

# Weddings

2019 - 2020



PERFECT  
SOUTHWEST



THE LAS CRUCES  
**Bulletin**





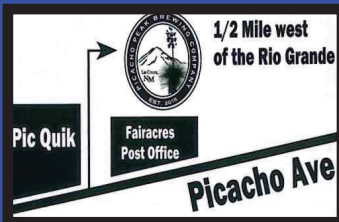
Photos by Southwest Creative Co.

# The Grapevine Plaza

**3900 W. Picacho Ave.**  
Home to Picacho Peak Brewing Co Brewpub & Grille  
Open Tues-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

*Come by to see the venue, taste the beer,  
and grab a bite to eat!*

Call/text 575-312-3070 Cindy  
Call/text 575-888-0247 Juan (hablo espanol)  
grapevineplaza@gmail.com  
www.grapevineplaza.net





# CONTENTS

- 4 2019 Trends
- 9 Wedding and reception venues
- 11 Something borrowed, something blue
- 12 Personalizing your wedding
- 13 Timeline for wedding planning
- 14 Getting personal with expectations
- 15 There's an app for that
- 16 Dress by the test
- 17 Choose a gown for your body type
- 18 Don't skimp on the memories
- 19 Color your wedding with meaning
- 20 Taking the prize
- 21 How to get a marriage license
- 21 Don't forget thank-you notes
- 22 Tips for gifting wedding attendants
- 22 Steps to change your name

## ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Barb's Flowerland.....	8	Let Them Eat Cake.....	8
Double Eagle Restaurant.....	10	NMSU Conference Services.....	24
Flowerama.....	19	Picacho Peak Brewing Co. ....	2
Hacienda de Mesilla.....	7	Pivotal Moments Ministry. ....	17
Heart Of The Desert .....	3	Posh Skin Care.....	8
La Posta .....	7	Ramada Palms .....	23
La Cruces Bulletin.....	17	RedHawk Golf Club .....	17
Las Cruces Convention Center.....	5	Rio Grande Vineyard.....	15
Las Cruces Home Builders Association.....	11	Spa Downtown .....	8
Las Palmas Grill.....	23	The Grapevine Plaza & Event Center .....	2

### THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin

**PUBLISHER**  
Richard Coltharp

**EDITOR**  
Tracy Roy  
Elva K. Österreich

**EDITORIAL**  
Jennifer Gruger  
Avra Elliott  
Richard Coltharp

**DESIGNER**  
Albert Vasquez

**PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Taylor'd Photography  
and Videography

**ADVERTISING**  
Claire Frohs  
Pam Rossi  
Elaine Sasnow

**ADVERTISING  
ASSISTANT**  
Angel McKellar

**DISTRIBUTION**  
Teresa Tolonen

**COVER PHOTO BY**  
Taylor'd Photography  
& Videography

**ABOUT THE COVER:**  
Hiddai and Joseph  
Delgado were married  
on September 22, 2018,  
at Red Hawk Golf Club in  
Las Cruces. The couple  
met through their church.  
They live in El Paso,  
Texas where Hiddai is a  
nurse and Joseph is a  
police officer.

Perfect Southwest Weddings 2019-20 is a copyrighted special edition of the Las Cruces Bulletin, designed and published by OPC News, LLC, 1740-A Calle de Mercado, Las Cruces, NM 88005. Inquiries regarding editorial or advertising content may be directed to 575-524-8061. © Copyright 2019, Las Cruces Bulletin



## Your special day just got better.

**HEART OF THE DESERT** Now booking exceptional moments  
on our special events patio.



- Wine Service featuring Heart of the Desert's award winning wines
- 2350 square feet with multiple arrangement options
- Dance floor and stage area adjacent to the pistachio groves
- Reception space for up to 200 people
- Warming Kitchen for Caterers
- Table and chair rentals
- Sound system available

7288 Hwy 54/70 • Alamogordo, New Mexico  
800.432.0999 • 575.434.0035  
[www.HeartoftheDesert.com](http://www.HeartoftheDesert.com)







# 2019 Wedding Trends

## LOCAL FLAVORS AND DELICIOUS CHOICES

By Avra Elliott

PHOTO BY TAYLOR'D PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

**T**he royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle has influenced the wedding trends of 2019 with many brides leaning toward elegant and minimalist ball gowns and returning to classic pearls. But other wedding traditions are shifting.

Confetti is an acceptable and Instagram-worthy replacement for rice to create colorful photo shoots, flower grandmas are joining the fun as an alternative to flower girls and mixed bridal parties of the bride and groom's closest friends promise a year of weddings filled with class and fun for both couples and their guests.

"I'm so excited for the trends of 2019," Sophia Adamson, owner of Ella Blue Bridal, said, "It's all going to be fantastic. Royal and simple ballgowns are in style, and so are long veils."

Pantone's Color of the Year for 2019 was named Living Coral, and it's a color many couples in the Southwest already love. Adamson said coral promises to be a favorite for bridesmaid gowns, as well as purple and Artic blue. One lasting trend bridesmaids will appreciate is the variety of styles and fabrics offered within the bride's chosen color, allowing the bridesmaids to show individuality and a stunning contrast of texture through options of sequins, chiffons and crepes.

Cutter Gallery offers both vintage and vintage style rings as well as custom designs. Owner Glenn Cutter said while couples occasionally want something entirely their own design, most are keeping their rings traditional, with halo and solitary settings in white or yellow gold.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6





*The*  
CELEBRATION  
*of your*  
DREAMS

*Dedicated Event Reception Specialist*  
*Exceptional Cuisine*  
*Customized Menus*  
*Inclusive Wedding Packages*  
*to include Decor*



Las Cruces  
Convention  
Center



680 East University Avenue | Las Cruces, New Mexico | [MeetInLasCruces.com](http://MeetInLasCruces.com) | 575.526.0100



## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

From floral arrangements to cakes, the elegance of nature has become a large influence and another way to add texture to the event. Roses remain a favorite among couples and florists, in particular with holiday-themed weddings, but Danette Melton of Flowerama has noticed an increase of succulents for more natural and regional centerpieces.

