

IT'S ALL IN THE...

DETAILS—THE FINISHING TOUCHES, THAT EXTRA SOMETHING, THE MEMORY-MAKERS FOR THE OCCASIONS IN OUR LIVES THAT MERIT SOMETHING TRULY SPECIAL. DETAILS ARE WHAT WE REMEMBER. WHETHER IT'S A BIRTHDAY, A WEDDING, A GRAND OPENING OR FESTIVE gala, the effort we put into making all the little things count is what makes a big event stand out. But fussing with the finer points can get frustrating (to say the least!), which is precisely why we created this month's party issue. Totally dedicated to the complex art of planning an event down to the very last devilish detail, it will help you sail through—not sweat!—the small stuff.

Leaving no stone unturned (or, in this instance, store!), our staff compiled a master directory for all of your party-planning needs. Need advice on finding invitations, securing a stunning location or creating couture hors d'oeuvres? Just turn to page 85 for listings of stationary stores, bridal boutiques, event planners, caterers and much, much more. The first step to filling in the details is knowing where to look!

Once you know where to look for all of your event essentials, where will you find your inspiration? To broaden your perspective on the world of party planning, we gathered an intrepid assemblage of event designers, caterers and local Pasadena party-throwers extraordinaire to share their knowledge and experience with our readers. From soon-to-be brides in our cover story, "Real Women, Real Weddings," to seasoned event design company Silver Birches—which we profile in "Party Professionals" on page 55—there is wisdom to be learned from newcomers and experts alike. Inside you will also find private tours of a pair of Pasadena's most recognizable locales, the Pasadena Playhouse and the Pasadena Convention Center—two memorable places to throw a big bash.

In other contexts, as well, the details are what differentiate one fête from the next. After all, Pasadena is a place filled with intricate architecture, unique landmarks and one-of-a-kind companies that are found nowhere else, such as Vertical Wine Bistro in Old Pasadena, where owner Gale Anne Hurd's keen eye for success has created an amazing restaurant and event venue. Both businesses demonstrate that the skills that go into creating the perfect evening or client relationship are the same detail-oriented qualities that create unforgettable events.

From start to finish, we hope that this issue gives you the confidence, resources and know-how to give your all not just to the parties you host or events you plan, but to putting your best into all the little details that make life a party.

Party on, Pasadena!
The Pasadena Magazine Staff

CORRECTIONS: February Issue, page 61: Matt McIntyre's phone number was misprinted. His correct phone number is 626.437.3643. Carmen Vargas's Web site listing was misprinted. The correct Web site address is ywca.org. Katie Sloan's information was misprinted. The correct listing is: Kathleen Sloan, Project Manager for Southern California Edison, 626.302.3246. Marci Tombs' phone number was misprinted; the correct number is 626.304.9996.



ON THE COVER

PHOTOGRAPHER: **JACK GUY** (jackguy.com)

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HAIR: **MONIQUE GARCIA-MONTANO OF BRAVO**
(bravosalon.com, 626.577.4777)

MAKE UP: **RENEE TIBBETTS OF BRAVO** (bravosalon.com, 626.577.4777)

COORDINATION: **MHP EVENTS AT THE AMBASSADOR MANSION AND GARDENS** (mhpevents.com, 626.791.1225)

GOWN: **MARY LINN'S BRIDAL** (marylinn.com, 626.585.8200);

WEDDING CAKE: **TAKES THE CAKE** (takesthecake.com, 626.792.1109);

18K WHITE GOLD AQUAMARINE AND DIAMOND RING: **SINGLE STONE JEWELERS**
(singlestone.com, 626.799.3109);

FLORALS: **IXORA FLORAL STUDIO** (ixoraflorestudio.com, 626.796.9946)

CLASSIC DESIGNS FINE JEWELERS (818.546.2919,
classicdesignsglendale.com).