

2016

BRIDAL GUIDE

A couple is seen through the windshield of a vintage car at night. The woman is on the left, leaning towards the man on the right, and they are kissing. The car's interior is lit, and a small vase of flowers is visible on the dashboard. The car's headlights and chrome details are visible in the foreground.

Words of Love

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Jacob and Kayleigh Grant served morning breakfast complete with milk and donuts. Guest favors included a bag of New Mexico Piñon Coffee abeled as their "Perfect Blend."



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wedding will be executed with care and attention to detail, making a truly lavish event.

For Angela Chrisman, this detail oriented approach is what made her wedding elegant and extravagant. “As a recent bride, an extravagant wedding to me means visualizing your dream wedding and reception, and having it come to life right in front of your eyes,” says Chrisman. “With support from family and friends in our large bridal party, I felt like Cinderella for a day which added to my fairy tale vision.” The sweetness was complete with small honey jar party favors straight from her in-laws’ beehive at Chrisman Honey.

Another aspect of extravagance Padilla sees is the historical value of the Hotel Andaluz. According to Padilla, this rich historical tie brings granddaughters of those who’ve been married there to continue the tradition. It also brings people in for anniversaries, as Padilla helped with

an anniversary and retirement party of a couple married for 65 years. Recently, Padilla spoke with a couple from Europe who came into the hotel three different times to scout the location. “He worked at a Ritz Carlton, so he knows extravagant—he knows what that entails, the level of service, and the expectation,” she says.

Padilla coordinates intimate events of 200 people or less. Sometimes things don’t work out, but there have been brides who have intentionally cut down their party to accommodate the space. “I have every kind of bride, and it works in that hotel, no matter what your style is.”

Another historical venue with elegant flair is the Downtown Historic Bed & Breakfast. Consisting of two properties, Heritage House and Spy House, these properties add vintage style to a wedding party. Owner Kara Grant has seen many weddings, but the most extravagant was her son Jacob’s wed-

ding. “He grew up in the industry,” Grant says. “We were able to incorporate bits and pieces of all the weddings we’ve had for something different, more unique.”

Grant recalls setting up in the dark—it was a sunrise wedding, beginning at 7:30 a.m. While some would cringe at the thought of such an early start, Jacob is a bit of a romantic. “He told me, ‘the first thing I wanted to do that morning is marry her,’” she says.

After the ceremony guests were offered breakfast with local favorites like donuts from Rebel Donut paired with milk from Rasband Dairy. Party favors also included local products like New Mexico Piñon Coffee and hot sauce from the Chile Connection. “It was fun being able to incorporate the local items,” Grant says.

After breakfast everyone piled in a trolley from ABQ Trolley Co. for the Breaking Bad–themed tour for the bride, Kayleigh, whose family are big fans of the show, and who traveled from Oklahoma for the wedding. “It was fun, intimate, and unique,” Grant recalls.

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