This embrace of nature and local flavor doesn't stop with flowers. Stephanie Baumann of Let Them Eat Cake said her green chile pineapple and chocolate red chile cupcakes have become favorites as many couples choose to have the Southwest reflected in their cake choices. A love for the Southwest and home can also be expressed through artful watercolor icing or structural cake designs which evoke the mountain range and colors of desert sunsets.

"People are leaning into desert elegance. It's a natural look, but it's still an event," Baumann said, adding that individuality more than any trend is what most couples seem to want in their cakes. Baumann said couples aren't shying away from elaborate designs, but if your wedding is off the beaten path, consider cupcakes or hiring your decorator to move and construct your cake onsite rather than trying to transport the cake yourself.

Greater than any prevailing trend is a couple's desire to express themselves, and be it through a custom ring, colorful bouquet, or an array of multi-flavored cupcakes, couples in Las Cruces will find vendors whose greatest goal is making each wedding special and unique.







**Historically Distinctive...**  
*Exclusively Yours.*

Outside courtyard and private banquet rooms available.  
 Weddings, Receptions and Rehearsal Dinners.



**La Posta**  
 de Mesilla

*Trained for Mexican Food & Steaks Since 1939*

Now Open 7 Days a Week  
 11 a.m. for Lunch & Dinner  
 8 a.m. Sat & Sun for Breakfast

Located on the Plaza  
 in Historic Old Mesilla  
[www.laposta-de-mesilla.com](http://www.laposta-de-mesilla.com)



To reserve your date call 524-3524 and ask for Sarah Holguin.

## A HACIENDA-STYLE WEDDING!



Hacienda de Mesilla is perfect for boutique weddings, receptions, and celebratory dinners. The Rooftop Terrace offers spectacular views of the majestic Organ Mountains as a backdrop to your wedding event, as well as a panoramic night view of the city lights.



Contact Sarah Kurtz at  
 (575) 652-4953 or  
[Sarah@HaciendaDeMesilla.com](mailto:Sarah@HaciendaDeMesilla.com)

1891 Avenida de Mesilla  
[HaciendaDeMesilla.com](http://HaciendaDeMesilla.com) • f





# Barko Flowerland

Arroyo Plaza 525-1850



let your love bloom



LET THEM EAT

# Cake

575-680-5998

1001 E. University Ste. D4, Las Cruces, NM

StephaniesLetThemEatCake.com | f



## Cupcake Counter

Hours: Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## a Beautiful Celebration for your Wedding

Trust our bridal team from engagement to "I do," and look your best on your wedding day!

Voted Las Cruces' #1 Day Spa, we offer the most indulgent spa experience for you & your bridal party.

Call 575 647 6987 to schedule an appointment with your personal wedding consultant.



440 N. Main Street  
Las Cruces, New Mexico  
575 647 4987  
thespadowntownlc.com



## All Maid Up

Let us create an unforgettable event for your bridal party with glamorous nail services and luxurious facials!



# POSH

SKIN CARE & NAIL BAR

901 E. University Ave.  
Bldg. 925, Suite C  
Las Cruces, New Mexico  
575 644 0358  
www.poshlc.com





# Wedding *and* Reception Venues

## SOUTHWESTERN STYLE PERFECT FOR NEW MEXICO

By Avra Elliott

PHOTO BY TAYLOR'D PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

If you are tying the knot in New Mexico, you are ahead of the trend! Southwestern style and living continues to grow in popularity, and you and your guests won't need to drive far for these destination views.

You might be familiar with the wines of **Heart of the Desert in Old Mesilla**, but have you been to their picturesque orchards in Eagle Ranch? Skip Italy and drive to Alamogordo to enjoy the view of thousands of pistachio trees while sipping pistachio rosé with your wedding party. 575-434-0035

Speaking of wines and weddings, some of the best views in Las Cruces and Mesilla can be found on the grounds of Rio Grande Winery. The vineyard

offers options for a small private ceremony among the grapevines or something more grandiose in the gazebo with a backdrop of open skies and the Organ Mountains. 575-524-3985

A unique venue just a short drive away is the **Hi-Q Venue in Roswell**. Set in a historic motor supply shop, Hi-Q has kept historic elements while maintaining a modern and fun vibe. Director of Operations and Marketing Katie Vaz describes it as rustic and elegant, and as an indoor venue, Hi-Q is fitting for both weddings and receptions all year-round. 575-625-8761

Wanting to say your vows barefoot in the sand, but hesitating to fly all your guests to a beach or island?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

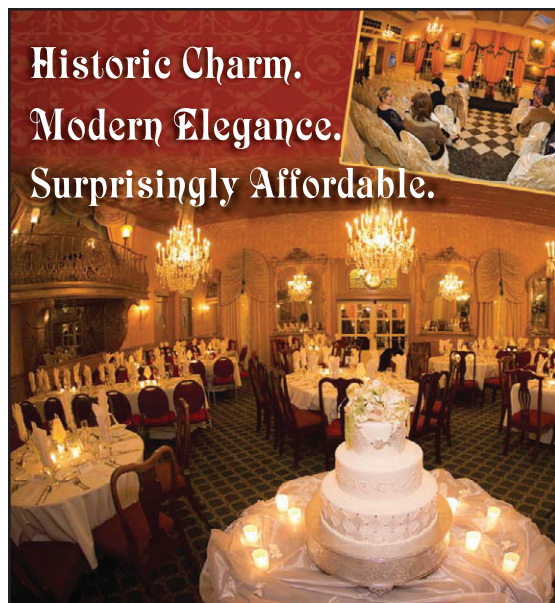
Take your ceremony to **White Sands**. There are tighter restrictions on decorations (kites and pin-wheels are suggested instead of balloons), but the sparkling gypsum and incredible sunsets not only add to the magic of your special day but provide a priceless setting for all your wedding portraits. 575-479-6124 For a list of guidelines, visit: [www.nps.gov/whsa/planyourvisit/weddings.htm](http://www.nps.gov/whsa/planyourvisit/weddings.htm)

Offering the same feelings of solitude and privacy as the White Sands but with a different kind of ambiance, **Sanctuary on the River in Ruidoso** is ideal for an outdoor loving couple. Whether you crave the fresh air and scenic views of a spring or summer wedding, or the romance of mountains blanketed in snow in the winter, a pavilion or river deck wedding promises a day you and your guests will never forget. 575-630-1111

May to August is a busy season for many venues, and holiday weddings are becoming more popular. While many of these venues will work with you as closely as two weeks before your day, keep in mind that it's always best to get a head start on planning and booking!



