



Blooms with Personality

Wedding florals reflect unique tastes

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LONGMONT TIMES-CALL

Hand-tied bouquets with large, lush flowers will blossom among weddings in 2011, as brides will put a lot of thought into the flowers and details that make these works of art center stage. The key is a personable wedding that reflects a bride's style and signature theme throughout from the bouquets and centerpieces to guest book displays.

Painted Primrose owner Sarah Cioni sees numerous trends among her Boulder-area clients. While there are many floral trends among couples tying the knot, Cioni sees many brides incorporating a few of those finds with their own classical visions.

"I think brides are more simply stated in what they want, but it also depends on the venue," Cioni

says. "And of course, it all depends on their own personality and theme. Here in Boulder County I tend to see a more relaxed look."

At Plum Sage Flowers in Denver, owner Erin Hornstein sees personable influences come into many of the wedding flowers they create. "I would say brides are complimenting flowers with unique items to make their pieces unique to their day." This shines in family brooches wrapped into the stem of a bouquet or designing among the blooms. Feathers peek out from bouquets and boutonnieres, and crystals add a touch of bling.

"Our clients are selecting unique color palettes and searching for styles that set their day apart and make a memorable visual impact on their guests," Hornstein explains.

Photos top left moving clockwise: Flowers by Painted Primrose, photo courtesy Taralyn Ball, Beyond Now Photography. Flowers by Painted Primrose, photo courtesy Stone Crandall Photography, stonecrandall.com. Flowers by Plum Sage Flowers, photo courtesy Jenni Maroney. Flowers by Painted Primrose, photo courtesy Ashley Davis Photography. Flowers by Plum Sage Flowers, photo courtesy Jenna Walker Photography. Flowers by Painted Primrose, photo courtesy Angie Wilson Photography.

Floral Trends

The majority of wedding bouquets are hand-tied for a simple, clean look that lends to brides today. Brides are also putting more stock into making their wedding personable, and that includes the smallest floral details.

Blooms with Personality

Orchids are a great year-round flower that are a choice for many local brides. "Orchids are very popular with a variety of colors available," Cioni says. "And they hold up so well throughout the day."

While roses continue to be a popular, according to Dawna Masteller, manager of the north Longmont Florist store, timely flower for bouquets and arrangements, large, luscious blooms such as dahlias, peonies, garden roses and lisianthus are offering beautiful arrangements in a just-picked and looser casual look, as opposed to the tightly-designed bouquets from seasons past. In addition, there are some brides that keep "green" in mind when selecting flowers and opt for local blooms to support nearby growers.

Color Infusions

Just as fast as a dragonfly flutters into a garden and then out again, Cioni believes color trends change as quickly. Once again, the location for a wedding may also dictate the style and color of flowers.

Masteller says they see teal as a hot color scheme for the year, as well as schemes of blue.

Hornstein says yellow, gray and white are trending high among popular floral colors, but so are yellow, green and various shades of purple.

For Cioni, classic white and ivory are being chosen among brides seeking a classic look to their wedding day. Bright colors in hot pink, orange and lime green also continue to stimulate flower selections. And, of course, for Colorado brides wanting to reflect the natural surroundings, wildflowers give a nice mix of colors.

Not Only Flowers

One of the freshest trends in wedding florals is including herbs such as rosemary and lavender into the arrangements. These also can be found local, and give the flowers a fresh and distinctive look and smell.

Adding extra items with blooms is a personal preference for the bride, with some opting for greenery of various textures and shapes and others wanting the bling of crystals, pearls and family heirloom jewelry wrapped among the flowers.

“They are putting a lot of bling into their bouquets for a very detailed look,” Masteller says. “They are very thoughtful in their bouquets; they are not just ordering flowers.”

Greenery can be fun as well with green grasses, wheat and strips of birch bark adding dimension and structure into the design.



Top: Flowers by Plum Sage Flowers, photo courtesy Toni Axelrod. Above: Flowers by Painted Primrose, photo courtesy Wayne Yuan Photography.

Finding the Inspiration

Floral designers offer a wealth of ideas when it comes to trends in wedding flowers. Hornstein encourages brides to research blogs such as Style Me Pretty or individual flower designer blogs that offer ideas and inspiration.

And brides shouldn't forget to look to the rest of their planning ideas for inspiration. Even the smallest details on a wedding gown can lend inspiration to a bridal bouquet.