

glastonbury LIFE

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in jewelry design
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After working in celebrity entertainment and consumer public relations in New York, Boston, and Los Angeles, Stephanie Carmody has a wedding and event company in Glastonbury called Trés Chic Events.

Q. You worked with Donald Trump. How was that?

A. I worked with Donald Trump when he was launching Trump World magazine, which I don't think [is] in publication any more. There's a lot to know. ... He doesn't like to shake hands, so you have to be very mindful so no one is shaking his hand. When his son got engaged, we did a party for him and his fiancée. There are a lot of moving parts. It doesn't feel like work; it's fun.

Q. What are the biggest challenges of event planning?

A. I think the challenges are with any event – an A-list event or a corporate client or even a bride – are anticipating problems before they happen and having a plan in place. ... With an A-list client, there's no room for error. You don't get that luxury. ... A challenge really is


anticipating anything that can go wrong and having a plan for when that happens.

Q. What would be an example of that?

A. I think most recently would be with a wedding in New York and the transportation not showing up on time. It was a New York wedding and it was chaotic. ... You kind of adapt to what the situation is in a cool, calm, collected manner. You never show your anxiety to your client. It's always important to be in control even if the situation is out of control.


Q. What makes a great event?

A. I think what makes a great event is that everything is seamless. All the little touches connect: the color of the font [on the invitation] to the color of the bridesmaids' gowns to the color of the flowers. All those details



Let's Talk Breast Health

Presented by



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General Surgeon

Lauren Rubino, MD
General Surgeon

Frederick Shuler, MD
Radiologist


Natalia Miner, RD, CDN
Registered Dietician

Mary Pesce, PTA, CPT, CET
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We've assembled a panel of experts to discuss common breast health concerns, including screening recommendations, lifestyle improvements and hormonal and genetic factors that play into overall good breast health. Bring your questions or email them in advance to Donna Cameron, BS, RN, ECHN's Women's Health Nurse Navigator at dcameron@echn.org.



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add up, ... and all those details and attention to those details matter. ... Sometimes people say, 'It was such a great wedding,' but they can't pinpoint why. It's not just the food or the music or the flowers. It's all those details along the way that made it such a memorable event. That takes a lot of work, a lot of work.

Q. Who are some of your favorite celebrities that you've crossed paths with?

A. There are so, so many! One of my favorites is Chandra Wilson, who plays Dr. Bailey on Grey's Anatomy. She's the spokesperson for a Downy campaign. The cause for the campaign is Quilts for Kids. We provide quilts for sick kids in hospitals. She was just amazing to work with, very down-to-earth, lovely, just great. ... I actually worked really closely with Mario Batali and Kristin Davis [who was in] Sex and the City, for an integration with Barilla Pasta; Giada De Laurentiis as well. We created a celebrity cookbook all using Barilla Pasta. ... They were great in different ways. You have an actress who was

so glamorous and lovely and down-to-earth, ... and then I got to work with the chefs which was such a different experience as well.

Lisa Rinna was also a hoot. We did an integration Dr. Scholl's for her. That's when I did the Daytime Emmys. ... She wore the inserts on the red carpet. She had just finished doing Dancing with the Stars; her feet were tired. It was such a great connection for us to make with her.

Q. What's the biggest mistake that people make when planning an event?

A. I think biggest mistake is they get overwhelmed right at the beginning and think they have to get everything done right away. I like to take it in steps. ... I like to get the key elements in place and from there, focus on what's most important in an orderly fashion, so that way you're not so overwhelmed in the beginning.

Q. What's the last event you hosted at home?

Actually, I just [had a] CAbi [show]. I love fashion and it's a designer that

sells directly through personal consultants. ... It's like going to a Tupperware party but with fashion. ... I had a small gathering for 15 or 20 women, catered, with special wine, Italian wine, antipasto. It was just a lot of fun. I made it an experience for my guests. For me, for any event, whether it's my own or for a client, it's about creating an experience.

Q. Tell me about your company, Trés Chic Events.

A. I founded Trés Chic Events maybe a year and a half ago, officially in January 2013. ... Doing my company was a natural next evolution for me. ... When events were over, I always want to do it again. They were drama ridden and I always want to do it again

A year ago I officially formed it [and got] the website, social media in place. I was in business for three months, and within three months, I got three clients. I'm enjoying every aspect of it; it doesn't feel like work. I'm very, very selective. I don't want to be a wedding factory. I want to give attention to detail to clients

without being pulled in so many different directions. For a new business, it's going really well.

Q. Have you found any trends with the celebrities you've met?

A. What's really funny being with celebrities, ... [is] in my experience, you see interviews with the Julia Roberts of the world and the Sandra Bullocks of the world, and the nicer they are on camera, they actually end up being the nastiest celebrities and the most difficult ones to actually work with. The ones that seem indifferent, not as A-level, are the nicest, really down-to-earth. ... It's kind of crazy; it's the opposite. Like Ellen DeGeneres can be very difficult, but look at her. She can be super-nice on her show. ... It's something to be mindful of. If you see someone who is really nice [on TV], I wonder if they really are.

I will say of all the artists I worked with, the country artists are by far the nicest, all the singers are really the nicest and super, super sweet, just very down-to-earth people. **GL**



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