenghi Bonfield. Many of the furnishings, photos and accessories found in the hotel came from the Borlenghi family home. Their vision was to build a remarkable boutique hotel, reminiscent of a private Italian villa, which would provide guests passage back in time via a genuinely personalized and luxurious experience. [S](#)

For more information, visit GranducaHouston.com, or call 713. 418.1000



Hotel Granduca



Bar Malatesta at Hotel Granduca



Ristorante Cavour at Hotel Granduca



The cabanas at Hotel Granduca



Junior suite at Hotel Granduca

The Ferrari Kid Gala

By Jake Gaines Photography by Greg Harrison



Ferrari Testarossa Courtesy of Robert Ober



Manny Diotte and Enver Kaba



Robert and Susie Ober



Janjira and Gennaro Centofanti

THE WESTIN LA CANTERA WAS A BUZZ FOR THE FIRST annual black tie event, The Ferrari Kid Gala this past spring. Hundreds of supporters joined the committee to celebrate in grand style, Ferraris and all. Guests enjoyed the cutting edge fashion show "Ferrari of San Antonio Fashion Week South" and participated in a successful live auction that benefited the Ferrari rides and "the kids" they serve.

The Ferrari Kid is a non-profit organization that gives kids the ride of a lifetime. These are children who are coping with cancer and dealing with their illness, and the group specializes in helping kids feel like celebrities for a day. From the moment they get picked up in a Ferrari car, the excitement begins. They then arrive at a celebrity destination of their choice and receive the full VIP experience, complete with red carpet, velvet ropes, and backdrop. The paparazzi awaits their arrival with fans seeking their autographs... it is a day the kids always can remember and allows them to just be kids again. Some of the kids are so fragile that the full experience may be too taxing and in those cases the Ferrari takes them to radiation, chemotherapy, and surgery and they are gifted with packages that provide them with healing tools.



Dalal Kanafani and Roy Terracina



Shawn Behrens

The event chairs and major event sponsors were Roy Terracina, the Terracina Family Foundation and Dalal Kanafani. The founder of Ferrari Kid is Manuel Diotte and the first major event sponsor was Robert Ober. The first board members and monthly donors include James and Mary Boyd. The first driver was John Ramey and the host of the first The Ferrari Kid party was Jay Kanafani. The organization offers special thanks and recognition to Enver Kaba, the general manager of Ferrari of San Antonio and Marc Miller, president of the Ferrari Club of America, Alamo South Texas Chapter for their involvement and consistent support of the non-profit. 📍



Mary Ullman Japhet and Chuck Japhet



Michelle Bertone, Debbie Poole and Angela Shutt



Lyn Banaay and Marc Miller



RICHARD ORSINGER

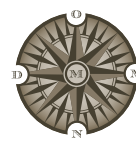
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Shore Thing



Solare Condominiums On South Padre Island Offers The Great Escape

THE LEGEND OF SOLARE CONDOMINIUMS ON SOUTH Padre is re-born. The largest property on the island has wide-open spaces for stunning ocean views. Solare owners and guests enjoy 500 feet of pure beachfront, one of the longest on the island. Close to the ocean with a breathtaking view, this special place is an ideal environment for reading, serene sunsets, and as a relaxation space to enjoy with family and friends. "My wife and I sold our house to move to Solare full time and we think it was a smart move for the lifestyle that Solare and South Padre has to offer," shares Danny, a Solare resident. "We are both active, love the facilities, and the cost of living is very reasonable. South Padre offers all that we need in our retirement."

The two, three and four bedroom plans are the most spacious options, complete with a bathroom for each bedroom. The open concept design of the living area allows for friends and family to have a comfortable time. For larger families who enjoy entertaining, the beautiful four bedroom, two level, 3,000 ft penthouses are ideal.

Newly completed, a full-scale renovation of the property makes Solare a wonderful place to live. The features at Solare have state of the art, contemporary details in large units with some of the best floor plans in South Padre Island. The amenities include:

- Living room
- Dining with balcony access
- Wireless internet
- Master bedroom with full bathroom, double sink and walk-in-closet
- Windows with certifications
- Secondary bedroom have a full bath
- Fully equipped kitchen with granite countertops and stainless steel appliances
- Washer/Dryer

Nearby public access to the beach is found approximately one mile to the north and the south from the property. Walking trails and a playground are nearby,



Poolside at Solare



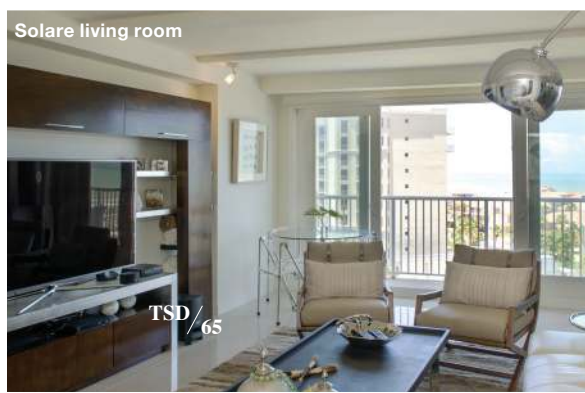
Solare dining



Solare tennis



Solare bedroom



Solare living room

too. Solare offers an array of services that also include:

- ✦ Maid service
- ✦ Car wash
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ROYAL & REGAL

Fiesta's Order Of The Alamo Presents Court Of Sovereign Legends

By Ellie Leeper Photography by Greg Harrison



Mallory Sparr & Richard and Jennifer Sparr



Keller Henderson, Blair Fitzsimmons, Fay Fitzsimmons and Clay Allison



Charlotte Blount, La Duquesa de la Hermosa Ventana Rosa and Macon Blount, Duchess of Cherished Historic Traditions
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko of Billo Smith Studios



Her Royal Highness Sarah Brown, Princess of Vibrant Texas Heritage and Her Gracious Majesty, Mallory Sparr, Queen of The Court of Sovereign Legends
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko of Billo Smith Studios

THE SCENE: FIESTA SAN ANTONIO 2014 promised to be a show-stopper and most agree that it was the annual celebration's strongest year ever. Fiesta supports many local philanthropic organizations and contributes substantially to the thriving city's economy. The festivities and pageantry, normally lasting several days and nights, extended into three full weeks this year. Events included the famous Battle of Flowers parade, directed by the Battle of Flowers Association and founded in 1891 by local business leaders. Bill Greehey, served as the Grand Marshal for 2014's parade. The work that went into the festivities, almost a year in the making, was well worth the impact the events had on the city of San Antonio.



Dan Allen and Peggy Hughes & Sarah and Steve Pitt





Ramona Bass & Lee and Ramona Bass



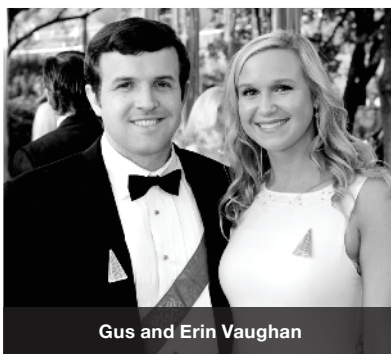
Floral Design by Oscar Morales



Lida Steves, Duchess of the Kingdom of Wildlife
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko of Billo Smith Studios



Macon Blount, Stephen and Linda Blount
& Charlotte Blount



Gus and Erin Vaughan



Annie Daugherty



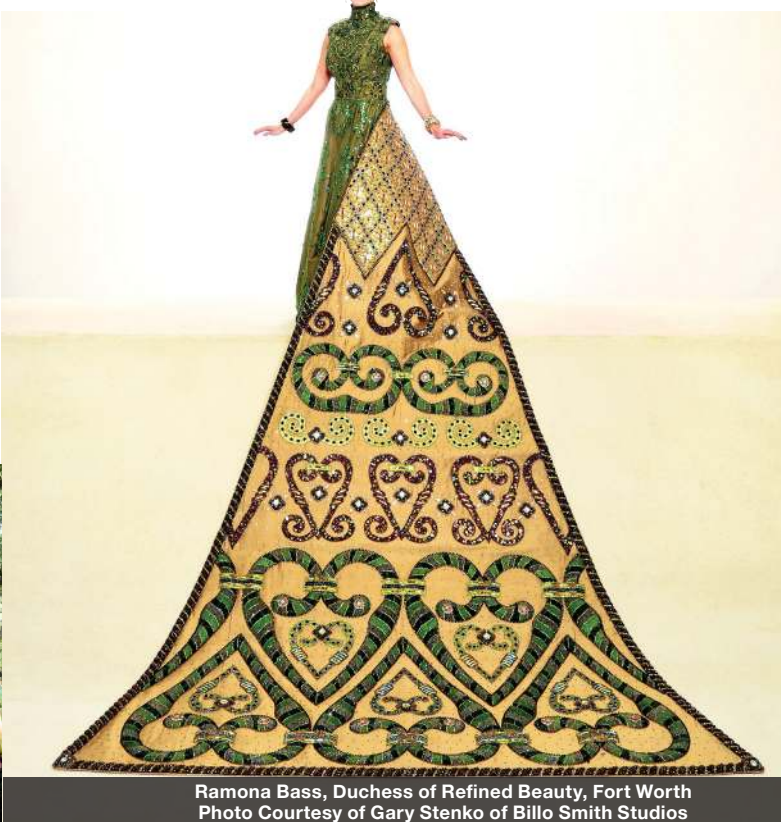
Avery Vaughan with friends



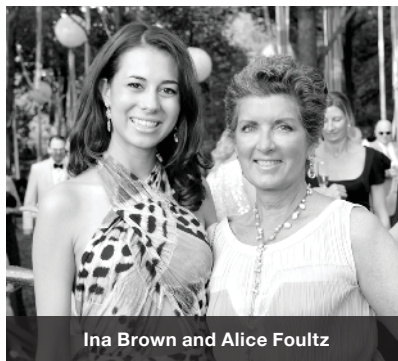
Sam Bell and Megan Steves



Liza Yates, Molly Henson, Katie Collins
Anderson and Sarah Christian



Ramona Bass, Duchess of Refined Beauty, Fort Worth
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko of Billo Smith Studios



Ina Brown and Alice Fultz



Charlie Fuhrmann and
Charles Cottingham



Melinda Young and Wendy Wirth, Court Artist
with dress designed for Avery Vaughan,
Duchess of the Mystique of Nature



Bobby and Stephanie Cavender, Rob Cavender, Southie Cavender, Allyson and Stuart Cavender

Mary South Cavender, Duchess of Rare Treasured Discoveries
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko of Billo Smith Studios



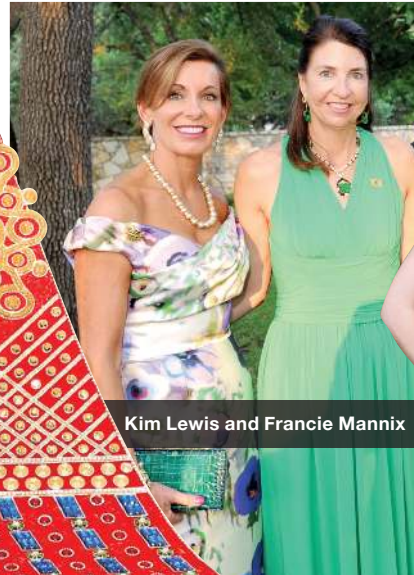
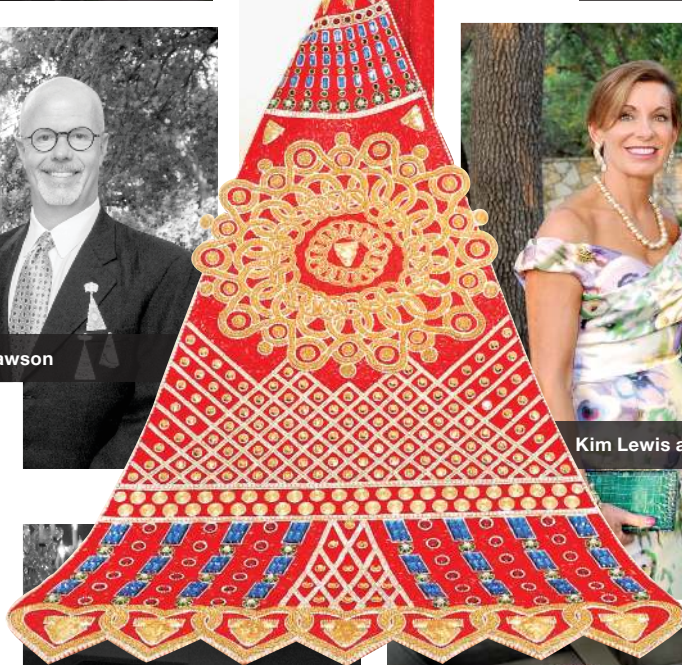
Duchesses of the Court of Sovereign Legends and friends



Vincent Dawson & Cindy and Vince Dawson



Minnie Baird and Weisie Steen



Kim Lewis and Francie Mannix



Annlyn Osborn Hughes and Ada Osborn



Kathy Mays Johnson, Mistress of the Robes and Veronica Prida with dress designed for Shelby Smith, Duchess of Great Open Lands



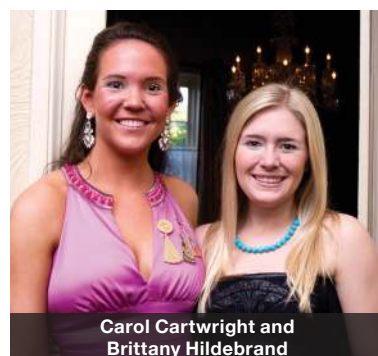
Paul and Charlotte Tripplehorn



Elizabeth Hughes, Duchess of the Splendors of the Earth
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko of Billo Smith Studios



Floral Design by Oscar Morales



Carol Cartwright and Brittany Hildebrand

THE VIBE: Fiesta's gowns are legendary, and this year the designs were especially stunning. The dazzling dresses, crowns, and grand trains adorned with opulent jewels, beads, and sequins emphasized the grand festivities that unfolded at the regal Majestic Theatre downtown. The themes for the heavily bejeweled gowns ranged from a spectrum of nature, wildlife and culture all depicted on the one-of-a-kind garments that provided the legends of Texas from the depths of its canyons to the corners of its ranches. Contributing to Fiesta's spirit of giving, The Texas Cavaliers' Charitable Foundation distributed over \$200,000 to local children's charities this year, tallying an impressive total raised by the organization. Other presiding royalty who steward the celebrations so effectively were 2014's King Antonio XCII, Donald E. Miller Jr., and Rey Feo, The People's King, Jimmy Green, and plans are already well into the works for 2015's grand celebration. 📍

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Cheryl Aycock 210-355-1514



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Sophisticated living in Lincoln Heights

Jennifer Shemwell 210-824-7878



Elegant and stately 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath home offers a great lifestyle and an ideal location. Traditional styling with quality design features and outstanding amenities. \$925,000

THE CAUSE: This year's theme for The Order of the Alamo honored the Court of Sovereign Legends, providing pomp and circumstance to the festivities. The coronation honored the state's achievements, saluted its heroes, and observed Texas strength and beauty. From its vast natural resources to its larger than life heritage, the Lone Star State was celebrated at the Order of the Alamo's Coronation of Queen Mallory Lynn Sparr. Directed by Mistress of the Robes, Kathryn Mays Johnson, the always-extravagant pageant featured Queen Mallory Lynn Sparr, Queen of the Court of Sovereign Legends and Princess Sarah Virginia Brown, Princess of Vibrant Texas Heritage, with their court of 24 duchesses. The Court Artists, Keller Henderson and Wendy Wirth, aided the efforts for the evening filled with beautiful women and their handsome escorts performing royal duties. The 2014 Coronation Chairman was Kent Calgaard and the President of the Order of the Alamo was Drew Stewart.