PHOTOS BY TAYLOR PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY



**Historic Charm.**  
**Modern Elegance.**  
**Surprisingly Affordable.**



**DOUBLE EAGLE**  
THE CROWN JEWEL OF HISTORIC OLD MESILLA

On the Plaza - Historic Old Mesilla  
(575) 523-6700

[www.double-eagle-mesilla.com](http://www.double-eagle-mesilla.com)





# SOMETHING BORROWED, SOMETHING BLUE

— Weddings are steeped in tradition, myths —

**T**he superstition that it's bad luck for a bride and groom to see each other before the wedding dates to the old tradition of arranged marriages. If a husband saw his bride-to-be before the wedding ceremony – and didn't like what he saw – he'd have a chance to back out.

The **bridal veil**, too, is related to arranged marriages, and prevented the groom from seeing his bride's face until the very last second – too late to run. The veil was also thought in many cultures to keep the bride safe from evil spirits.

Though it may not seem ideal, especially if your wedding is an outdoor one, but **rain on your wedding day** symbolizes cleansing or fertility in many cultures.

**Giving knives as gifts** is bad luck – a knife is thought to "cut" the friendship between giver and recipient.

In medieval times, **carrying the bride across the threshold** was important to preserve her chastity. In many cultures throughout history, though, the symbolic crossing of the threshold was used to ward off malevolent spirits and ill fortune. Spirit intrusion was a heavy concern, and since they usually entered

through the soles of the feet, a bride was carried over the presence-heavy threshold of the home.

By **breaking a glass** at a wedding, a couple can get a glimpse at how many years of wedded bliss they'll have ahead of them. Each piece the glassware breaks into stands for another year happily married.

**Crying on your wedding day** may be a good omen – the tears shed by a bride on her wedding day are thought to symbolize the last she'll shed in her life, now that she's happily wed.

And as if the bride didn't have enough on her mind the day of her nuptials, she's also supposed to carry with her **something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue**. Why? Something old signifies a couple's desire to carry on the traditions of their forebears as they come together as a new family; something new indicates the couple is looking ahead to happiness, good fortune and wealth; something borrowed gives the bride's family and friends a chance to lend her a token of their love and warm wishes; and something blue symbolizes the bride's fidelity to her husband.

## THE PERFECT LC HOME BUILDERS ASSN. EVENT HALL

NEWLY REMODELED

Event Packages:  
\$625-\$975  
\$500 Deposit

Business Meetings:  
\$250-\$575  
\$250 Deposit

Round & Rectangular Tables

GRADUATIONS/RECEPTIONS/PARTIES  
BUSINESS MEETINGS/LUNCHEONS

2825 N. Main St.  
575.526.6126  
events@lchba.com

Audio System  
Dance Floor  
Patio  
Staging Kitchen  
Up to 150 People  
2,200 Square Ft.

### SAVE THE DATES!

**2019 HOME & Garden SHOW**  
Presented by **SUN TECH SERVICES, INC.**

**Saturday April 13th, 2019  
9am-5pm**  
**Sunday April 14th, 2019  
10am-4pm**

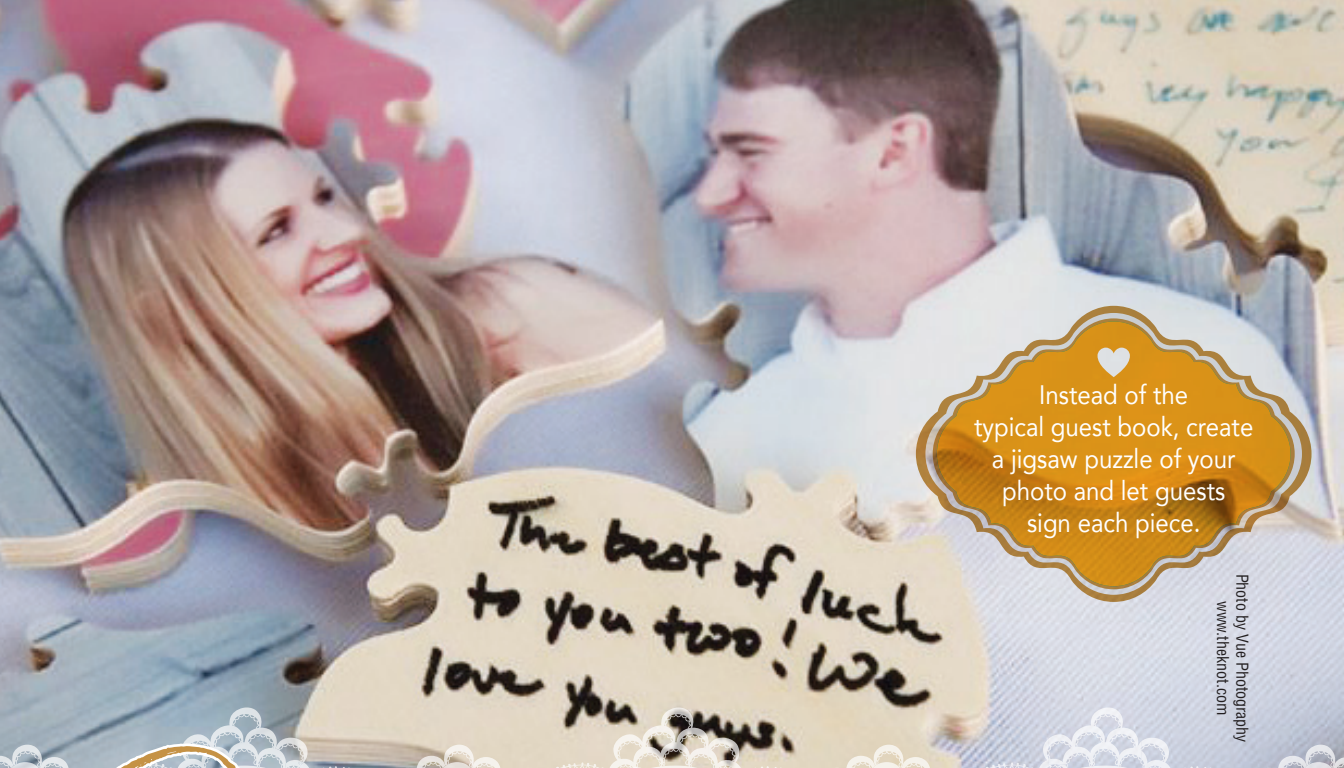
At NM Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum  
Contact LCHBA if you are interested in being a vendor