Beth Smith and Gretchen Lahourcade



Kit and Carl Detering



Elizabeth Hughes, Clay Johnson & Chris and Elizabeth Dewar



Kathy and Bill Johnson



Edward and Nancy Steves



Joe and Julie Straus & Caroline and Rick Kuper



Jim and Lynn Wilson & Grace and Keith Cartwright



Leslie Ticku, Duchess of the Spirit of Eternal Ascent
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko Billo Smith Studios



Marie Brown, Duchess of Bold Patterns of Beauty
Photo Courtesy of Gary Stenko of Billo Smith Studios



Nancy Eshleman and Amy Ryder

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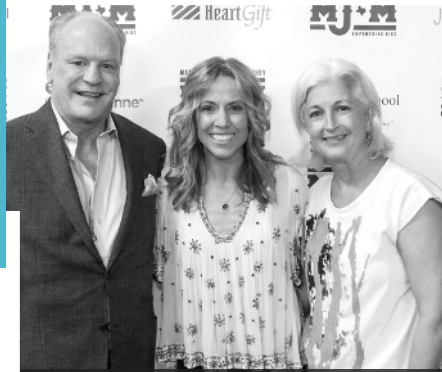
MUSIC, SPORTS, MOVIES & FASHION



Matthew and Camilla McConaughey,
Mack and Sally Brown & Jack and Amy Ingram

THE SCENE: TOP DESTINATIONS IN AUSTIN, INCLUDING the ACL Moody Theatre, Barton Creek Resort and Neiman Marcus, were the backdrop for the 2nd Annual Mack, Jack and McConaughey gala of events, headlined by Austin residents former UT coach Mack Brown, singer Jack Ingram and Oscar® winner Matthew McConaughey. It drew both Hollywood A-Listers and Austin's most notable Sociables for two days of fun and entertainment the city will not soon forget.

The two day affair kicked off with a star-studded gala at ACL, where the sold-out crowd was treated to performances by Jack Ingram and Sheryl Crow, and a spectacular live auction which raised over one million dollars. The busy second day commenced with Sally Brown, Amy Ingram and Camila McConaughey hosting a fashion show at Neiman Marcus that featured designers Badgley Mischka, while the gents, Mack, Jack and McConaughey, hosted a celebrity golf tournament at Barton Creek Country Club. After a day of fun, guests then retreated back to ACL Moody Theatre for the Jack and Friends concert. After a day of fun, guests then retreated back to ACL Moody Theatre for the Jack and Friends concert with Little Big Town, Buddy Miller, Liz Rose, Lori McKenna, Bobby Pinson and Lyle Lovett was the cherry on top to the days of giving and fun.



Steve Hicks, Sheryl Crow and Donna Hicks



John Paul DeJoria



Dawn Crouch and Chris Hendel



Gown by
Badgley Mischka



Lyle Lovett



Jennifer Graham and Jennifer Carnes



Rusty Parker, Roxan Coffman and Jeanne Parker



Colt McCoy



Mark Badgley and James Mischka



Sheryl Crow



THE VIBE: The high-energy was felt for the entire two days of events across the city as guests dressed in a range of fun and festive spring fashions. Many wore colorful spring dresses and other forms of cocktail attire to the opening night gala, while the fashion show showcased everyone's best dressy chic ensembles, while the Jack and Friends Concert had a more low key vibe of chic, hipster wear.

THE CAUSE: The rousing live and silent auctions included life-size sculptures, known as the Longhorn Stampede, to support the charities. This year's event, chaired by Austin philanthropist Steve Hicks and hosted by the inimitable Mack and Sally Brown, Jack and Amy Ingram and Matthew and Camilla McConaughy raised much-needed funds for various local and national charities whose primary goal is to empower children. ☺



Dress by Badgley Mischka



Justin and Wendy Harvey

EAST, MEET WEST

Artpace's Annual Happening Shows Shanghai Chic

By Ellie Leeper Photography by Greg Harrison

THE SCENE: CONTEMPORARY ART SUPPORTERS were attired in their chic Eastern wear while attending Artpace's annual Happening fundraiser in San Antonio recently. Glamorous and intriguing Shanghai in a bygone heyday served as the theme for an evening celebrating the international scope of the art organization's reach.

THE VIBE: The Happening kicked off with signature cocktails as guests gathered under floating, decorative lanterns at sunset. Overlooking the city's shimmering skyline, Artpace enthusiasts enjoyed libations amidst an Eastern cultural flair. Adding a mysterious twist to the evening, dancing dragons gathered amidst the cocktail hour and led guests to a subterranean dinner in an undisclosed location. Post-banquet, the event's theme delivered when guests were thrown into the swing of things to groovy rhythms as they danced on the Artpace rooftop beneath the moonlight into the wee hours of the morning.

THE CAUSE: The annual Happening fundraiser was co-chaired by Lori Dunlap and Lora Reynolds and supports the residents, exhibitions, and education programs of Artpace. The mission of the organization is to nurture the freedom to dream, through supporting the creative process and engaging audiences with the most innovative art and artists from around the world. Due to the visionary Artpace leadership, San Antonio now serves as an international laboratory for the creation and advancement of contemporary art. Sponsors for the event included Cinco Vodka, Ken Batchelor Cadillac, The Esquire, and Neiman Marcus San Antonio. ☺



Janice Freeman, Elizabeth Fauerso and Lori Dunlap



Patricia Ruiz Healy and Josephine Ruiz Healy



Frank and Nancy Kudla & Tom Wensinger



Rick Liberto and Travis Capps



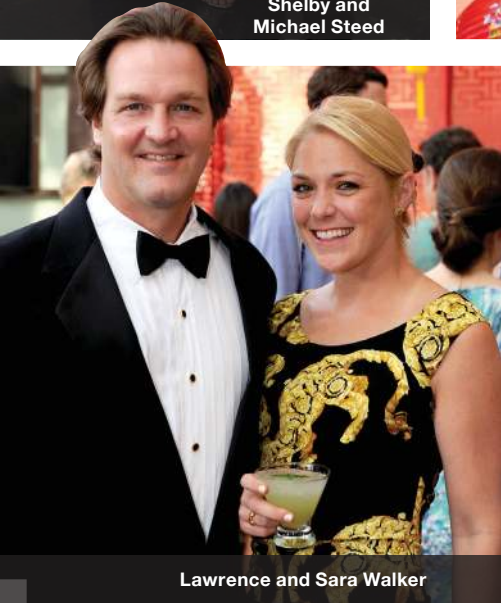
Shelby and Michael Steed



Illa and Will Gaunt, Jamey Steen and Natalie Mencio



Alexis Armstrong, Ashley Weaver, Sonya Medina Williams and Beatriz Cardenas



Lawrence and Sara Walker



Brad Parman, Amada Cruz and Tim Seeligner



Lyn and Pete Selig



Ramiro Salazar, Lisa Spielhagen, Xitlalt Herrera-Salazar & Anna and Todd Wulfe



Rick Moore

High HAT

Mad Hatter's Tea Celebrates 26th Anniversary With Style

By Samantha Subar Photography by Dana Driensky and Daniel Driensky

THE SCENE: SAVVY SOCIALITES FROM across the country joined in Dallas for the 26th year of Mad Hatter's Tea themed *Serenade to Style*. Every year the fundraising event takes place at the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden where guests sport their wildest and most over-the-top hats to be judged by a panel of elite fashionistas.

THE VIBE: The soirée began with a champagne reception in Ginsburg Plaza for 450 guests. Following the reception was an afternoon program and fashion show presentation produced by the incomparable Jan Strimple. Featured fashions included designers such as Diane von Furstenberg, Lela Rose and Escada. Hat award winners were announced and a seated luncheon in the tented Outdoor Plaza followed to cap off the afternoon of fashion and entertainment.

THE CAUSE: The Mad Hatter's Tea has an ongoing history of fundraising for the growth and maintenance for *A Woman's Garden*, a major garden at the Dallas Arboretum. Lisa Loy Laughlin chaired the event while Gina Ginsburg served as honorary chair. Jocelyn White emceed the event and introduced all the hat judges as they announced contest winners for each hat category. The judges, from news anchors to fashion authors to boutique owners, were highly qualified to declare which hats were the most fabulous. ☺



Carmen Godwin and Michael Faircloth



LeeAnne Locken



Lisa Loy Laughlin and Bettina Hennessy



Jan Strimple



Heidi Dillon and Gina Ginsburg



Cathy Vieth and Phyllis Comu



Fashions from Lela Rose



Anne Stodghill



Jennifer Duncan



Julia Kanaan



Carmaleta Whiteley



Carmen Surgent and Laura Tafel



Sherry Slaughter, Patrizia Pelfrey and Lori Alexander



Faye Briggs



Jocelyn White and Linda Spina



Stacy Hicks and Marisa Howard



Natalie Taylor and Karen Settle



Doris Jacobs and Lynn Dealey



Carolyn Tillery



Jo Anne McCullough and Carol Seay



Fashions from Diane von Furstenberg



Prashe Shah and Karen Lukin



Jill Rowlett and Yvonne Crum



Lisa Ogle and Teffy Jacobs



Faye Briggs and Gary Riggs



Terry Irby

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Fleurs de l'Opera

Annual Houston Grand Opera Ball Raises \$2 Million

By Jennifer Roosth

Photography by Michelle Watson, Wilson Parish, Priscilla Dickson

THE SCENE: MORE THAN 600 GUESTS attended the sold-out, white tie Opera Ball this year, themed "Fleurs de l'Opera." After a red-carpet, Hollywood-style arrival, guests moved into the grand foyer at the Wortham Theater Center to enjoy a four course French menu including asperges, mousse de foie gras, cotelettes d'agneau, and crème brulee by Jackson Hicks and Company. Pierre-Jouet champagne flowed freely as guests enjoyed elaborate scenes from upcoming HGO performances choreographed by the acclaimed Rob Ashford, and two exceptional arias sung by Grammy® award-winning soprano Ana Maria Martinez.



Patrick Summers, Margaret Williams and Perryn Leech



Lynn Wyatt and Beau Miller



Zoe and Tony Buzbee



Sue and Lester Smith



Michelle and Frank Hevrdejs



Tracy and Valerie Dieterich & Mary and Dr. Mark D'Andrea



Jason and Lindley Arnoldy



Dr. Lynda Chin and Dr. Ron DePinho



Gina and Dr. Devinder Bhatia



Brian Teichman and Andrew Cordes



Alfredo and Marcia Vilas



Danny and Isabel David



Ann and Clarence Cazalot



Lieutenant Govenor David Dewhurst and Trish Dewhurst



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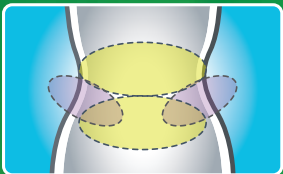
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THE VIBE: This event was over the top in the most perfect way. The Grand Foyer's décor contained no less than 9,500 peonies, 18,000 roses, 28,000 strung dendrobium orchid blossoms, 5,000 stems of hydrangea, 300 stems of hybrid delphinium, 400 branches of forsythia, 500 branches of apple blossoms, and 150 branches of dogwood. Richard Flowers and The Events Company perfectly captured Margaret Williams' vision for "Fleurs de l'Opera."

THE CAUSE: The event raised a record \$2 million to support the company's internationally renowned performances and community programs that distinguish HGO as one of America's great opera companies. The event was chaired by Margaret Alkek Williams, the entertainment was underwritten by Sue and Lester Smith, and the Encore after-party for young professionals was chaired by Heather Pray. 🍷



John Turner and Jerry Fischer



Bill and Sara Morgan



Ralph Burch and Beth Madison



Soraya and Scott McClelland



Harlan and Dian Stai



Rich and Nancy Kinder



Robin Angly and Miles Smith



Jennifer Roosth and Amber Elliott



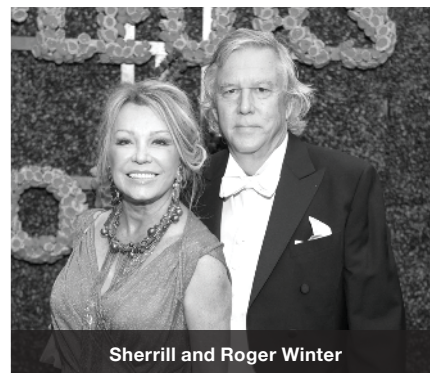
Sheridan Williams and John Eddie



Brady and Zane Carruth



Anthony and Cynthia Petrello



Sherrill and Roger Winter

CONTEMPORARY COOL

The Contemporary Jones Center Annual 5X7 Event And Inaugural Dinner Canvasses Austin

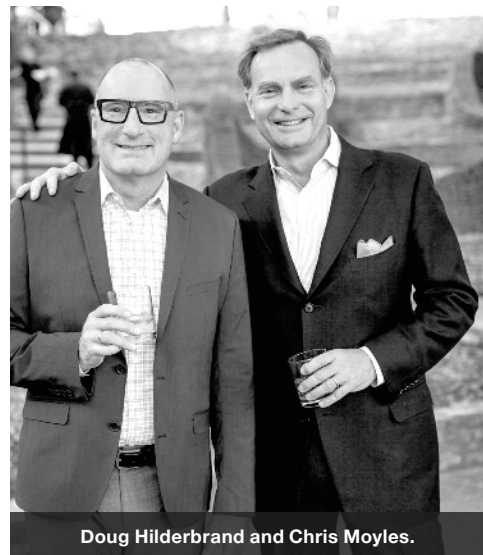
By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Miguel Angel and Brian Fitzsimmons

THE SCENE: THE CONTEMPORARY Austin recently held two events to raise funds for the newly renamed The Contemporary Jones Center. The first, held at the Brazos Lofts space in downtown Austin, was the scene for the 14th annual event 5 X 7 gala that drew hundreds of Austin's most artful residents.

The Contemporary Austin 5x7 featured over 700 pieces of 5x7 works of art from over 400 artists. Collectors roamed the lofty space to obtain their very own 5x7 masterpiece, which could be purchased for \$150. The second was a beautiful dinner at the lakeside Laguna Gloria, where over 150 patrons dined outdoors in a beautifully designed continental-style table that wove seamlessly through the grounds.



John Teinert and Karen Hawkins



Doug Hilderbrand and Chris Moyles.



Richard Marcus



Val and Beau Armstrong



Bryan Gardner, Deborah Green and Armando Zambrano



Benjamin Morton and Katie Soderquist



Ayn Massa and Janna Jacobson



Lauren Adams and Louis Grachos



THE VIBE: The events brought together the eclectic mix of Austin as the 5x7 crowd donned their best Austin-hipster attire ideal for the extravaganza, where Sociables seamlessly blended in with world-class art collectors for a wonderfully energetic vibe. The garden dinner featured a mix of summery cocktail attire complete with many in bright and bold spring colors perfect for the lushly green venue.

THE CAUSE: The proceeds from both events benefitted The Contemporary, Jones Center one of the most beloved contemporary art museums in Texas. 📍



Ted and Melba Whatley & Tate Dougherty

HILL COUNTRY *Style*

Texas Women For The Arts Holds Ninth Annual Gathering

By Jake Gaines Photography by Cynlee Studios Photography



Mary Stanton Smith and Lisa Holthouse



Caroline Hammond, Jennifer Ransom Rice, Dawn Erickson Leatherwood and Jill Hossley



Carol Penn, Mona Knopp and RexAnn Hill

THE SCENE: THE TEXAS WOMEN FOR THE Arts' ninth annual meeting in Fredericksburg was a success with a record attendance of over 120 members. As a giving program uniting the financial force of Texas women in funding initiatives for the arts and arts education, the annual meeting was for these women coming together to make a tremendous impact on the arts in Texas for our youth and our heritage.

THE VIBE: The two-day event featured many experiences that highlighted the best of the Hill Country. It began with a welcome champagne reception and toast at the home of Sandra Gilliland, followed by lunch and remarks at the picturesque Boot Ranch Club House. Members enjoyed private exhibitions by such Fredericksburg artists as John Austin Hanna, G. Harvey, and then they were off to mingle at top-notch galleries, such as Whistle Pik and InSight. General Mike Hagee from the Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War treated members to behind the scenes anecdotes, and Houston-bred designer Cesar Galindo brought his New York Fashion Week couture to the Hill Country during a private runway show. Attendees shopped until they dropped at the Kunstmarkt, featuring an exclusive selection of local artisans and retailers, and browsed Ron Boyd's Estate Fine Jewelry Collection. These Texas ladies were feted over delicious dinners at Hondo's and August E's, where Ginger Blanton of Houston was given the Champion of the Arts Award in recognition of her outstanding commitment to support the arts and arts education throughout Texas.

THE CAUSE: At lunch, Texas Women for the Arts granted over \$235,000 to 19 deserving arts and arts education programs across the state. To date, Texas Women for the Arts has awarded \$1,321,500 in grants to 63 arts organizations, impacting more than three-quarters of a million children across the state, as they accomplish their mission: *Awaken and Nurture the Artist in Every Texas Child.* 📍



Boot Ranch in Fredericksburg



Janis Brous, Patricia Dedman Nail and Nancy Desman



Lana Cop, Betty Clyburn, Robin Mahan and Ginni Mithoff



Carol Maxson and Marlene Stewart



Pamela Williford, Ellen Mason and Karen Oswalt



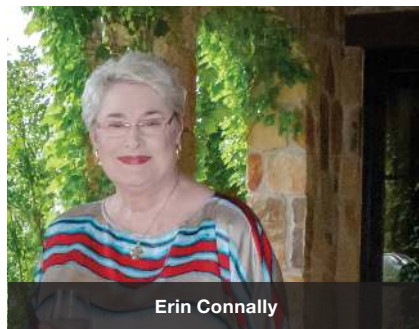
Jan Bailey, Alecia Lawyer, Mary McMullen, need, Astrid Van Dyke



Carol Ahern, Gayle Hunt, Sherri Brown and Diane Ofner



Pam Fisher, Sammi Germer and Sunny Smith



Erin Connally



Peggy Berg, Sharon Oeschger and Alexis Hunter



Claire O'Malley

Forever PARIS

Society Of The Performing Arts Gala A Roaring Success

By Jennifer Roosth Photography by Priscilla Dickson



Phoebe and Bobby Tudor



Richard and Ginni Mithoff



Ian and Kathryn Fay



Scott and June Christensen & Elizabeth and Tim Vail

THE SCENE: OVER 350 GUESTS GATHERED IN THE GRAND FOYER OF THE WORTHAM THEATER CENTER FOR THE 2014 Society of the Performing Arts Gala. The evening began with cocktails and champagne, followed by a feast for the senses with fabulous French fare created by Jackson and Company. Throughout the evening, New York-based band 'The Hot Sardines' filled the room with its jazz sound that was so fitting of the era. Following dinner, SPA's live auction gave guests the opportunity to bid on sought-after items such as luxury travel from sea to shining sea and shimmering jewels. To end the evening, guests danced the night away to tunes spun by DJ Sun.

THE VIBE: "Parisian Jazz Age Chic" was the theme of the evening—flappers, pearls, and feathers galore. The Grand Foyer was transformed into a carefree, Roaring 20's Paris, when American musicians, authors, artists and socialites converged in the French capital city and the popularity of jazz exploded. Rebekah Johnson of Bergner & Johnson created a stunning atmosphere with beautiful crystal chandeliers suspending from the ceiling, massive floral arrangements scattered throughout the room, and a large print of the Eiffel tower in the background to create an authentic period atmosphere.

THE CAUSE: Chaired by Elizabeth and Tim Vail, with honorary chairs Rosemary Schatzman and Vanessa Sendukas, the event was a 'roaring' success that raised nearly \$500,000. This year's gala honored longtime SPA board member Karl Kilian, founder of the Brazos Bookstore, for his 39 years of dedicated service to the organization. Proceeds from the event benefit the SPA's Education and Community Engagement Program that takes the performing arts into the community, and offers unique learning experiences and enrichment of more than 120,000 underserved children and adolescents in the greater Houston area annually. 🎵



Tom and Liz Glanville



Gordon Bethune, Jessica Rossman, Margaret Williams and Jim Daniels



June Christensen and Willie Chiang



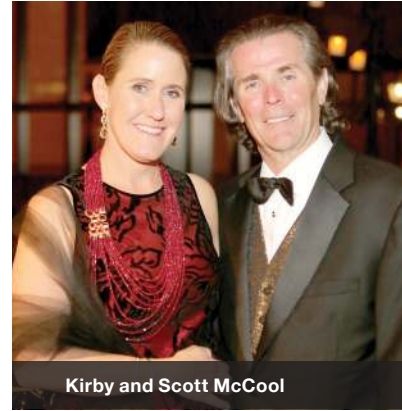
Stef and Jay Levy



Kari Gonzales and John Dagley



Karl and Kathy Kilian



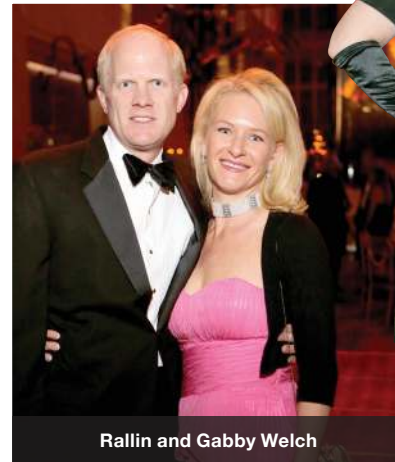
Kirby and Scott McCool



Melanie Gray and Kathryn Smith



Jack Parker and Chree Boydston



Rallin and Gabby Welch



Rosemarie and Matt Johnson



Doreen and Victor Bhatt



Cheryl Byington, Rosemary Schatzman, Tim Moloney and Joann Crassas



Amy and Todd Miller

Garden Delights

16th Annual Umlauf Garden Party Offers Evening of Food and Fun

By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Pressman Studio Photography

THE SCENE: A BEAUTIFUL EVENING IN A beautiful garden is the best way to describe one of Austin's best-known spring events. This year's 16th Annual Garden Party held at the Charles Umlauf Sculpture Garden and Museum was no exception.

On hand was a delectable sampling of food from over 20 of Austin's hottest restaurants that paired with wines that were courtesy of Twin Liquors. Also featured this year were one-of-a-kind auction items including a personal message recorded by Willie Nelson and a Texas Legends autographed guitar.

THE VIBE: The garden-chic crowd created a friendly and warm environment where guests gushed over their favorite wine and food pairings while contemplating how much to bid on their favorite and unique silent auction items.

THE CAUSE: This year's event, chaired by Emily Pratte and Ashley Holt, raised funds for Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum's educational programs and its long-term garden restoration project. 🌱



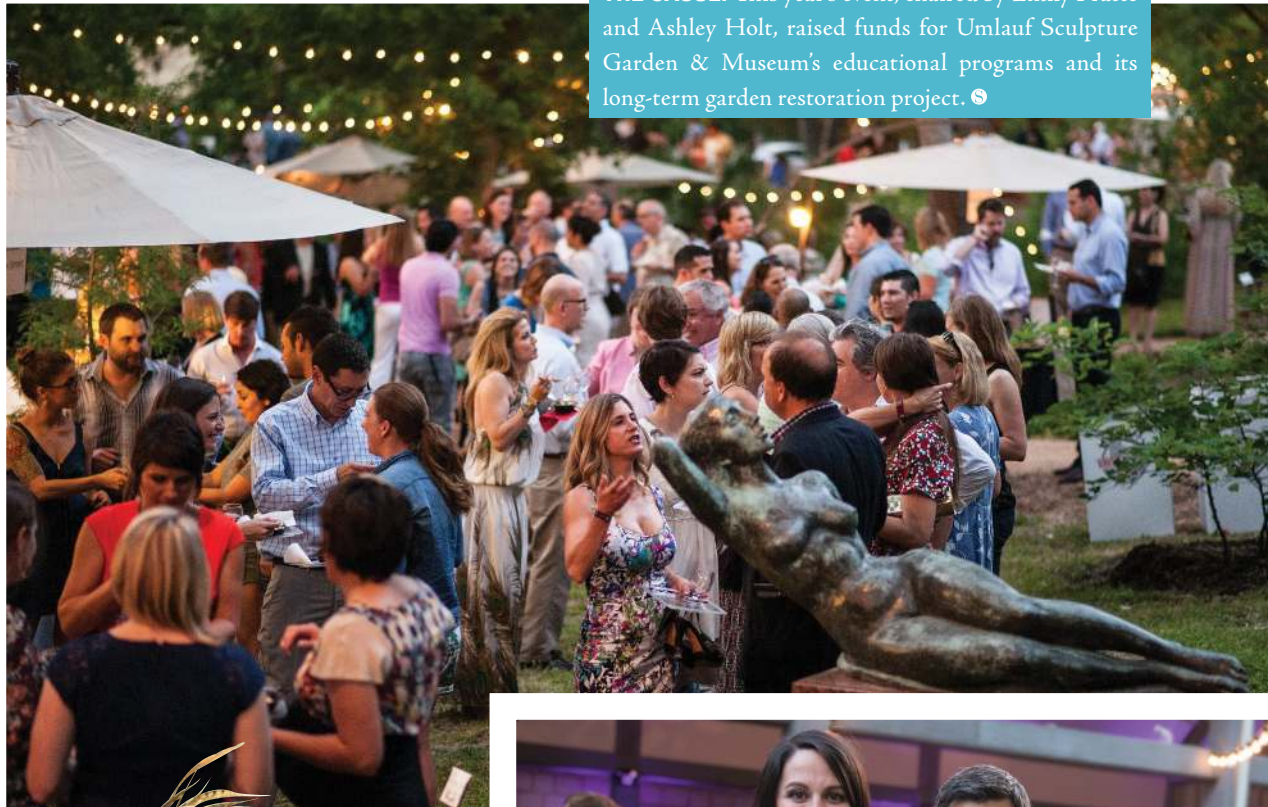
Abby Sandlin and Russell Martin



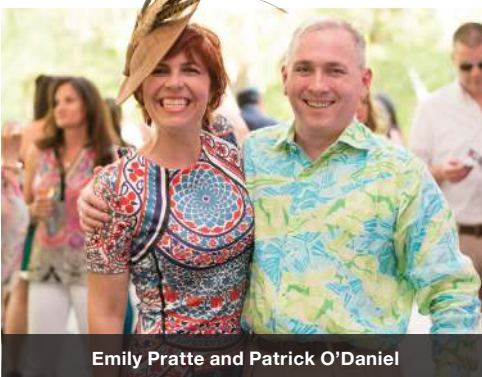
Stuart and Kelly Sampley



Nina Seely



Margo Sawyer



Emily Pratte and Patrick O'Daniel



Jessica Barnard, Sandra Spalding, Joseph Castillo and DeAna Ortiz



Rebecca Turnbow, Lisa Kerber and Leah Lee



BRIGHT FUTURE

From a *five-star wedding to her honeymoon getaway*, every girl desires a stylish rest. Traveling on a boat, or a plane, *to an island destination... the goal is the same*: love, love, love. Wear these summer fashions from sunrise until sundown and beyond, whether on post-wedding jaunt or *to your own private isle for an extended stay*

Photography by Mark Oberlin
Styling by Andru

Makeup by Robert Bryan using Cover Fx and Laura Mercier, Hair by Carlos Gallegos using Unite,
Model: Maja Hansen, Vision Los Angeles, Sitings Editor: Lance Avery Morgan





"EL QUE TE... A HONRE,
EL QUE... QUISTE."
"CON TOD... EN... E TODOS."

SAVING ALL MY LOVE FOR YOU
Lace gown by Bariano, available at Bariano.com.
Snake earrings by Daniel Espinosa, available at
Danielespinosa.com. Ring by Stella Flame, available at
Stellaflame.com



BEST OF MY LOVE

Dress by Forever Unique, available at foreverunique.co.uk. Nightfall earring by Stella Flame, Available at stellaflame.com



HOW DEEP IS YOUR LOVE

Dress by Lumier by Bariano, available at Bariano.com.au/. Clutch by Melie Bianco, available at Meliebianco.com. Tria Persia cuff and earrings by Stella Flame, available at Stellaflame.com



ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE

Gown by Winnie Couture, available at Winniecouture.com. Nightfall earring by Stella Flame, available at Stellaflame.com



LOVE IS IN THE AIR
Dress and clutch by Darling, available
at DarlingClothes.com



ON A SLOW BOAT TO CHINA

Dress by Lumier by Bariano, available at Bariano.au. Ring by Charles Albert Available at Charlesalbert.com



THEN CAME YOU

Dress by Lumier by Bariano, available at Bariano.com.au. Talon ring by Stella Flame, available at Stellaflame.com



CLOSE TO YOU

Dress by Lumier by Bariano,
available at Bariano.com.au.
Atlantis Flora earring and Tria
Persia cuff by Stella Flame,
available at Stellaflame.com

On An ISLAND



With You



Bora Bora is the *perfect* destination for leaving your cares far, far away at home. Jet with us as **our luxury life explorer Jill Skinner** takes us to paradise for fun, frolic, and adventure on a honeymoon trip that will be remembered for a lifetime.

Photography courtesy of Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora





LET'S FACE IT: BORA BORA IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL island in the world. With crystalline waters, a vibrant, colorful barrier reef serving as home to an abundance of exotic marine life, and a twin-peaked volcanic backdrop, few could argue. The island's reputation has been captured in art, books and films for decades. It enticed both Gauguin and Michener and they, in turn, inspired countless others to explore French Polynesia's sandy shores. When deciding upon a honeymoon venue it didn't take much searching once we learned the myriad of opportunities that French Polynesia has to offer its visitors. Friends had traveled there, and raved about the South Pacific's sunny disposition, so we were set.

POLYNESIAN ADVENTURE

We decided on the Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora. Built in harmony with the island's natural beauty, the resort is surrounded by white sandy beaches, swaying palm trees, and a lagoon the shade of a million blues. Bora Bora also boasts the moniker *the romantic island*. Perfect for newlyweds like us looking for a peaceful, secluded locale that would make us feel as if we were the only people in the world. In other words, paradise perfected.

Our trip to this perfect paradise began with a direct flight from Los Angeles on Air Tahiti Nui to the capital of French Polynesia, Papeete. We then stepped foot onto the private Four Seasons launch for our 15-minute ride from the island's airport across the lagoon to the stunning resort. With sparkling, turquoise water surrounding us, silence filled the air. We were truly speechless as we approached the entrance to what, for the next six days, would be our very own South Seas escape.