**SHOWCASE of HOMES**  
Presented By: **metro Verde**

**April 26th-28th & May 3rd-5th**  
Fridays 4pm-7pm ~ Saturdays 10am-7pm  
Sundays 12pm-5pm

**Twilight Tour | Friday May 3rd  
4pm-9pm**





Instead of the typical guest book, create a jigsaw puzzle of your photo and let guests sign each piece.

Photo by Vue Photography  
www.theknot.com

# Personalizing your Wedding

## THIS IS THE DAY TO THINK ABOUT YOURSELF

By Jennifer Gruger

**T**he first step to personalizing your wedding in a genuine way is to talk with your fiancé about how you two want the day to feel. It is easy to get distracted by the glam and glitter or the hay bales and burlap, but what really matters is you two.

Think beyond your names on wine glasses and matchbooks – which is not a thing anymore by the way. What can you bring to the event that reflects your individual personalities and the story that brought you together? What can you share with friends and family that will fold them into that story?

### Here are a few ideas:

- Pick a venue that matters to both of you. Some-
- one's home or maybe the site of your first date or the proposal.
- Create a program that doubles as a keepsake. In addition to names of parents, bridesmaids, groomsmen and other special guests, tell a story about each of you or a little-known fact about your courtship.
- Serve a pre-ceremony beverage that is a favorite of yours. As guests gather and await the beginning of the ceremony, offer a spiked hot chocolate in the fall or winter or a mini mimosa to in the summer to commemorate your engagement on the beach. Consider his and hers options! Explain your choice in the program and remember a non-alcoholic option as well. Ask ushers to collect glasses before the ceremony.



- Hire your favorite local band or mariachi group instead of (or in addition to) a DJ.
- Commission a local artist to create a keepsake that is then revealed during the ceremony or reception.
- Bring your respective cultures and family history into your wedding attire, decorations and festivities. Use native rugs or shawls as table dressings, moccasins on the tired feet of the bride during the reception, the groom's grandfather's favorite kilt midway through the night, or a surprise Folklorico performance.
- Instead of favors with your names, honor those absent with a small packet of bird seeds with their names and a prayer or favorite saying. TIP: Order only one-third of your expected guests and place these items in a basket for self-selection instead of at every seat.

The most important thing is to keep in mind how you want the event and the day to feel. Let this “essence” guide you as you pore through the plethora of decisions you have in front of you. The day is about you two, not about a great deal on a book of matches.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MICHELE FOSTER-COLVIN FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY

This proud nephew carries a personalized placard to give his uncle a heads up! (The flipside reads “...and they lived happily ever after!” along with the date of the wedding which he carried out at the end of the wedding procession as they left the ceremony.

## TIMELINE FOR WEDDING PLANNING

### Two years to 12 months before the wedding

- ☐ Set a date
- ☐ Determine budget and discuss
- ☐ Shop for and choose ceremony, reception locations
- ☐ Determine the need for a wedding planning professional

### Twelve to nine months before the wedding

- ☐ Select wedding attendants
- ☐ Select wedding officiant
- ☐ Determine wedding colors and themes
- ☐ Shop for and choose wedding dress and accessories
- ☐ Shop for and choose bridal party clothes, accessories
- ☐ Determine guest list
- ☐ Choose professionals such as a photographer, videographer, disc jockey, caterer, musicians and florist

### Six to nine months before the wedding

- ☐ Select flowers for bouquets, centerpieces, altar displays, corsages, etc.
- ☐ Reserve wedding day transportation
- ☐ Make honeymoon travel accommodations
- ☐ Reserve accommodations for out-of-town wedding guests
- ☐ Register for wedding gifts

### Four to six months before the wedding

- ☐ Select tuxedos for groom, groomsmen, fathers of bride and groom
- ☐ Select wedding cake

- ☐ Purchase rings
- ☐ Choose and order invitations and other printed material
- ☐ Advise employers, schedule vacation time accordingly

### Two to four months before the wedding

- ☐ Select reception accessories
- ☐ Mail invitations two months in advance
- ☐ Purchase attendant gifts
- ☐ Write or select wedding vows and meet with officiant to review ceremony
- ☐ Make bar/beverage arrangements

### One month before the wedding

- ☐ Final fittings for all attire
- ☐ Confirm all reservations
- ☐ Make appointments for massage, hair, makeup and manicure
- ☐ Obtain all legal documents and apply for marriage license

### One week before the wedding

- ☐ Confirm head count with catering hall
- ☐ Begin packing for wedding day and honeymoon

### Night before the wedding

- ☐ Rehearsal dinner
- ☐ Give out wedding attendant gifts
- ☐ Lay out wedding attire
- ☐ Get a good night's sleep





# Getting Personal *with* Expectations

## WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR OFFICIANT

By Jennifer Gruger

PHOTO BY TAYLOR'D PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

**Y**our wedding ceremony is the most sacred part of the big day, so selecting someone to marry you is a big deal. Whether you pick someone you have known forever through your church or throughout your life, or you are lucky enough to find someone that complements you and your partner as a couple, it's an important decision that can set the tone for the entire day.