Arriving at the entrance of the resort, we instantly stepped from the boat into a tropical utopia. Welcomed in true Polynesian style, we were greeted with a traditional floral necklace made of fresh Tiare, a type of gardenia native to the highland shores of the South Pacific, with a sweet, floral fragrance that beckons

visitors to stay awhile. From there, we were escorted to our plush overwater bungalow suite, where we were ensconced in true Four Seasons luxury. Epitomizing a true South Seas resort experience, the bungalows are individual cottages with beautiful, high thatched roofs, traditional teak furnishing, and three sides of glass doors, including one tub-side and one in the bedroom, opening up to a private deck. It was the ideal backdrop for glorious views, and in the morning, the rising sun. In the bathroom, there were two glass bottom floor panels, making it easy to view our friendly neighborhood stingray. The serene setting of the island, paired with the dreamy comfort of our bungalow, immediately lends way to peaceful relaxation.

MARINE WONDERS

There is also plenty to do for those seeking a little more adventure like us. One of our favorite excursions was the snorkeling expedition led by a local Tahitian diver, who introduced us to manta rays, black tip sharks, and as an added bonus, the amiable eight-foot lemon shark. For any nature and aqua loving soul, swimming within arm's reach of these magnificent creatures is reason alone to visit this majestic island.

The Ruahatu (God of the Ocean) Lagoon Sanctuary, nestled within the grounds of the resort, is a definite must for those fascinated with the underwater world. On a tour led by marine biologist Oliver Martin, we explored the home of over 100 of the most incredible marine inhabitants, including the pufferfish, Picasso trumpetfish, parrotfish, firefish, and even the octopus. Sea urchins, anemones, and shrimp can also be found here, along with many other native species. It's more than just a spectacular snorkeling location, though. It is a research haven where the marine environment not only thrives, but also grows, furthering a delicate and wondrous ecosystem. Upon the completion of our underwater tour, Martin presented us with an Adopt-A-Coral Program certificate, stating our support to the coral nursery and reef restoration program being undertaken at the Four Seasons. If you do nothing else while in Bora Bora, do this because it is a magical experience.







Looking for a little more speed? Look no further. Get an entirely different view of the island by taking a WaveRunner excursion. Your guide will take you on a high-speed tour of the lagoon's most idyllic spots while carefully navigating the protected and pristine coral reef. It is an amazing experience and easily the best way of discovering more of the beauty of the island.

While there are many other fun-filled activities offered, including wind surfing, paddle boarding, kayaking, scuba diving, hiking, and several adventure and discovery tours offered aboard the resort's Catamaran, we found the lure of the lagoon and the sand too much to resist.

We secured our favorite beachside spot on the day of our arrival, and returned every day that followed. There is something to be said about being a creature of habit, especially in the tropics. Our two lounge chairs were shaded by a small thatched overhang, and situated right between the infinity-edge pool and the Fare Hoa Beach Bar. It was the perfect setting for mid-day snacking on fresh salads, sandwiches, and sipping on their refreshing made-to-order cocktails. Paradise found.

There are three other restaurants on the resort all known for exquisite French and international cuisine with a Polynesian Flare, which made deciding where to dine the most difficult decision of the day. The romantic Arii Moana overlooks the tranquil waters of the lagoon and features breathtaking views of distant Mount Otemanu. This is the perfect place if fresh seafood suits your culinary fancy. The beautifully seared Ahi-tuna, succulent King crab legs, and the savory scallops were some of our favorites. For a more casual evening, the Sunset Restaurant & Bar with over-water seating and a view of the setting sun is an excellent choice. Definitely with a more eclectic menu, this restaurant offers many Asian-inspired specialties, with a huge selection of fresh sushi, sashimi, and nigiri. We loved sharing a selection of small plates and sipping craft cocktails while watching the sun slipping behind the horizon. Tere Nui features farm-fresh breakfasts, hearty lunches and weekly themed dinners, including popular

Grill and Mediterranean nights where you can have anything your heart desires. You'll have to ask yourself what kind of a mood you're in, because they are all equally fantastic.

TROPICAL TRANQUILITY

If indulgence is your motivation, no one does it better than the Four Seasons. Situated between the glistening lagoon on one side, and the Pacific Ocean on the other, the Spa can only be described as a haven of blissful tranquility. At the full-service spa, treatments incorporate organic seaweed-based Osea products and French Polynesia botanicals. The spa also features an outdoor vitality pool, an aroma hammam area, and separate relaxation areas for men and women. Our couple's massage, set in a room on the side of the Pacific with its waves crashing on the shore and a light breeze coming through the open door, was heaven personified. If you're looking to restore wellness and balance to your life, there is no better place than an escape like this with premium treatments offered by skilled hands.

Bora Bora is the place of which dreams are made. The Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora is where those dreams come true. The staff makes sure of it. With impeccable service, attention to every detail, and the friendly Tahitian hospitality, this resort exceeded all of our expectations. Michel Volk, the Four Seasons General Manager, sat down with us for coffee one morning and when I asked him what made this resort unique to him, he simply said, "The staff. Our staff thrives on the happiness of our guests." A happy staff and happy guests make a dynamic combination for island bliss.

Our days of sinking our toes into the white sand, and sipping champagne on our private deck overlooking the turquoise lagoon came to an end. The week felt like months of time had eclipsed. All the fun in the sun, underwater exploration, reading and relaxation, made for the perfect honeymoon. It was time to head home. We boarded our boat back to the airport as we waved goodbye to the friendly faces of the Four Seasons. We will miss you, but we will be back. Very, very soon. 📍

'TILL THERE WAS YOU



*Natalie Bond Bloomingdale
Bridal portrait by Stephen Karlish,
Photography by Jennifer Lindberg Weddings*



*Chloé Smith Odio
Photography by Justine Ungaro Sudio*



*Anna Anami Hardeman
Photography by Ashley Garmon*

You are invited to the world of The Society Diaries weddings...

He said, "Will you marry me and be my life partner as we travel the road of life together?" You answered, "Of course, always and forever." And then the fun began... planning and staging the wedding of your dreams. Here we feature five weddings that continue to inspire.

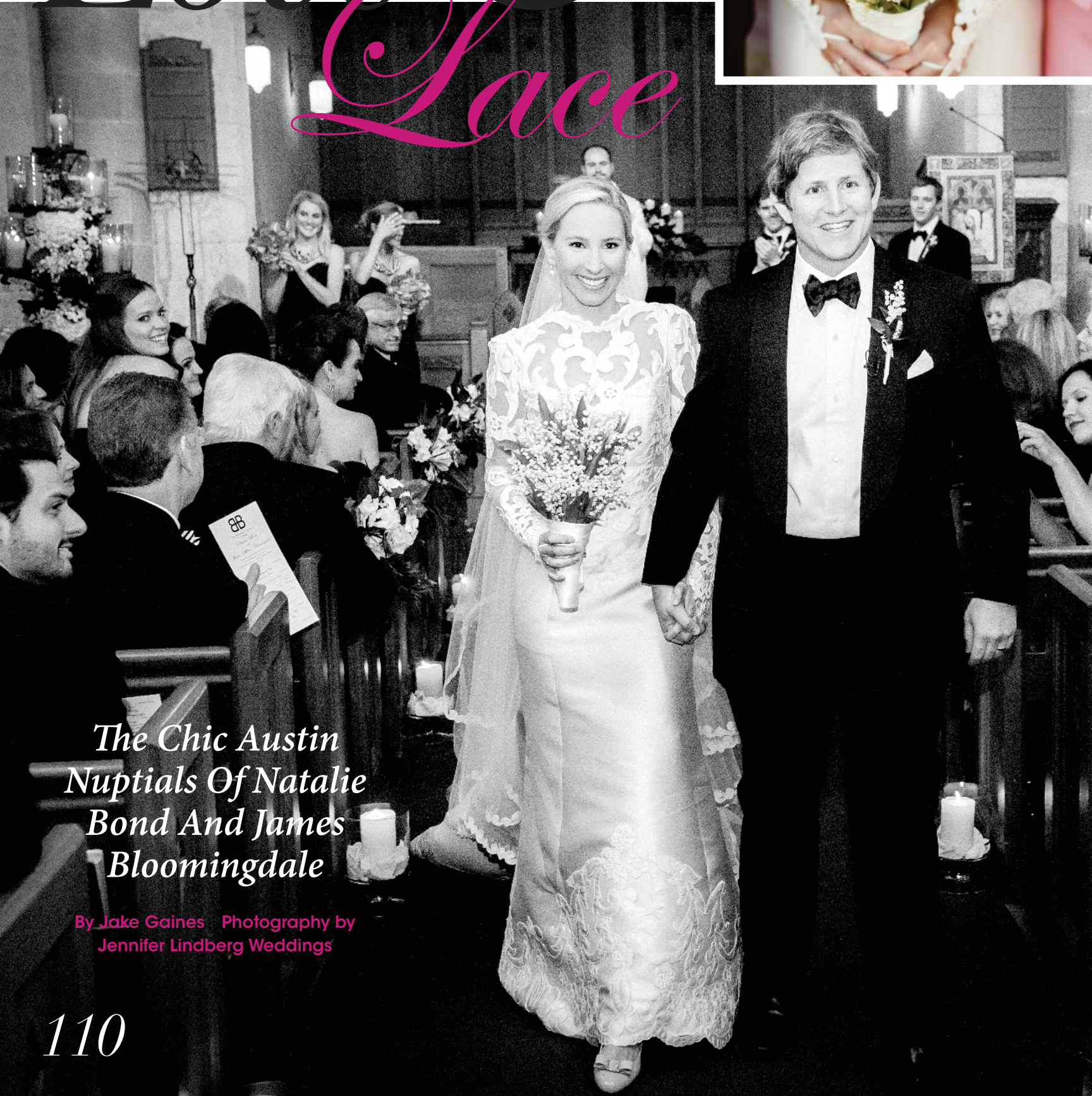


Elizabeth Suffield Wilbite
Photography by Chris Bailey



Ellen Wise McMahon
Photography by David Sixt

Love & Lace



*The Chic Austin
Nuptials Of Natalie
Bond And James
Bloomingdale*

By Jake Gaines Photography by
Jennifer Lindberg Weddings



Blaine Bond, Meredith Bond, Natalie Bloomingdale, and Pam and Dan Bond

NATALIE BOND BLOOMINGDALE HAD only one location requirement for her black-tie wedding: somewhere in Texas. Though the native Texan resides in Los Angeles, California with her now-husband, she chose Austin to be the destination for their celebratory wedding weekend. The bride, the daughter of Pam and Daniel Bond, III of Vernon, Texas, wed James Alfred Bloomingdale, son of Justine and Robert Bloomingdale of Pacific Palisades, California, at the Shelton Chapel at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in a private ceremony.

The site of the nuptials, a historic chapel established in 1902, was the intimate setting Natalie had always envisioned. Due to the narrow space, the siblings of both the bride and groom were at the altar while eight honor attendants, ten groomsmen, a junior bridesmaid, three house party members and four ushers looked on from the pews. The honor attendants and bridesmaids carried bouquets in shades of pink, rose and lavender which were made of peonies, roses, French and parrot tulips, gloriosa lilies, mina calla lilies, ranunculus and hydrangeas.



Hayley Bloomingdale, Wyatt Bloomingdale, James Bloomingdale, Robert and Justine Bloomingdale



Beth Denius, Natalie Bond Bloomingdale and Wofford Denius



Natalie Bond Bloomingdale and her bridesmaids



Wyatt Bloomingdale and James Bloomingdale with the groomsmen

“The dress was truly everything. It was the centerpiece of the wedding, to me,” said Natalie Bloomingdale. She made the usual stops in Los Angeles on her hunt for the dress (shopping at Oscar de la Renta, Carolina Herrera, Monique Lhuillier) but hadn’t found “the one” until a family friend pointed her in the direction of Laura Gonzalez, whose dress shop in Austin, Coutures by Laura, is frequented by the grand dames of Texas. “I started to tell her what I liked and she started to sketch a bit while I was talking,” says Natalie Bloomingdale. “Feeling skeptical as we started to leave, we commented on an absolutely stunning mantilla that was in her shop. The lace was bold and dramatic, something I had never seen before. My wedding planner held it up to my chest, horizontally, and our jaws just dropped.”

This was *it*. She goes onto say, “We fashioned the sleeves using that lace, and from there, the idea was taking shape. We decided to go for more of a champagne color, since it was a winter wedding, and Laura had to order the last bit of that lace from Europe, as the style isn’t made anymore. I flew to Austin for a couple of fittings, and Laura and I spoke over the phone quite a bit. What was so incredible to me, aside from her

sheer talent, was the fact that Laura could take what I was saying and literally make it a reality with the dress.”

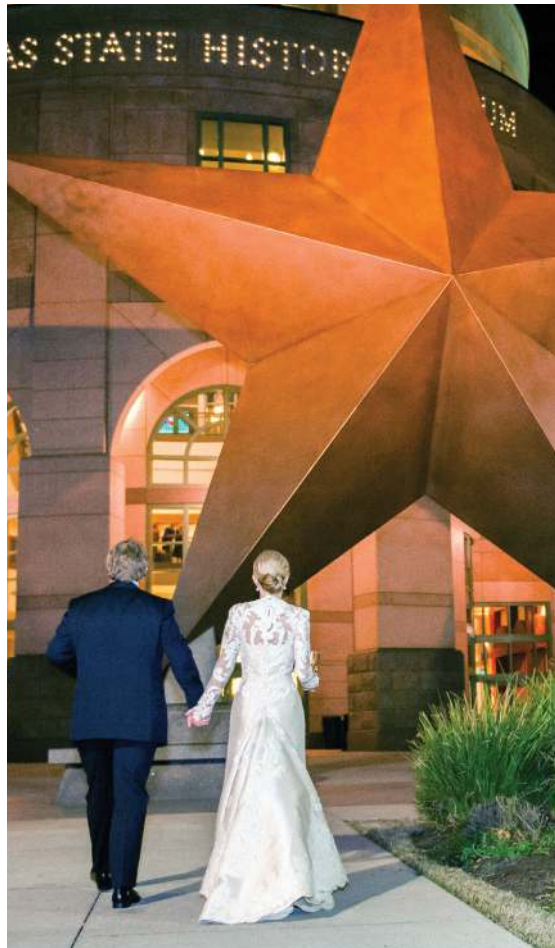
The bride carried a bouquet of lily of the valley and wore a silver and diamond lavalier, a family heirloom on her mother’s side. Her cathedral-length veil was also designed by Laura Gonzalez, and her shoes were Salvatore Ferragamo. She wore pearl and diamond earrings borrowed from her mother-in-law. The groom, James Bloomingdale, wore a traditional tuxedo by Ermenegildo Zegna.

Natalie chose the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum for the reception, and exhibits were kept open for the over 400 guests to experience the Story of Texas. “I tasked my wedding planner to think more architecturally when it came to the florals” shares Natalie. “I wanted structural, unique arrangements. The museum is so grand, so balance was key. My main objectives, though, were a stellar band, amazing food, and for the bartenders to be well equipped. I think those elements are really what matter most for any good Texas party.” Westbank

Flower Market’s Keith Burnham created a winter white wonderland of flowering white



Above: Whitney Marbach, Natalie Bond Bloomingdale, Blake Cavender
Below: Mark and Lauren Biegler, Manuel and Cassie Polidori, Natalie and James Bloomingdale



Charmaine McGill and Katie Jaffe



Kendall McMinn, Tyler Govaars, Natalie Bond Bloomingdale, Brittany Rogers, and Abbey Laudadio



Alison and Richard
Suttle & Ann Karol



Jessica Thrailkill,
Lindsay Farrell, Natalie
Bond Bloomingdale and
Lauren Biegler



quince, blooming amaryllis, French tulips, hydrangea, and orchids. Lighted birch trees lined the perimeters to create a cozy environment in the cavernous space.