As an ordained minister, I can tell you that performing a wedding ceremony is a significant commitment. To be an effective instrument of this intimate event, I must be prepared to answer anything the couple might ask. Whether your officiant is someone you know closely or not, here are a few questions you should ask.

### **How will you create a ceremony that is meaningful to us?**

Will the officiant work with you on the content and design? You may know exactly what you want for some parts but may need help for others. Are they flexible? What is their spiritual nature?

### **What is your experience?**

Don't be afraid to ask about their resume. It is also appropriate to ask for referrals or even request videos of ceremonies they've performed.

### **Do you have a contingency plan?**

Every part of the wedding should have a back-up plan and the officiant is no exception. Does yours



have a colleague that can fill in with short notice? This is also a good time to ask how they handle unexpected moments during the ceremony such as a noisy guest or an intrusive noise.

### How often will we meet?

In addition to initial discussions to figure out the basics, you may want to meet a few times. It is also common for the officiant to run the rehearsal. Some clergy require couples to have counseling. If this is the case, confirm the schedule.

### What is the fee?

Know the fee and what it covers. If your officiant will be traveling out of town for your wedding, discuss transportation, hotels and meals. The wedding officiant is often the person who fills out the wedding certificate and files it with the county clerk. Is that included?

### Will they be joining you at the reception?

Depending on how familiar you are with the officiant, you may want to invite them to the reception but don't forget to include them in the catering count!

## There's an app for that —

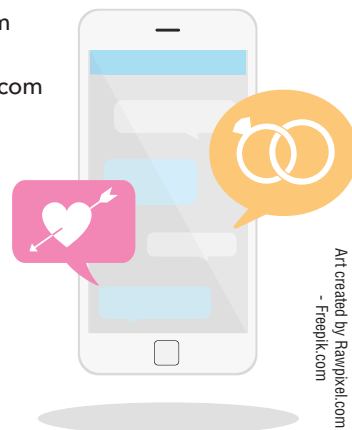
Whether it's staying organized, keeping family and friends updated or finding inspiration and a little bit of help, there are several ways you can utilize technology to make your big day a success.

### WEBSITES

- [www.appycouple.com](http://www.appycouple.com)
- [www.theknot.com](http://www.theknot.com)
- [www.mywedding.com](http://www.mywedding.com)
- [www.ewedding.com](http://www.ewedding.com)
- [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com)
- [www.weddingwire.com](http://www.weddingwire.com)

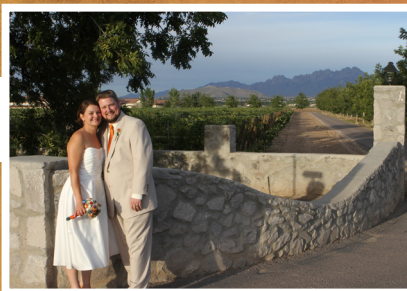
### APPS

- WeddingHappy
- myPantone
- Mint
- Tie The Knot
- Joy
- Wedding Planner by the Knot
- Evernote
- Cozi



Art created by Rawpixel.com  
- Freepik.com

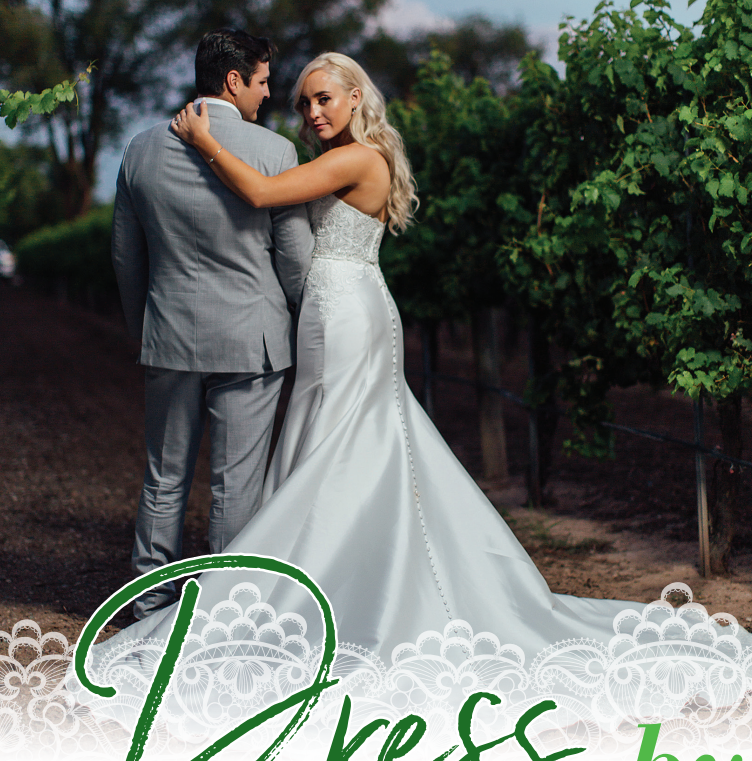
## A Beautiful & Unique Wedding & Reception Venue!



575-524-3985 ♦ [RIOGRANDEWINERY.COM](http://RIOGRANDEWINERY.COM)  
5321 HIGHWAY 28 ♦ LAS CRUCES, NM 88005  
OPEN FRIDAY-SUNDAY ♦ NOON - 5:30 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT

DESIGN BY THE LAS CRUCES BULLETIN





# Dress by the Test

## GLORIOUS GREAT GOWNS

By Jennifer Gruger

PHOTOS BY TAYLOR'D PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

### A Game Plan for a Perfect Dress

Start with the most basic considerations: season and location, level of formality, budget and most importantly, body type. The dress reflects the tone of the wedding and sets the standard for everyone else's attire. A Cinderella-style ballgown with a full train is great for a church but will be cumbersome on the dunes at White Sands. If you are in a short halter dress, the groom would look far better in blazer and trousers or linen shirt and tailored pants than in a tuxedo.