Reception guests mingled to jazz in the rotunda and noshed on quail bites, cheddar bacon tarts, and beef kabobs until the arrival of the wedding party. As the newlyweds were introduced, they entered from the second floor and gracefully walked down the magnificent spiral staircase and right onto the dance floor, where one of the top bands in Austin, Blind Date, played the song for their first dance as a married couple.

In true Texas fashion, dinner was venison chile relleno, short ribs with biscuits, corn relish potatoes, cheddar grits with shrimp, and country wedge salad. The couple cut the six-tiered blush colored wedding cake created by Cakes by Lori in Dripping Springs, and in lieu of a groom's cake, buñuelo cups (a Latin-American fried pastry filled with ice cream) were enjoyed. James organized a hot dog food truck by Austin favorite, Frank, to serve departing guests.

Pre-Nuptial Events

A "Welcome Family Dinner Party" was hosted by James' grandmother, Mrs. Alfred Schiffer Bloomingdale at her home in Los Angeles' Holmby Hills in August. The engagement party, a "Texas-meets-California" theme, was hosted by the groom's parents at their home in the Pacific Palisades the same weekend. In Texas, a celebratory weekend of events including a brunch and casual cocktail party were held in October, culminating in a barbeque dinner and dance held at the iconic Waggoner Ranch. A bridal shower was given at the Los Angeles Country Club in November and the bride headed to Miami for a pre-wedding getaway with some girlfriends, while the groom and his crew went to Panama.

The bridegroom's parents hosted the rehearsal dinner at the Headliners Club in Austin. Natalie wore an off-white Valentino dress with braiding detail, and Jimmy Choos on her feet. The band, Cien Feugos (inspired by the Gypsy Kings) entertained guests throughout the evening.

The dinner's after-party was given at the Broken Spoke Saloon and Dance Hall, where guests were encouraged to wear "cowboy chic" attire. "The Friday night was the first night to be in the state of Texas for many of our Californian guests," said Natalie, who switched into cream-colored rattlesnake boots. "They enjoyed it thoroughly - there was no shortage of Californians in bolo ties, cowboy boots, belt buckles, turquoise and cowboy hats."

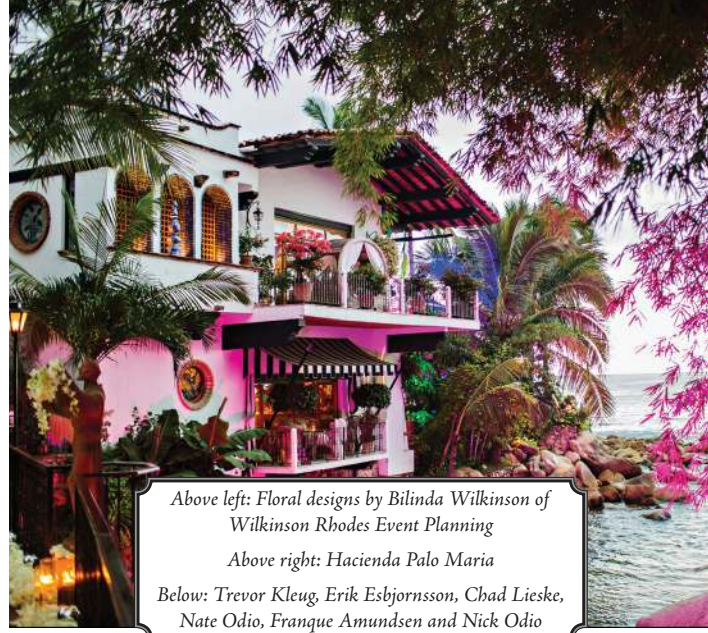
The bridal brunch was held at Green Pastures, where Natalie wore a blue and white floral Valentino cocktail dress and a royal blue Valentino overcoat. One of the couple's favorite Tex-Mex restaurants in Austin, El Arroyo, was the location for an out-of-town guests' luncheon the day of the wedding. Guests at the host hotels received a gift bag complete with Tito's vodka and Texas-shaped sugar cookies, capping off a memorable weekend of the marriage festivities for the beloved couple.

After all the merriment, Natalie, in an off-white number by Juan Carlos Obando, and her new husband made their way to a 1967 Rolls Royce Princess through a line of guests waving sparklers and toasting their future. The following day, they left Austin for their honeymoon, which consisted of skiing at Mont Cervin Palace in Zermatt, Switzerland, then sunning at the Eden Rock and Isle de France hotels in St. Barths. 🌊

Destination: LOVE

CHLOÉ SMITH AND NATHAN ODIO'S
STYLISH WEDDING WEEKEND IN
PUERTO VALLARTA

By Casey Richter Photography by Justine Ungaro Studio



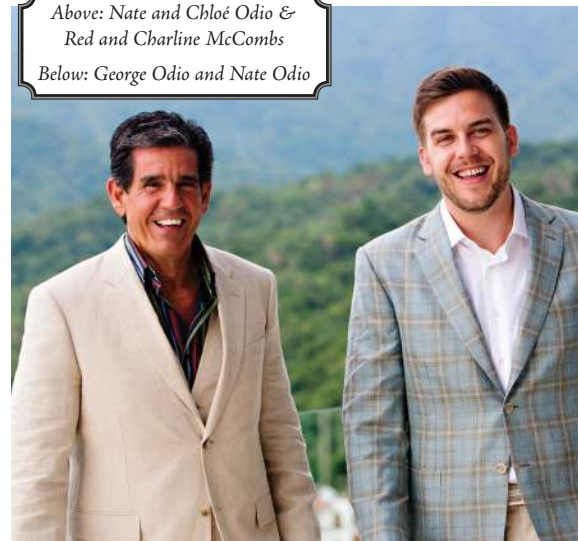
Above left: Floral designs by Bilinda Wilkinson of Wilkinson Rhodes Event Planning
Above right: Hacienda Palo Maria
Below: Trevor Kleug, Erik Esbjornsson, Chad Lieske, Nate Odio, Franque Amundsen and Nick Odio



The bride with Lauren Beightler, Corinne Zuleger, Sita McNab, Alexandra Barrett, Cristina Rubey



Above: Nate and Chloé Odio & Red and Charline McCombs
Below: George Odio and Nate Odio



The rehearsal dinner at Las Caletas



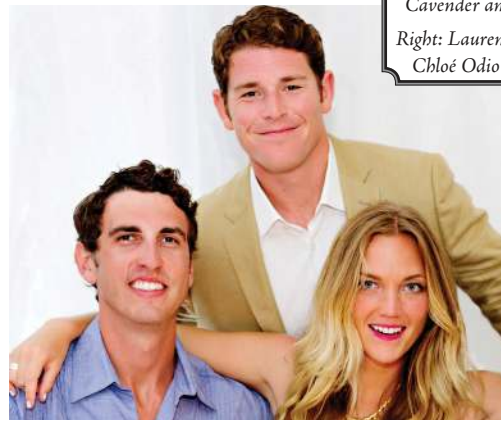
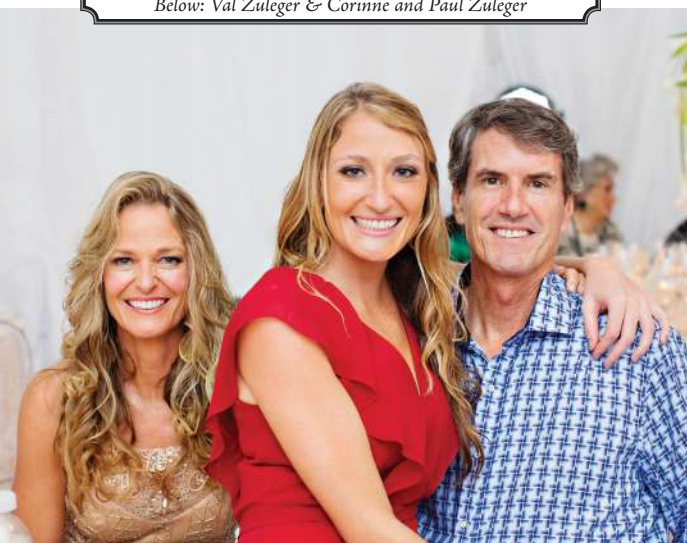
Connie McNab and Lynda McCombs



Above: George Odio, Chloé and Nate Odio & Nick Odio
Below: Val Zuleger & Corinne and Paul Zuleger



Left: Robert Dobson, W.B. Cavender and Rebecca Reardon
Right: Lauren Beightler, Nate and Chloé Odio & Robert Dobson



Lynda McCombs and Christine Odio



CHLOÉ SMITH AND NATHAN ODIÓ recently created the wedding of their dreams at Haceinda Palo Maria, in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The bride is the daughter of Lynda McCombs, and the granddaughter of Charline and Red McCombs and the groom is the son of Christine and George Odio. The couple met in Puerto Vallarta in 2007, and Nathan proposed there as well. The city is a special place to the Odio's and they were thrilled to be wed there.

The rehearsal dinner took place on the island of Las Caletas, a 40-minute boat ride from the marina. The couple rented the

island, the former private home of film director John Huston. It was a beautiful night to celebrate the couple as they and their guests spent the evening dining under the stars and watching an hour-long homage performance to the ancient civilizations of Mexico.

The next day, 200 guests arrived at the Hacienda Palo Maria to celebrate Chloé and Nathan. The ceremony was an unforgettable experience. Chloé remarks,



“Thirty minutes before the ceremony started, the sky turned black. It had been a beautiful day, and out of nowhere came this magnificent lightning and thunderstorm. As I walked down the aisle, it started to pour. Thankfully, everyone was covered, but where we were standing, at the altar, was exposed to the ocean, so we did get a bit wet. Everyone said it was the most intensely magical storm they had ever seen. We had to raise our voices to be heard over the thunder. It was a moment that we will never forget.”

Nothing could rain on Chloé’s parade as she celebrated her union to Nathan. The reception, held at the bride’s childhood vacation home in Puerto Vallarta, followed the beautiful ceremony with a seated dinner and performance by The James Gang band out of Los Angeles. “The beach was created to look like a traditional Mexican fiesta with cigar rollers to give a nod to the Odio’s Cuban heritage, and tacos and churros on the beach after hours. As we did the first dance, fireworks lit up the sky. Nathan’s brother serenaded us with a song

he wrote especially for us”, said Chloé. It was a magical evening in the couple’s favorite region.

The gorgeous white and blush wedding was planned by Billinda Wilkinson and India Rhodes of Wilkinson Rhodes Event Planning. Wilkinson helmed the floral arrangements for the evening as well. The catering and cake design was done by Kurt Gelhaar.

Chloé, originally from San Antonio, Texas, graduated from The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising. Nathan, from Miami, Florida, graduated from the University of Minnesota. It was appropriate that the wedding was in Mexico since the couple met and fell in love in Puerto Vallarta in 2007, and they have vacationed there together since then. They traveled to Riviera Maya, Mexico for their honeymoon, and the couple now resides in Los Angeles, CA. 📍



Alexandra Barrett
and Cristina Rubey





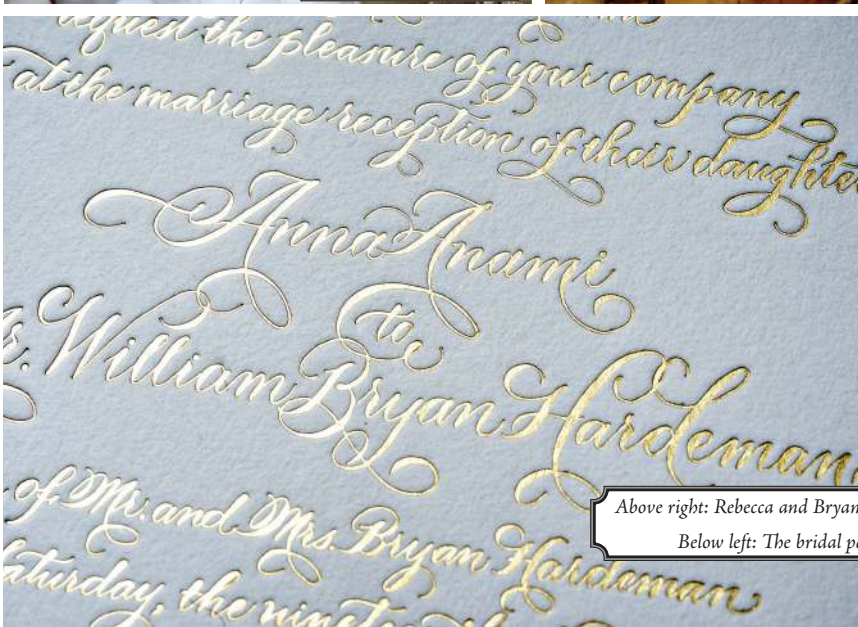
Because
You
LOVED
Me

*The Exotically Glamorous Austin Nuptials Of
Anna Anami and Will Hardeman*

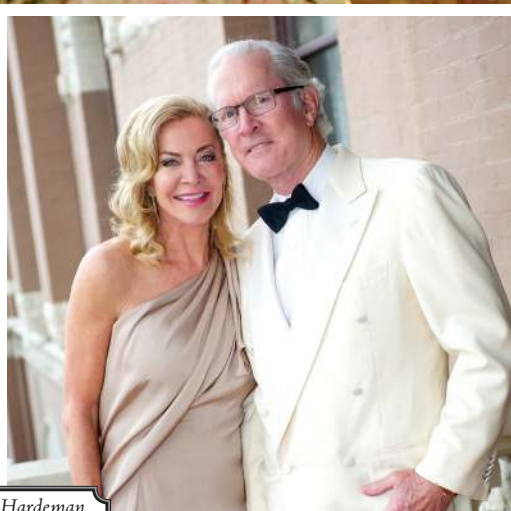
By Allison Haberer Photography by Ashley Garmon



Anna Anami Hardeman and Shaesteh Arzegar



Above right: Rebecca and Bryan Hardeman
Below left: The bridal party





Right: Julian Dell, ring bearer
Top left: Anna Anami
Hardeman and Mohsen Anami
Bottom left: The rehearsal
dinner at The Austonian Club



A NNA ANAMI AND WILLIAM BRYAN HARDE-
man were recently married in a stunningly personalized
wedding. The happy couple celebrated their nuptials at the
historical Driskill Hotel, with the ceremony being held in
the ballroom and the reception in the Mezzanine of the
venue. The Driskill was the perfect place for their wedding
because it held a special place in their heart; it was where Austin native Will's
parents once held their own wedding reception. The bride is the daughter of
Shaesteh Arzegar and Mohsen Anami and the groom is the son of Rebecca and
Bryan Hardeman. The couple are both graduates of The University of Texas at
Austin.

It took the couple over eight years to find their way to one another, but with a
little encouragement from the groom's mother, it all seemed to fall into place.
After a trip with friends to Lollapalooza in Chicago, the two came back a couple
and the rest is history.

Friends described the theme of the wedding as a "Persian princess marrying
prince charming in springtime." She wore a handmade Enzoani wedding gown
with a trumpet silhouette that was strapless with a jeweled bodice, very low cut

back and made of duchess tulle that complemented the groom's custom white
dinner jacket.

It was important to the couple that the bride's Persian family traditions be
incorporated into the proceedings and that included the wedding spread and
the knife dance. The knife dance, or raghsch chadoo, is when the couple is
ready to cut the cake, they have to "earn" the knife. A female family member
or friend will start dancing with the knife, and the couple must offer money
to the dancer in exchange for the knife. But the dancer may be coy and take
the money and pass the knife to another woman to continue the knife dance.
Also incorporated into the proceedings was the sofreh aghd, the center stone
of Persian weddings. A sofreh is a colorful, decorative spread of symbolic items.
Each item is carefully displayed and crafted and has its own meaning, from
warding off evil and to encourage prosperity, fertility, and wealth, as well as
tradition and family.

Before the wedding there was a round of events to celebrate the couple, like
their engagement announcement party that was hosted by the groom's parents
at their home in Tarrytown. An engagement party was also hosted by the bride's
mother, Shaesteh Arzegar and Dr. Kevin Flynn at Dr. Flynn's home at the W

Residences. The third engagement party was hosted by friends at the home of Dr. Steven and Jamie Dell. The fourth engagement party was held at the Lake Austin home of Mr. and Mrs. Mo Sadeghieh, while the last engagement party was hosted by friends at the home of John Schweitzer. The bridal luncheon was hosted by friends at Tarry House, and a luncheon was hosted by family at the Driskill Hotel the day of the wedding.

The night before the wedding, at the rehearsal dinner at The Austonian Club, custom linens, flowers, laughing Buda calligraphy place cards, and soloist and keyboardist to entertain 100 guests who flew in from all over the globe including Dubai and Canada. Anna and Will wanted to surprise their parents with a special thank you so they brought in a soloist who serenaded their parents with Natalie Merchant's *Kind and Generous* and Celine Dion's *Because You Loved Me*. Then Will surprised Anna by jumping on the mic to sing her Mark Cohn's *True Companion*. Numerous toasts, flowing bubbly, and celebrating high atop the city skyline completed the pre-nuptial evening.

The 400 guests, dressed in white dinner jackets for men, including the groom and his attendants, and floor-length pastel gowns for women, complemented the beautiful ceremony and reception. The floral arrangements, designed by Westbank Florist, engulfed the entire floor with their heavenly scent. The couple spared no detail, as with the incredible five-tier orange Grand Marnier chiffon cake with butter cream filling and topped with hundreds of hand cut fresh spring

flowers. The food had both a Persian and American flair and included a variety of traditional dishes including: saffron basmati rice, yogurt marinated chicken, lamb, a seafood tower, beef carving stations, along with charcuterie/vegetable/fruit towers. There was an Easter themed dessert table, which included whimsically colored French macarons and Jordon almonds, individual carrot cakes and Persian desserts infused with rose water. The evening's glamour continued. The couple hired a dance teacher to create custom Viennese waltz for their first dance to Elvis Presley's *Can't Help Falling in Love with You*. Event planner Victoria Hentrich of Creative Consultants and her team helped the couple envision their special day.

The bride had six attendants and the groom had seven. The ceremony also included two handsome ring bearers: Julian Dell, 16 months old, the son of Anna's good friend Jamie Dell, and Jack Levy, six years old, the son of Anna's business partner, Noa Levy. The adorable flower girl was Gigi, also six years old, Will's cousin's daughter. Then, one of the most special moments from the reception was the reveal of custom birthday cakes for the best man and Nita Archer, Will's maternal grandmother who both shared the same birthday as the wedding day.

The bride is a co-owner and real estate broker with The Boutique Real Estate and the groom is the managing partner of Continental Automotive Group. After the wedding, the couple honeymooned on the island of Anguilla in the British West Indies and St. Barth. They will reside in Austin. 🌟



The Thrill Of It All



Elizabeth Suffield & Adam Wilhite
of Houston

Tie The Knot
With Elegance

122

By Casey Richter Photography by Chris Bailey



Above: Wesley Knapp and Caroline Thompson
 Below: Ryan Orr, Kimberly Wilbite Orr, Adam and Elizabeth Wilbite, Caroline Suffield, Bradfield Wright, Elizabeth Jensen, Brennan Orr and Carolyn Bivins Dewhurst



Above left: Denise Wilbite and Adam Wilbite
 Above right: Laura Suffield and Elizabeth Wilbite
 Bottom: Kimberly Wilbite Orr, Caroline Suffield, Brennan Orr, Elizabeth Wilbite, Carolyn Bivins Dewhurst, Stuart Folkes, Caroline Thompson, Lauren Allen and Alexandra Reichbek

ELIZABETH SUFFIELD AND ADAM WILHITE, both of Houston, left no detail untouched with their nuptials, from the flowers to the food to the attire. The bride is the daughter of Laura and Thomas Matta Suffield and the groom is the son of Denise Bristow Wilbite and Randall Benton Wilbite. The bride and groom are graduates of The University of Texas at Austin.

Their black tie ceremony was held at the Second Baptist Church in Houston. The church holds a special place in the heart of both the bride and groom, as they both grew up attending church there and the bride's parents and groom's sister were also married there. The bride remarked at her unforgettable ceremony, "We have so much personal history in that sanctuary, that it was fitting to start our new lives together in that special, holy place." She goes on to say, "Our vows were solemn, special, and sincere, with our good friends reading from Colossians 3." The bride wore her mother's dress and veil and carried her grandmother's bible down the aisle.

The bride had 21 attendants and the groom 20, all of whom added love and support to the evening and the buffet supper and reception immediately followed the ceremony at the Houston Country Club. Champagne and blush tones set the mood for this 500 person wedding, with an accent on candles and sparkles. The couple wanted all of their loved ones to be involved in their wedding, and they were thrilled to host the attendees.

Champagne and St. Germain was the bride's signature drink, and scotch with a single ice cube was the groom's, which added a personal touch to the reception. The buffet featured an array of foods, from a carving station to a baked potato bar, along with trays of grilled vegetables and salad and a gaming table





Left: Josh Haverland, Rachael Anderson, Tyler Spears, Odeta Fejzulla, Elizabeth Wilbite, Meredith Spears, Katie Flores and Brandon Neff



Right: The groom and his groomsmen



Caroline Suffield, Thomas Suffield and Marilyn Elliott



Pam and Paul Thompson

full of quail, venison, and pheasant. Nadine Moon of Who Made The Cake created a nine-tiered buttercream, vanilla and raspberry cake that truly captured the details of the wedding... with delicate branches and leaves, two love birds and a vintage Beauty and The Beast cake topper portrayed the image of love for this wedding.

The wedding weekend activities were planned by Allison Butcher with Keely Thorne Events. The flowers at the wedding and reception were Events In Bloom's creations that included pale pinks, taupes and white to make enormous centerpieces and floral décor. One rose, called "the slipper" matched the bridesmaids dress color. Sarah at Atelier du Papier handled all of the paper goods, from the bachelorette party to the wedding signs, and the bride couldn't have been happier with them.

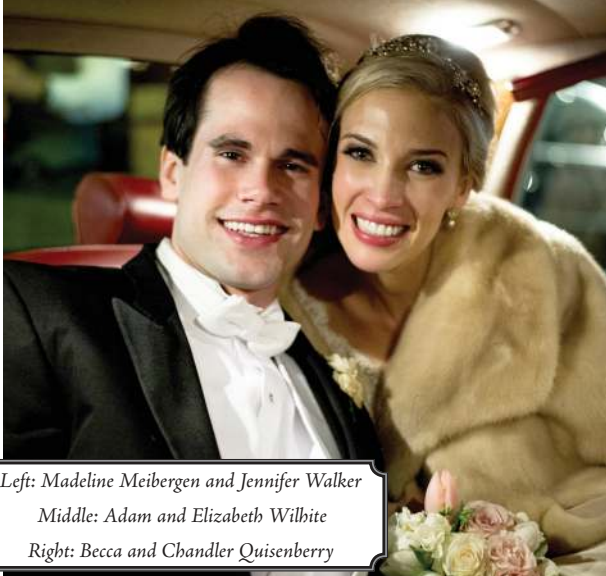
Earlier in the weekend's festivities, the rehearsal dinner, at Brennan's of Houston, featured a Southern Creole cuisine theme. The centerpieces were of white wild roses and antlers found on Elizabeth's family's Texas ranch outside of Austin,

created by Events in Bloom, and the menu featured Creole culinary treats like alligator pie and oyster BLTs. The one hundred guests loved this celebration and entertained the party with loving and humorous toasts to the couple.

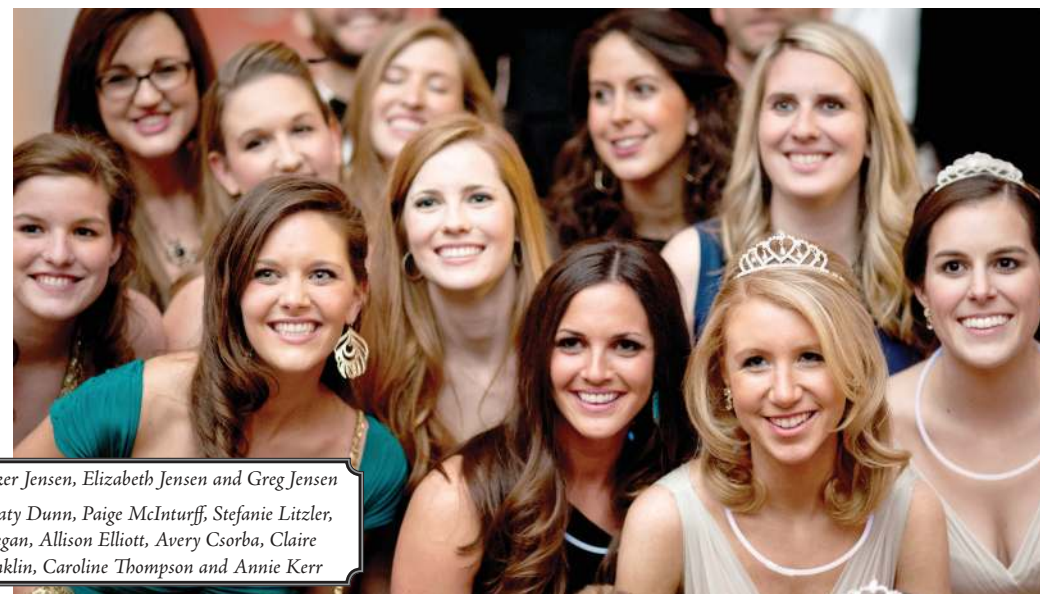
At the wedding reception, Trey and the Tri-Tones from Fort Worth entertained the party with their live music and their costume change from white jackets to sequin jackets for the last set. Elizabeth wanted a Downton Abbey meets Great Gatsby feel. The bride's sister even surprised her with an English Tiara for her, her sister, and the groom's mother.

At midnight the guests were surprised with a late night snack of candied bacon, donut holes and Houston Country Club's signature brandy freezes.

The bride is involved with many civic and social endeavors and the groom is a corporate attorney with Winston and Strawn, LLP. They honeymooned in Turks and Caicos following their wedding and reside in Houston with their black Labrador, Lady. 🐾



Left: Madeline Meibergen and Jennifer Walker
Middle: Adam and Elizabeth Wilbite
Right: Becca and Chandler Quisenberry



Left: Karen Jensen, Parker Jensen, Elizabeth Jensen and Greg Jensen
Right: Ashley Elliott, Katy Dunn, Paige McInturff, Stefanie Litzler, Kelsey Orr, Leah Deegan, Allison Elliott, Avery Csorba, Claire Burgher, Kendall Shanklin, Caroline Thompson and Annie Kerr





Love Is In The Air

Ellen
Wise
and
Jeramy
McMahon
of San Antonio
Celebrate
Their Vows

By Meredith Heins

Photography by David Sixt



*Top right: Beth McMahon, Jeremy McMahon and Mike McMahon
Below right: Corby and Megan Houser, Susan Wise, Ellen Wise McMahon, Wade Wise, Molly and Henry Drought & Blair Drought*



Ellen Wise McMahon with the bridal party



Above left: Floral design by Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers
Above right: Ellen Wise McMahon and Jackie Wise
Below right: Jeremy McMahon and Nancy Solcher



Above left: The bride with the house party
Below left: Keirsten Fellsler, Jeremy McMahon and Shawn McMahon
Below right: Noelle Palm and Carlos Longoria
Bottom left: Betty Lou Sherrin, Susan Wise and Stephanie Cavender



IT WAS AN EVENING TO REMEMBER, ADORNED with roses, orchids, family and friends. Ellen Alexandra Wise and Jeremy Michael McMahon of San Antonio celebrated their love with an exquisite wedding ceremony and reception. The bride is the daughter of Susan and Wade Wise, attended University of Mississippi and is a recent graduate from University of the Incarnate Word with a degree in art. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Solcher and Mr. and Mrs. Michael McMahon, and attended Baylor University.

Beautiful ivory and gray invitations, created by Invitations, Etc. were sent out to the 400 guests for the wedding activities. The rehearsal dinner was at Club

Giraud in San Antonio, planned by the groom's family, for 100 of their closest friends and family. Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers designed floral arrangements for the evening, as well as the wedding ceremony and reception. The following day, the ceremony was held at the First Presbyterian Church in San Antonio. The couple celebrated their union with nine bridesmaids, seven house party attendants and nine groomsmen, and the couple walked down a breathtaking aisle with pews marked by wreaths covered in gray lambs ear leaves, white orchids, white roses and gray ribbon.

The bride wore a Luxe label Vera Wang lace dress and her sister's veil, also by Vera Wang. The bridesmaids wore elegant gray silk Monique Lhuillier gowns. Monte Vista Strings and the Chamber Singers choir provided the music for the ceremony.

The reception was held in a grand, 30-foot tent on the grounds of The Argyle Club, featuring three floral covered chandeliers, Thriftwood colored hardwood

floors, and distressed Louis XVI upholstered dining chairs. Two bars under the tent made from white birch laden with white roses and orchids flanked the black and white dance floor, all designed and created by Danny Cuellar of Trinity Flowers. To add even more flair to the party, two larger than life-size black and white photos of the bride and groom adorned the back wall of the tent.

The band, Jenie's Girls from Atlanta, kept the party dancing all evening. The linens were from LaTovala of Napa, CA. The wedding cake was designed by Kathy Young, and the very unique groom's cake was placed on a table that featured a Labrador topiary, sitting atop a round table with runners made of ostrich feathers, dyed to match a hand beaded monogram created by Javier Castillo. Lynn Huntress was the wedding coordinator.

After the wedding, the couple honeymooned in Telluride, CO. and will reside in San Antonio. 📍



Above left: The groom with his attendants
 Above right: Calvin Smith, Phyllis Hall, Nancy Hollimon and Jane Hollimon
 Below: The groom's cake



Feather In Her Hat

Le Brunch Des Chapeaux Luncheon Benefits Autism Community Network

By Ellie Leeper Photography by Greg Harrison

THE SCENE: ACCESSORIES ARE an important part of our everyday wear. For one San Antonio non-profit organization, their special accessory, hats, are tipping their brim to support the goal of defeating the emotional disorder of Autism. The Le Brunch Des Chapeaux, nicknamed The Hat Luncheon, recently held its 11th anniversary luncheon on the statuesque lawn of The Argyle Club.

THE VIBE: With over 300 supporters in attendance festooned in fabulous hats, guests were treated to a Mad Hatter's cocktail, followed by a light lunch and a sleek fashion show presented by Julian Gold. Keeping in theme with the Mad Hatter's tea party, assorted mini Bundt cakes called Bundtinis were served to satisfy those with a sweet tooth. The women attending the Le Brunch Des Chapeaux luncheon made a bold statement, not only with their hats of assorted colors and styles, but also with a public statement committing their efforts to support individuals faced with Autism.