### Stick to your budget

One of the salesperson's first questions will be about your budget and it should be one of your first questions too. Don't try on a dress you love and then be heartbroken because you simply can't afford it. No matter the temptation, only try on gowns in your price range and remember to plan time and money for alterations, the veil, shoes and accessories.

### The Perfect Proportion to Stand the Test of Time

Do not choose a dress you have to diet for! Be at peace with your proportions and just know the tricks of the trade. According to "The Wedding Book – The Big Book

for Your Big Day," this is what you need to know:

- A horizontal line will make you look wider at the point where it hits
- A vertical line elongates
- Diagonals cut the width and move the eye to another part of the body.

Educate yourself by looking through a bridal magazine. Notice where your eyes go first, then see how the lines of the dress direct you there. Then you can use these rules to find a dress that will flatter your shape. TIP: Clip out the images that contain things you do and don't like and bring those clippings with you when you go shopping. You and the sales associate will benefit.

"Your personality should transfer through the dress," said expert gown consultant, Claudia Loya with Elite Memories Boutique in Alamogordo. According to Loya, current trends include long sleeves and you can never go wrong with the classic Cinderella look – if it suits you.

"Be true to yourself," she said. "It's not about what Mom wants or what your bridesmaids want. And most of all, if it's not comfortable, it's a no-no."



# CHOOSE A GOWN FOR YOUR BODY TYPE

**B**ridal gowns come in many styles, materials, colors, lengths and prices. Below are some dress styles, and how they mesh with various body types. Professionals at bridal shops are experts at helping women find that perfect fit.

**A-LINE:** A fitted bodice that flares out to the hem creating an A shape. This flatters women who are larger and want to hide their tummy.

**BALL GOWN:** A fitted top and a full skirt. This is ideal for women who want an elegant look and may want to hide below-the-waist problem areas.

**BASQUE WAIST:** The waistline begins below the waist, forming a U or V shape. It's slenderizing and a good choice for brides with wide hips.

**DRAPED A-LINE:** Similar in design to the traditional A-Line, the draped version has layered folds along the skirt. It is not for women who are short or thick, but works

well on thin or long-legged women.

**EMPIRE:** Cropped body, high waist, slightly flared skirt; it's generally not a good choice for brides that large-busted.

**Fit and flare:** An hourglass style that highlights a trim waistline. It is good for women, tall and short, who have curves and want to show them off.

**MINI-SKIRT:** The hem is above the knee, and typically has a train either short or leg. Good choice for showing off legs.

**PRINCESS:** A fitted top and a flared, vertically seamed skirt. This type is flattering for tall, slender women.

**SHIRTWAIST:** A woman's blouse or bodice styled like a tailored shirt, a blouse with buttons down the front.

**SLIP DRESS:** Also called sheath, this style features fabric that continues down the body from the shoulders to the ankles for a close-fitting look. This

is a good choice for small or informal weddings, and it looks best on tall, trim women.



PHOTO TAKEN BY MICHELE FOSTER-COLVIN FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY



Celebrating a new addition to the family, a marriage or the life of a lost friend? Moments & Memories is the place for those items in the Las Cruces Bulletin. Deadline for submission is noon Wednesday the week before publication.

**THE LAS CRUCES Bulletin**

1740-A Calle De Mercado  
Las Cruces, NM 88005  
575.524.8061 | Fax: 575.526.4621

**REV. JESS C. WILLIAMS**

Weddings, Memorials, Funerals, House Blessings, Etc.  
Since 2003



**PIVOTAL MOMENTS MINISTRY**  
**SECULAR HUMANIST SPIRITUALITY**

Text or call (575) 644-0726

518 N. Miranda St. | RevJess@PivotalMomentsMinistry.com  
Las Cruces, NM 88005 | PivotalMomentsMinistry.com

Say 'I Do' with this view...



**RedHawk GOLF CLUB**

Las Cruces, NM | 575.373.8100 | www.RedHawkGC.com





# Don't Skimp on the Memories

## PHOTOGRAPHY / VIDEOGRAPHY

By Jennifer Gruger

PHOTOS BY TAYLOR'D PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

**W**hen my husband and I were planning our wedding and trying to make everything fit in our budget, we made two significant decisions. Hire a photographer and skip the videographer. Hiring a photographer allowed the two photographers in my family (my sister and, well – my husband) to just enjoy the day. Skipping the video was a way to manage the budget and we thought photos would be enough.

And then this happened.

My aunt in New Zealand couldn't attend in person and offered to pay for that service as a gift. She described it as a selfish gesture. She simply wanted a way to witness the joyous day. Her gift is now one of our most prized possessions.

Budget for both, I insist.

Michele Foster Colvin with Michele Foster Colvin Fine Art Photography (and videography) in Alamogordo, says it best, "The dress will get hung up in the back of the closet, the cake will get eaten and the flowers will die but the photography and videography will last a lifetime."

You might say, "My uncle/neighbor/cousin is a great photographer and will do it for free." Or, "Everyone will take pictures with their phones and we can just #weddingday." Foster Colvin points out that while lots of people can take great cell phone

pictures, location, lighting and movement can be a real challenge. Invest in a skilled, professionally trained photographer and here's what you should expect:

- They should put 30 to 40 hours of effort in a small wedding, 80 to 100 hours for a larger one.
- One or more pre-event meetings and the initial consult should be free.
- A "shoot list." This is your chance to specify "Please make sure to get me and my Grampo." or "Please don't take photos during the formal part of the ceremony."
- Editing and processing should be included.
- Customizable packages. Don't feel forced into a package you don't want.

Many of the same points apply to videographers, but one thing to ask a lot of questions about is editing. There is likely to be a wide range of effort between vendors here. Make sure they have a portfolio online you can review.