Angie Gammill and Elizabeth Cox



Raven Labatt and Cynthia Kerby



Claudia Coleman and Anna Shaw



Lauren Itschner, Jenna Natho



Matilde Delgado, Tevor Chauvin and Amy Garcia



Standing: Dori Salisbury, Keri Poulter and Jennie Dawson Hart.
Seated: Daniela Serna, Lynette Embrey, Sara Walker and Lauren Itschner



Linda Leyendecker Gutierrez and Niti Volpe



Sasha Johnson, Jenifer Brown and Tracee Feik



Ana Montoya



Amy Swaney, Tracy Williams, Jody Lutz and Leslie Miller



Amy Swaney



James Glover, Kay Maynard and Bob Gurwitz



Barbie Gonzalez, Leslie Miller and Christy Gulley



Julian Gold model

THE CAUSE: Chaired by Raven Labatt and Cynthia Kerby, this year's luncheon benefitted the Autism Community Network. Established in 2008, the Autism Community Network was created to provide services for all people with autism. Since its establishment, the organization has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars that are donated to assist local San Antonio programs for young people in the community. 📍



Julian Gold model



Val Dullnig, Melinda Tucker and Meredith Alvarez



Some attendees of Le Brunch des Chapeaux



Aspacia Erian, Ginger Roberts and Rachel Roberts



Tashya Riggs, Allison Hayne, Sheila Mayfield and Julie Johnson



Katharine Welder



Carroll Dorsey Walker

LET'S HAVE LUNCH

Houston's Spring Luncheons Raised More Funds Than Ever Before

By Jennifer Roosth

Photography by Jenny Antil, Fulton Davenport, F. Carter Smith and Michelle Watson

THE SCENE: THE BEST LUNCHEONS IN TOWN MAKE A A TREMENDOUS DIFFERENCE to so many who benefit from them. Salvation Army "Reflections on Style", the Children's Assessment Center "Spirit of Spring", the Easter Seals "Hats Off to Moms", "I Am Waters", MD Anderson Volunteer, and Multiple Sclerosis "On the Move" luncheons kept the country club and hotel ballrooms filled with a sea of pastel-clad beauties in the latest spring Chanel, Valentino, Armani, Pucci and hats galore. Fashion runway shows by Tootsies, shopping, and double-air kisses helped define the scene as some of Houston's most amazing charities welcomed spring.

THE VIBE: Despite the glamour of the spring luncheon social swirl, Houstonians in attendance never forget that the purpose of these events: to share what they have...energy, attention, love and funds...with those in need in the regional community. There were heartwarming testimonials and moving keynote speeches at all of the luncheons where the focus was helping the less fortunate and championing the organizations that care for them.



Anne Hooper, Alissa Maples, Virginia Steppe and Lu Caltagirone, On the Move



Lauren Maloy, Bruce Padilla, Allison Flikerski and Elizabeth Stein, Spirit of Spring



Lynn Wyatt and Elena Davis, I Am Waters



Fashion Show at Spirit of Spring Luncheon



Ursaline Hamilton and Ericka Bagwell, Spirit of Spring



Hats Off to Moms Honorees



Ashlee Brown, Benton Love & Kathy and Jeff Love, I Am Waters



Debby Leighton and Carolyn Mann, Reflections on Style



Brooke Monk, Karen Susman and Erica Levit, Hats Off to Moms



Sandra Porter and Karen Love, On the Move



Cynthia Petrello, Diane Lokey Farb and Phoebe Tudor, Reflections on Style



Deborah Duncan, Steve Tyrell and Katie Brass, On the Move



Linda McReynolds and Hannah McNair, Reflections on Style



Kristi Schiller, I am Waters



Past Spirit of Spring Event Chairs and Houston Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force



Jessica Jacob, Tama Klosek, Katie Mattingly and Stephanie Cockrell, On the Move



Jeanne Ruberti and Debbie Rogers, Reflections on Style



Mark and Debra Grierson, I Am Water



Elaine Stolte and Senator Joan Huffman, Spirit of Spring



Joanne King Herring and Jo Ann Hoss Coskey, I Am Waters



Kay Kanaby, Kate Kanaby, Paul Mansfield and Christine Mansfield, I Am Waters



Stacey Swift and Kelly Klein, Hats Off to Moms



Jeanne Kilroy and Pat Breen, Reflections on Style



Judi McGee, Reflections on Style



Kathy Goosen, Alice Burguieres and Denise Monteleone, I Am Waters



Betty Tutor and Gene and Linda Dewhurst, On the Move

THE CAUSE: Each cause is vital and here's a sampling. The Easter Seals honored 15 moms in honor of its 15th annual Hats Off luncheon: Sofia Adrogué, Jana Arnoldy, Suzette Caldwell, Patricia Hamilton Dewhurst, Andi Fry, Kelli Kickerillo, Mary Kickerillo, Leela Krishnamurthy, Audrey Lawson, Katherine Le, Kristen Nix, Amy Pierce, Kathi Rovere, Karen Susman, and Ileana Treviño. This was chaired by Gina Gaston Elie and Dr. Kelli Cohen Fein, and raised \$205,000 for programs of the Easter Seals Greater Houston.

The Salvation Army Auxiliary Reflections on Style and Chic Boutique luncheon raised over \$550,000. The event honored Janice McNair, and was chaired by Brenda DeVore. The Chic Boutique chairs were Debbie Rogers and Jeanne Ruberti, while the Couture chairs were Rose Cullen, Linda McReynolds and Phoebe Tudor, and the After-Sale chair was Deborah Dunkum. The Multiple Sclerosis On the Move luncheon raised \$160,000, was chaired by Franelle Rogers, and honored Penny Loyd and Frost Bank. Deborah Duncan interviewed keynote speaker musician Steve Tyrell. The MD Anderson Cancer Center Volunteer Endowment for Patient Support (VEPS) Annual luncheon raised \$835,000 and special thanks went to lead underwriters Rania and Jamal Daniel while Kathy and Jeff Love chaired the luncheon. The Children's Assessment Center 15th annual Spirit of Spring luncheon was chaired by Tina Davis, Lidiya Gold, Denise Hazen and Yvette Webb and honored Senator Joan Huffman, and included keynote speaker Alicia Kozakiewicz. The I Am Waters Supermodel luncheon was chaired by Debra and Mark Grierson and Phoebe and Bobby Tudor and honored Lynn Wyatt. Founder Elena David welcomed some of her Supermodel friends to Houston including Chandra North, Rachel Hunter, Alicia Kozakiewicz and Julie Anderson. The array of luncheons and causes always reflects Houston's big heart so beautifully. 📍



Regina Rogers, Sarah Joseph, Ginger Blanton and Linda Gale White, I Am Waters



Carol Donnally, Franelle Rogers and Penny Loyd, On the Move

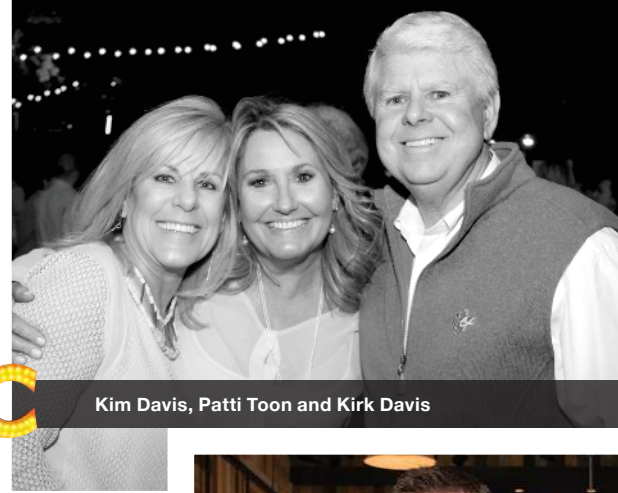
Music AND Merriment

Elizabeth Toon Charities Hosts Annual Fundraiser

By Ellie Leeper Photography by Jerry McClure



Holly Hutchinson and Mary Margaret Toon



Kim Davis, Patti Toon and Kirk Davis



Jessica and Will Whitsitt

THE SCENE: ON A BEAUTIFUL SPRING evening in Dallas, more than 1700 supporters of Elizabeth Toon Charities packed The Rustic venue for the 8th Annual Elizabeth Toon Charities Concert.

THE VIBE: The sold-out event featured country star Pat Green, who played a list of his most popular songs. The event opened with Nashville based country-western group Mockingbird Sun. A live auction raised over \$100,000 and the two top selling auction items were a hunting trip in the Texas Hill Country and a day of shooting with Green Beret John Wayne Walding and Craft International. The night also featured jewelry from Kendra Scott where attendees could purchase small boxes with a piece of the jewelry designer's collection, as well as gift cards to local restaurants, with all the proceeds donated to Elizabeth Toon Charities. The following day was the annual sporting clay tournament at Dallas Gun Club and lunch was provided by Hard Eight BBQ, with an awards ceremony and happy hour followed the shoot.

THE CAUSE: Elizabeth Toon Charities is Dallas-based non-profit organization dedicated to serving children and their families in need throughout North Texas, and the organization was inspired by the faith, hope and love of Elizabeth Toon



Carrie Arnot and Carolyn Cross



Live auction



Truck Rowley, Larry and Patti Toon, Carolyn Cross, Brett Taylor and Charlie Berry



Pat Green and Carolyn Cross



Michael Hagggar, Kathleen Rutledge, Benton Rutledge and Brittany Crow



Justin Toon, Starla Terry, Adrian Fenton, Mary Margaret Toon, Laura Toon and Taylor Brooks



Scott and Jennifer Roberts



Will Hickey, Hunter Smith, Clay Burks, Warren Loftis, Clay Smith and Mike Loftis



Stephanie Glinka and Jihane Boury



Mitch Myers, Wes Bryan, Win Sedwich, Taylor Brooks and Porter Miller



Justin Toon and Larry Toon



Mary Margaret Toon, Larry Toon, Patti Toon, Laura Toon and Justin Toon



Larry Toon, Joshua Furrh and Ryan Dale



Live auction



Ashley Hubbard and Jason Farmer



Lauren Cochran, Greg and Amanda Freeman



Adrian Fenton, Mary Margaret Toon, Justin Toon, Starla Terry, Campbell Hatch and Carolyn Cross



Laura Richardson, Adrian Fenton, Starla Terry, Justin Toon and Mary Margaret Toon

Roaring Roddick

Roaring 20's-Themed Andy Roddick Foundation Gala Raises Funds For Low Income Youth

By Rob Giardinelli Photography By Tyler Schmitt

THE SCENE: AUSTIN'S LEGENDARY Driskill Hotel was the scene of a roaring good time recently, 1920s-style. The Andy Roddick Foundation gala transformed the mezzanine of the grand dame hotel into a beautiful 1920s speakeasy club where the band Vintage 15 performed, while the ballroom became a casino since gambling was a favorite pastime of the 1920s.

THE VIBE: The spirited crowd wore their best 1920's-era costumes for the occasion, including many women who dazzled in flapper costumes. There was even an Albert Einstein sighting and Andy Roddick himself donned a vintage baseball uniform, ensuring everyone was in the spirit.

THE CAUSE: This year's event raised funds for The Andy Roddick Foundation, which provides services for youth in low income communities with education and sports-based mentoring to reach their full potential. 📍



Andy Roddick



Brooklyn Decker and Event Emcee Holly Mills-Gardner



Hal Daub



Spring *Fling*

By Rob Giardinelli Photography by Jen Perez



Eric Copper, Gerri Copper & Steve and Ava Late



Tom and Kathy Stewart & Leisa and Mark McLelland

ERIC COPPER'S HOUSE, DEEP IN THE HEART OF OLD WEST Austin, was the chic scene of a cocktail party for friends and family. Guests of the gracious host gathered in the lush and luxe urban terrace and were treated to signature cocktails, delicious food, beautiful flowers, Bossa Nova music, and great conversation. Copper feels that outdoor entertaining is always a fun endeavor in Texas, and a great way to show off that famous big-hearted hospitality for which Texans are well-known. 📍



Bill Wilson and Gertie Murray



Kim Overton and Ruth Stephens



Wade Becker and Art Campsey



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Mission Gala Fundraiser Benefits Los Compadres

By Ellie Leeper Photography By Greg Harrison



Jeff and Heather deRojas



Lucia Carter and Margaret Walker



Callie Bowman and Dr. Stephen Ramirez



Heather and Harry Wolff

THE SCENE: RECENTLY IN SAN ANTONIO GUESTS GATHERED UNDER THE MOONLIGHT AT the historic Mission San Juan Capistrano for a fundraiser to support the Los Compadres organization. Guests were greeted by a strolling Mariachi guitar tour and entered the mission compound that was decorated with maypoles festooned with long strands of colorful ribbon. The facade of the mission church was dramatically up lit with soft, rosy lighting while the bell tower was lit up from the back. All of this followed an incredible sunset where pink and orange shone through the tower.

THE VIBE: Docents and park rangers offered tours of the mission upon arrival to the event. Guests enjoyed a silent auction and entertainment by Mariachi Campanas de America. Guests dined on “vice-regal” fare – foods that were native to the area or introduced by Franciscans during the Spanish Colonial era provided by the RK Group. The centerpieces, hand-made papier mâché lambs sporting a flower necklace, resembled an fluffy Easter cake. They were sold to raise additional funds and were donated by Sue Ann and J.A. Garcia and were made on the Garcia Ranch in Kenedy County.

THE CAUSE: Heather and Jeff de Rojas chaired the event. Los Compadres and the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park have worked in partnership for the past 31 years to preserve and develop the missions. Los Compadres has made many contributions, including raising over \$4 million for special projects at each of the historic sites. These missions are national treasures entrusted to San Antonio’s care. The event’s main sponsor was Valero and for also supporting the event, special thanks goes to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bolner, the Greehey Family Foundation, the National Park Service, and the John Newman Family Charitable Fund of the San Antonio Area Foundation. 🍷



Rosemary Kowalski



Debbie Margozewitz, Patty Covard, Sharon Barrett and Libby Williams



Curtis and Kathleen Gunn & Ty Edwards



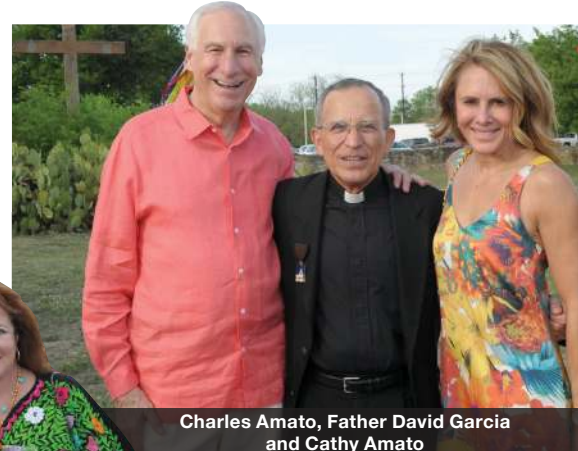
Ashley Campbell, Rita Feik and Katie Santillanes



Cliff Bueche



Becky Canavan, Forrest Welmaker and Patti Stewart



Charles Amato, Father David Garcia and Cathy Amato



Sue Ann and J.A. Garcia



Michael Ondraslek, Vance Runnels and Gary Moore



Mission San Juan Capistrano

ARTFUL *Endeavor*

By Jake Gaines Photography by Greg Harrison



Jerry Cabrera, Havens



Emmelie Kopp, Illa Gaunt, Alice Foulz and Pam Bryan



Wayne Amedee, Consolations XI

THE OCTAVIA ART GALLERY RECENTLY HOSTED A GATHERING to launch its pop-up art show in collaboration with curator Alice Carington Foulz at the historic Roosevelt Library in San Antonio. The show will run through August 13 and the exhibition curated by Foulz, *Summer Solstice*, combines the works of artists represented by the gallery, as well as several local San Antonio artists.