Above all, Foster Colvin says hire a likeable person, someone you click with and who loves to do weddings.

"People put a lot into their weddings and I am honored to be the one who captures and curates the details and the thought they put into expressing themselves and their love," she said. "And, who doesn't like love!"

This is the kind of person you want.



# COLOR YOUR WEDDING WITH MEANING

*Consider linking colors of your wedding flowers to their symbolism.*

- **Red:** Love's passion and desire, beauty and courage. Roses, carnations, tulips, red protea, peonies.
- **White:** Often associated with modesty and elegance, humility and reverence, and pure beauty. White roses, gardenias, lilies, baby's breath, chrysanthemums.
- **Lavender:** Emblematic of femininity, refinement and grace. Waxflower, statice (sea lavender), snapdragons, lavender matsumoto asters, lavender stock
- **Blue:** Peace, calm, and serenity. Hydrangea, delphinium, iris, larkspur, blue stock.
- **Pink:** Happiness, gentility and grace. Pink rosebuds, long-stemmed roses, camellia, carnations, blushing lilies, tulips, pink stargazer lilies.
- **Yellow:** Happiness, joyful new beginnings. Daffodils, chrysanthemums, lilies, gerbera daisies, alstroemeria, cymbidium orchids, tulips.
- **Purple:** Royalty and dignity. Violets, alstroemeria, purple carnations and tulips.
- **Orange:** Symbolize passion and confidence. Think orange Asiatic lilies, gerbera daisies, carnations, rust chrysanthemums, fiery lilies, birds of paradise.
- **Green:** Nature, optimism and renewal, and can complement every other bloom. Green carnations, button spray chrysanthemums, green viburnum, cybidium orchids.



PHOTOS BY TAYLOR D PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY



## FLOWERAMA

*Quality Floral Products at Reasonable Prices*

*Call us for  
your wedding  
arrangements!*

1300 S. El Paseo • 523-6400

Flowerama\_104@hotmail.com • floweramaoflascruces.com

***Serving Las Cruces since 1985!***





# TAKING *the* PRIZE



## Couple wed at last year's Bridal & Special Events Showcase

By Richard Coltharp

**H**ow would you like to get a wedding for your birthday?

Adriana Sanchez celebrated her birthday Jan. 18, 2018, and the very next day learned that she and her fiancé, Orlando Ramirez, had won a free wedding.

That wedding took place at last year's Las Cruces Bridal & Special Events Showcase at the Las Cruces Convention Center.

The couple earned the most Facebook likes in Magic 104.9's "Tie the Knot" contest, winning the opportunity for a wedding with all the trimmings provided.

In the days leading up to the final selection, the numbers kept rising for Adriana and Orlando, whose story was compelling for many of the voters, and more than 2,700 voted.

"We're thankful for our family and the support," Adriana said. "We had no idea everybody wanted us to get married so bad."

Adriana and Orlando had been together nearly 10 years as a couple and been engaged for six years. Even though they already had two children – not to mention two dogs – until the 2018 event they never managed to me take that final step official and say "I Do."

"Life just keeps going on," Adriana said of their delayed nuptials. "He went back to school and we've been working so hard building a future we just never got around to setting a date."

One date they both remember is May 18, 2008, the first time they officially went out as a couple.

It was especially memorable for Orlando, because Adriana's parents were there, too.

"It was lunch at a Chinese restaurant, the Oriental Palace," Orlando said.

"I was 18 and he was 19," Adriana said.

And what has kept them together since that first meeting over kung pao and moo shoo?

"She's my best friend," Orlando said.

"He's my rock," Adriana said. "He keeps me grounded. He's supported everything, all my decisions: going to school, leaving school, going back

to school, entering a new business."

The couple likes to keep things simple. On a day off, you might find them at the park, with their children, Orlando and Adelina, and their dogs.

Because the wedding took place during the actual Bridal & Special Events Showcase, wedding guests included, in addition to friends and family, complete strangers from the public.

"We'll be a little nervous in front of a large group," Adriana said last year before the wedding. "We'd always planned on something small. But we feel good about it."

And while many couples spend months planning their wedding, in this case everything was already taken care of, from the clothes to the ring.

"It was definitely an experience," she said. "We had so much support. A lot of the crowd were family and friends. It was so worth it!"

Adriana said everyone was supportive and went over and above what was promised. The folks at Rene's Bridal threw in a tux for the couple's son and a dress for their daughter to be part of the event.

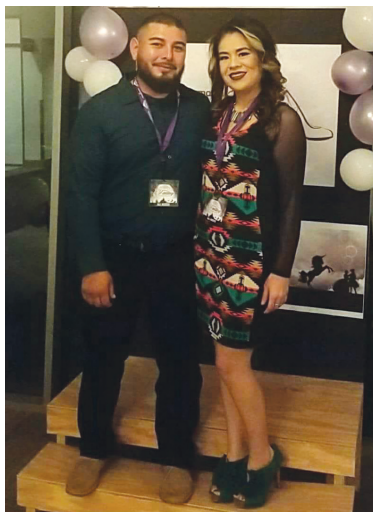
"That was really awesome," she said. "We got to have our children get up there."

The ceremony was fast but nice, she said. And the reception was great.

"The photographer was so gracious in giving us so many photos," Adriana said. "It was really nice to be able to get photos of everybody."

A new couple will be married after winners are announced in this year's free wedding contest, Sunday, Jan. 27, at the Las Cruces Convention Center, 680 E. University Ave. The showcase is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day. Admission at the door is \$7, with advance tickets available at Renee's Bridal and Enchanted Occasions. For more information, visit [www.lascrucesbridalshowcase.com](http://www.lascrucesbridalshowcase.com).

This is the ninth annual showcase, sponsored annually by Las Cruces Event Planning, the Las Cruces Convention Center and the Las Cruces Bulletin.



COURTESY PHOTO



# How to get a marriage license

- Before your ceremony, go to the Doña Ana County Clerk's office, 845 N. Motel Blvd., or visit [donaanacounty.org/clerk/marriage](http://donaanacounty.org/clerk/marriage), to fill out a marriage application information form. The clerk's office is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.
- You'll need Social Security numbers and photo identification for both parties. The fee is \$25 in cash. No cards, no checks, no exceptions.
- Both applicants must appear in person. If one party can't be there, the authorization to issue the license must be provided by a district judge.
- Once you have the license, you are cleared to perform the ceremony, have witnesses sign it and return it to the county clerk's office within 90 days of your wedding day.



PHOTOS BY TAYLORD PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY



## DON'T FORGET THANK-YOU NOTES

Hand-written thank-you notes are still the warmest way to show true appreciation for people who took time to attend your wedding and bring you a gift.

- It is worth the effort to assign someone – an attendant or relative – to identify gifts and make a list of who gave what. The bride and groom will be too busy with the wedding, so be sure to delegate.
- This is an easy task to forget. Schedule a reminder on your phone or planner to jog your memory post-honeymoon. Use your invitation list to get the addresses you'll need, then mail them.
- Personalize each note, acknowledging the specific gift and how you'll use it. Each gift contributes to a fresh start on the journey of marriage, and for that, you are grateful.



PHOTOS BY TAYLORD PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY





# Tips for gifting wedding attendants



Thanking the people closest to you for helping with your wedding is important. A gift of appreciation is both a token of appreciation and remembrance of your special day.

- **PRICE:** Consider what you've asked them to spend when deciding what's appropriate to spend on a gift. Did your maid of honor buy a plane ticket and a bridesmaid gown? If so, \$75-\$150 for her gift alone would be about right. Include this cost in your budget at the outset, so you can treat your attendants right.
- **TIMING:** Bridesmaids gifts are typically given at the rehearsal dinner, but shop for them much earlier so you are not stressed to find the perfect gift on deadline.
- **WHAT TO GIVE:** Consider personalizing gifts for each attendant instead of getting them all the same thing. The personal touch can make a difference. Aim for something useful and timeless, like personalized charm bracelets or a set of wine glasses that can be used for years to come.
- **HELPFUL TIP:** Use the "Would I want it?" test to decide if a gift is fitting. Would you like it? Would you use it? If the answer is yes, you're on the right track.

## STEPS TO CHANGE YOUR NAME

To change your name or not? Some do, some don't, some hyphenate. If you decide to change your name, there are some important steps to take. This list will get you started.

- Visit the US Social Security Administration office, 2141 Summit Court, to fill out an application to change your name. You'll need your marriage license, proof of identity and proof of citizenship. You should receive your card within 10 business days. Alternatively, visit [www.socialsecurity.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf), fill out the form, mail it along with the documents requested to prove your identity, and your new card will arrive, along with your documents.
- Next, go to the Department of Motor Vehicles for a new license. Bring your marriage

license and your new Social Security card. The fee is \$18 for a four-year license and \$34 for an eight-year license.

- Store up some patience and take time to list all your personal accounts, from Netflix and PayPal to your bank accounts and cell phone providers. Follow each institution's procedure for changing a name. Often this includes mailing or faxing copies of your marriage certificate or other documents. At the bank, bring your driver's license and marriage license and get new debit cards and checks. Note: There may be fees associated with ordering new cards and checks.
- Remember to take time to update your will, power of attorney or advance directive with your new name and status.







## Palms Hotel & Conference Center



For those special events in your life, you will find affordable elegance and style at the Ramada Palms Hotel & Conference Center.

Our romantic Hacienda style property offers a full-service restaurant, business center, heated indoor pool, beautiful rooms and suites.

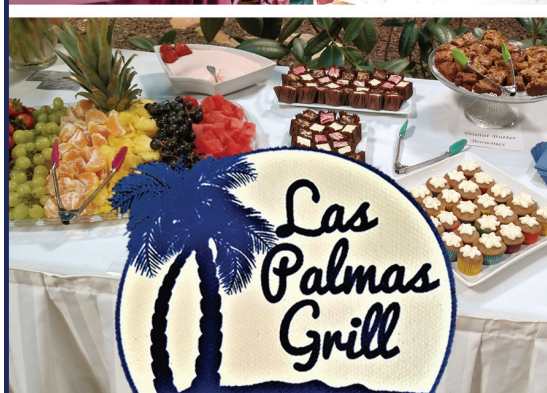
You can also pamper yourself at Rob O'Brien Salons, or celebrate the occasion with a cigar from Lucas Pipe and Tobacco. Whether it's a staycation, vacation or special event, Ramada has you covered!



201 E. University Ave. I-10 exit 142  
Las Cruces, NM 88005  
Phone: 575.526.4411



*Serving  
New Mexico  
for Over 40 Years!  
Delicious food,  
outstanding service  
at great prices!*



201 E. University  
(In Ramada Palms)

**(505) 379-8177**

[www.laspalmasgrill.com](http://www.laspalmasgrill.com)

Email: [LasPalmasLCNM@gmail.com](mailto:LasPalmasLCNM@gmail.com)



**NEW MEXICO  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **WE CAN HELP WITH YOUR UPCOMING WEDDING DAY PLANNING & EVENTS**



**BRIDAL OR COUPLES' SHOWER**

**FROM THE BRIDAL SHOWER  
& REHEARSAL DINNER, TO THE  
CEREMONY & RECEPTION, WE  
HAVE A VARIETY OF OPTIONS FOR  
YOUR SPECIAL DAY.**

**REHEARSAL DINNERS**

**CEREMONY & RECEPTION**

---

Our dedicated professional event planners right here at NMSU are ready to assist you in planning a memorable special event!

**For more information:**

call: **575.646.4805**

email: **[conference@nmsu.edu](mailto:conference@nmsu.edu)**

visit: **Corbett Center, Suite 317**



**Conference Services**  
[conference.nmsu.edu](http://conference.nmsu.edu)