Foulz's inspiration for the show were the scents, sounds, intensity of light and contrasting temperatures experienced during the summer months and says, "These artists have captured the stillness of a hot summer afternoons or the coolness of swimming pools, green golf courses, and forest canopies. Abstractions of blue water also find their way into the mix." The show features paintings and sculptures by Wayne Amedee, Waddy Armstrong, Jerry Cabrera, Rudy

Choperena, Meghan Garety, Alex Hernandez Dueñas, Martha Hughes, Regina Scully and Eliza Thomas.

Octavia Art Gallery also recently announced the opening of a satellite office and gallery space in Houston, Texas by its director, Illa Steen Gaunt. The gallery was established in New Orleans in 2008 and showcases the work of international emerging and established contemporary artists along with modern masters, emphasizing the preservation and conservation of unique and authentic artistic cultures worldwide. The new location in Houston is a new chapter for Octavia and gallery founder Pamela Bryan hopes the second location will create a platform for not only their represented artists in Texas, but also to establish and develop relationships with emerging artists in Houston and surrounding cities such as Austin, San Antonio, Dallas and Marfa. 📍



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By Meredith Heins Photography Courtesy of Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce



The harbor at Rockport



Rockport Pier



Rockport's beach

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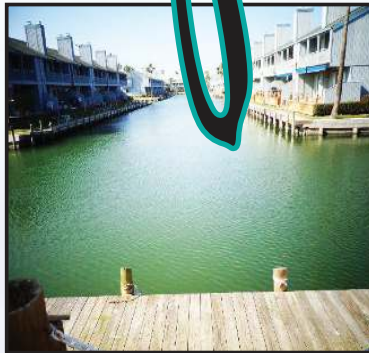
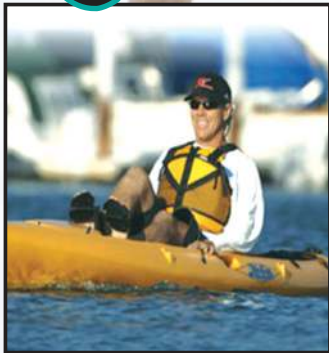
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The Islands of Rockport



FOR THOSE WHO SEEK REFINED RELAXATION ON THE Texas coast, Rockport has long been the destination - and for good reason. The area's many attractions include a vibrant arts community and an array of galleries, a colorful offering of local events and festivals, and wonderful dining.

For anglers, Rockport's bay systems offer everything from sand flats to reefs, sloughs and back lakes for great fishing and boating. Avian enthusiasts and photographers flock to Rockport for excellent bird watching and unsurpassed photography opportunities that are available in myriad waterfront and inland sanctuaries. Amid the stately bowed live oaks of Rockport, there is something for everyone.

Now, with completion of The Islands of Rockport, that is especially true.

Capturing the casual elegance of Rockport, The Islands of Rockport is a gated waterfront canal community that appeals to buyers from all over Texas. Located on the crystal clear waters of Estes Flats, The Islands of Rockport affords owners the beauty of golden sunrises and the enjoyment of cool southeasterly breezes, not to mention immediate access to some of the best fishing anywhere.

With home building well underway, at the Islands of Rockport you can custom design the waterfront home of your dreams or choose one of our Coastal Collection of homes. With spacious waterfront lots starting in the \$250,000s and lot and homes starting in the \$600,000s, they make buying and building your waterfront escape as easy as a bay breeze.

You are invited to The Islands of Rockport to view homes under construction and to see the remaining home sites. Visit Islandsofrockport.com, or call 800.780.3750 for more information and to schedule a tour. 📍



ROCKPORT:

See, Do, Stay & Dine

SEE & DO

If you get too sunburned or wanting to explore Rockport, your itinerary has hundreds of opportunities.

The Fulton Pier is a favorite for outdoor recreation and shopping. The pier is filled with merchants ranging from anything like fresh gulf seafood to beachwear and jewelry, plus it is a perfect place to wear that oversized sun hat and sundress.

For you art lovers, the Rockport Center for the Arts should be your first destination. With exhibitions, classes, and festivals, locals love to come and see the different flavors brought to the coast.

The 45th Rockport Art Festival is July 5th and 6th. There is nothing better than showcasing high-quality artist with live music under the summer sun.

The area is renowned for its Whooping Cranes. Once you see them you'll never forget it.

Shopping in the quaint town is a treat with stores like Comforts of Home, the Bay Window and so many more.

The praise could go on and on about Rockport. These coastal communities are filled with great beaches, fantastic hospitality, and let you create great memories. You've earned it, take a break and explore Rockport; you may find your new "go to" destination.

TOP PICKS

Rockport Center For The Arts

902 Navigation Circle 361.729.5519 Rockportartcenter.com

Texas Maritime Museum

1202 Navigation Circle 361.729.1271 Texasmaritimemuseum.com

Fulton Pier

209 North 7th Street 361.729.5333 Fultontexas.org

DINE

The perfect place to get your fresh oysters fix and great vino is Rockport's #1 ranked restaurant Latitude 28 02. Food lovers rave about the stuffed mushrooms and shrimp cocktails.

Interested in an Italian fix? Bellino's is a great quaint, romantic atmosphere, and the flawless spot to fall in love with Rockport (or even your date!) Our favorite on the menu, Spaghetti All Carbonara paired with a glass of cabernet and topped off with the homemade Tiramisu!

We also recommend stopping by The Palm Room Bar and Grill for their famous martini's and steak grilled to your taste.

STAY

A getaway is not complete without a warm room to return to after a day by the beach.

Our top pick, the Lighthouse Inn at Aransas Bay, has a great view off of their balconies to watch dolphins in the water. With top-notch hospitality and exceptional service, you are guaranteed to enjoy your weekend.

Another favorite, Angel Rose Bed and Breakfast, is every synonym for charming. Unique with its antique shop is what makes this B&B shine.

Or, if you are looking for your own stay, the Islands of Rockport offers world-class amenities with quick access to the Gulf and fabulous cuisine. There's no escaping the breath-taking views of this beachfront beauty.

To unleash your spirit for adventure and step onto St. Charles Bay – a 100% waterfront island. Charming coastal cottages line the shore and the golfers in your group will be pleased to know that the island features several golf courses.

The Little Bay Club consists of 20 beautiful cottages scattered around the most tropical areas of Rockport. These cottages are perfect for two lovebirds or even families get-togethers.

What's the best part of our top picks on where to stay? Any location is minutes from letting you from getting your golden tan.

TOP PICKS

Islands of Rockport

4418 Texas 35 361.790.5062 Islandsofrockport.com

Reserve at St. Charles Bay

108 Reserve Lane 800.277.9780 Stcharlesbay.com

Lighthouse Inn at Aransas Bay

200 South Fulton Beach 361.790.8439

Lighthouse texas.com

Angel Rose Bed & Breakfast

902 E. Cornwall 361.729.3189 Angelrosebb.com

Little Bay Club

1801 Broadway 361-729-6257

Littlebayclub.com

TOP PICKS

The Palm Room Bar and Grill at The Lighthouse Inn at Aransas Bay

200 S. Fulton Beach Rd. (Formerly The Palm Room) 866.790.8439

Lighthouse texas.com

Bellino's

523 S Fulton Beach Rd. 361.729.9003 Bellinorockport.com

Latitude 28 02

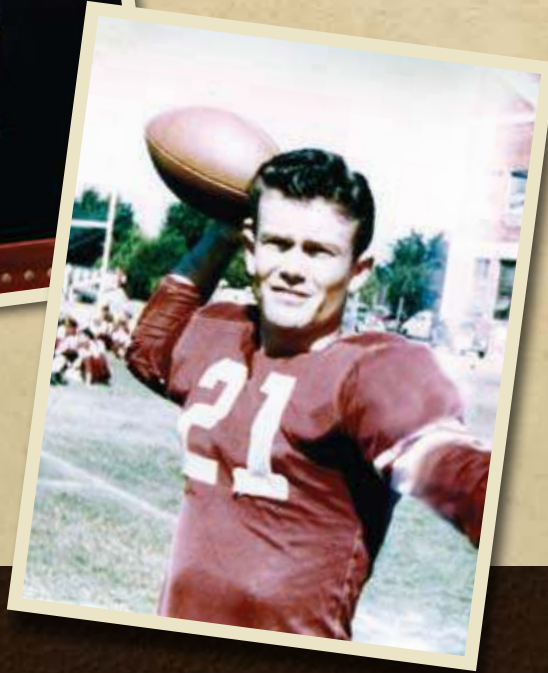
105 N Austin St. 361.727.9009 Latituderockport.com

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Barton Creek Country Club • ACL Live at the Moody Theatre

SEPTEMBER 5, 2014

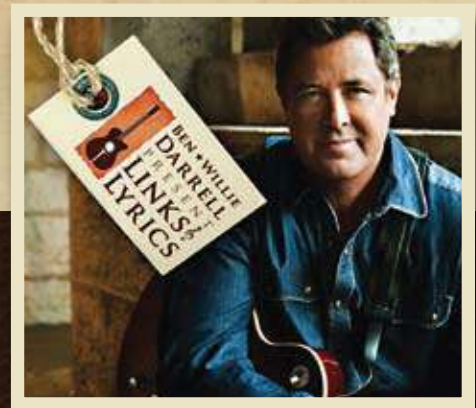


The *Links* event includes a golf tournament at Barton Creek Country Club's Crenshaw Course, hosted by Honorary Golf Chairman Ben Crenshaw. The *Lyrics* follows that evening with a special night of music with Vince Gill & Friends at the spectacular ACL Live at the Moody Theater. Benefiting the DKR Fund, *Links & Lyrics* will be an integral part of the fundraising efforts for AD research. Sponsorships are available now through the DKR Fund and general admission tickets go on sale through acl-live.com on March 7, 2014.

ABOUT THE DKR RESEARCH FUND
FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

The Darrell K Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer's Disease represents the pinnacle of commitment to excellence in Research and Care for Texans to attempt to cure Alzheimer's Disease (AD) in our lifetimes, to expand research into Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), and expand the paradigms of care and access for Texans, enabling exposure to preventative care and treatment strategies aimed at combatting the epidemic of AD.

Darrell K Royal was an American football legend both as a player and a coach. At The University of Texas at Austin, Royal won more games than any other coach in Texas Longhorns football history. Royal was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease late in life; as a result, his family and friends have taken on the mission of funding cutting edge collaborative research and raising awareness for this debilitating disease. 100% of the net proceeds of this event will be directed to Alzheimer's research in Texas in the name and memory of Coach Darrell K Royal.



DARRELL K ROYAL

RESEARCH FUND
for Alzheimer's Disease

WWW.DKRFUND.ORG

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Certified by The American Board of Plastic Surgery
Fellow of The American College of Surgeons
Member of The American Society of Plastic Surgeons
Member of The American Society for Aesthetic Plastic Surgery

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Board Certified Plastic Surgeon Dr. Jorge L. Menendez understands that treatment does not begin and end with a surgical procedure. The special bond he creates with each patient fosters an unparalleled level of comfort. He believes in frequent follow ups with each person in order to monitor the results over time and ensure the best in health and happiness.

His emphasis on minimally invasive procedures sets him apart from other cosmetic surgeons. He encourages realistic expectations while still delivering phenomenal results. From facelifts to tummy tucks to Botox to breast augmentation, Dr. Menendez is highly skilled in the art of perfecting all parts of the body. In the end, his talent and compassion will improve your body and satisfy your mind.

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The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This not only helps in tracking expenses but also ensures compliance with tax regulations. The text further explains that proper record-keeping is essential for identifying areas where costs can be reduced and for preparing for audits.

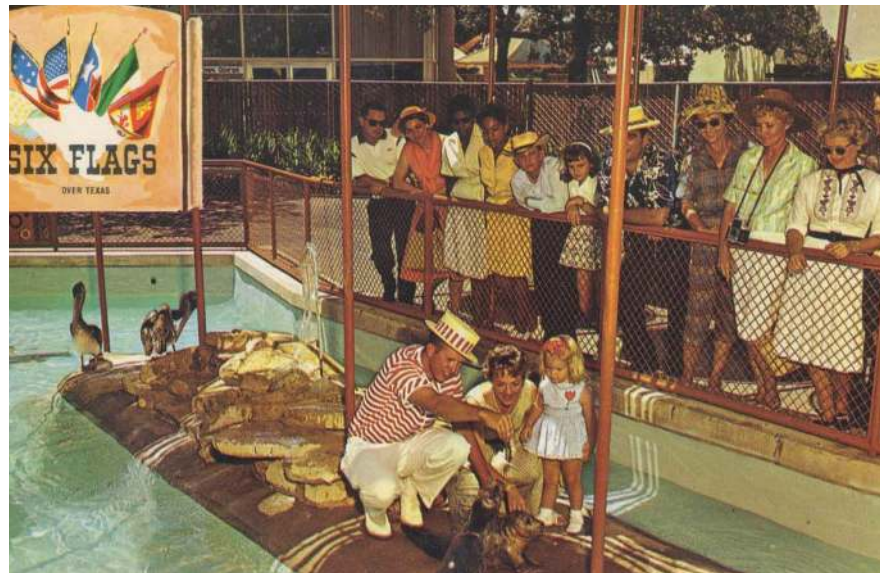
Next, the document addresses the issue of budgeting. It suggests that a well-defined budget is crucial for managing financial resources effectively. By setting a clear limit on spending, individuals and businesses can avoid unnecessary expenses and ensure that their funds are used for their intended purposes. The text provides several tips on how to create a realistic budget, including tracking current spending and identifying areas for potential savings.

The third section focuses on the importance of regular financial reviews. It states that periodic assessments of financial performance are necessary to stay on track with financial goals. These reviews allow individuals to identify trends, both positive and negative, and make adjustments as needed. The text also highlights the value of consulting with a financial advisor for professional guidance and to ensure that financial strategies align with long-term objectives.

Finally, the document concludes by reinforcing the idea that financial success is achieved through disciplined and informed decision-making. It encourages readers to take control of their finances, stay organized, and seek professional help when needed. The overall message is that with the right approach, financial stability and growth are within reach.

SIX FLAGS OVER RETRO

By Lance Avery Morgan



THE WORLD WAS A DIFFERENT PLACE IN DALLAS IN 1959, when Texas real estate developer and oilman Angus Wynne Jr. visited Disneyland and decided to break ground in 1960 on his own family entertainment concept: Six Flags Over Texas. Taking a year to build, at the cost of \$10 million, Wynne viewed it as a short-term way to make a buck from some vacant land before turning it into an industrial complex. Wynne reportedly recouped his personal investment of \$3.5 million within 18 months and changed his mind about the park's temporary status after the park opened on a sunny day in late July, 1961... and amusement parks were never the same again in Texas.

Six Flags' was not a random collection of rides, like carnivals that tended to be on the seedier side. It was developed around a theme: the history of Texas. The park was a nod to the six flags that had flown over the state at various times – France, Spain, Mexico, the Confederacy, Texas and the United States, and its rides and

attractions were grouped into six themed sections that represented the cultures of these governments and enabled visitors to experience everything from cowboy culture to Southern belles and pirates.

When it opened Six Flags cost \$2.75 for an adult and \$2.25 for a child. The admission price was all-inclusive, a revolution for the era. A hamburger sold for 50 cents and a soft drink was just a dime. For most Texans, a visit to the park was a right of passage, primitive as it may seem today, with its electric cars, steam trains and petting zoos, along with the daring rollercoasters,

These days, Six Flags, Inc. has become the world's largest regional theme park company and owns and operates 30 theme, water and zoological parks in North America. Almost 34 million people spent a combined 250 million hours at Six Flags parks in a year. 📍

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