

COLUMBIA'S FINEST WEDDING PROFESSIONALS
COLUMBIA BRIDAL
Associates

Benefits of joining the Columbia Bridal Association

- ◆ Membership among a diverse group of quality wedding service providers
- ◆ Exhibit space at 3 Midlands Bridal Shows included in your dues
(January WNOK Bridal Expo, July Carolina Bridal Showcase and September Carolina Bridal Showcase)
- ◆ Advertisement in the CBA bridal magazine
- ◆ Listing and link for your business on www.ColumbiaBride.com
- ◆ Networking opportunities with other wedding service providers
- ◆ Attend social occasions with other CBA members
- ◆ Private access to CBA bridal lead database

To purchase all these services
individually would cost you
over \$5,000 per year

.....

Join the Columbia Bridal
Association and get all of this
for around \$1,300 per year



COLUMBIA'S FINEST WEDDING PROFESSIONALS

COLUMBIA BRIDAL *Associates*

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Columbia Bridal Associates (CBA) was founded in 1996 by a small group of businesses in the Columbia area that provide wedding related products and services. CBA was incorporated as a non-profit trade association in 1997. Membership in CBA is limited to those established businesses that can demonstrate that they provide the highest quality and value to their customers. Membership may be revoked should a member fail to maintain appropriate business and ethical standards.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS: The application process may take up to 90 days and requires the sponsorship of a current CBA member in good standing. The business must have been in operation for at least one (1) year within a 50 mile radius of Columbia, subject to verification. There are only seven (7) memberships per product/service category - - see application form for details. The Board of Directors conducts an initial review of all new applications. After the review is completed, if the application is approved by the Board, it will then be presented to the general membership. For additional information contact Richenda Batson, Membership Coordinator, at (803) 933-9580 or applausecatering@gmail.com.

NETWORKING MEETINGS: Members are encouraged to attend meetings as well as participate in the CBA-sponsored bridal shows and other special events. Membership meetings are generally held on the second Wednesday of every other month at 6:30 pm. The meetings are held at member businesses that have space and are interested in hosting. The host provides snacks and beverages. Hosting a meeting is a great way to introduce your business to other CBA members. To host a meeting, contact Michael or Angela Koska, Executive Directors at (803) 865-9497 or mail@michaelkoska.com.

DUES: New members are charged a one-time application fee of \$100.00. Annual fees (January-December) are \$900 which include one exhibit space at each of the CBA sponsored bridal shows. In addition, members are required to purchase a minimum ¼ page ad in the CBA Bridal Guide (cost of \$295). The preferred method of payment is by a monthly recurring credit card charge. For those who cannot pay by credit card, you may pay in full by check. Contact Angela Koska, Executive Director, with any financial questions at (803) 865-9497 or mail@michaelkoska.com.

LEADS: Members are encouraged to provide leads as frequently as possible, understanding that the nature of the business may allow some members to produce more than others. These leads should be brought to the meetings or sent directly to Trevett's Mailing Service for addition to the CBA bridal database. Members in good standing have access to the list. For more information, contact Lynn Trevett at (803) 781-3150 or mail@trevetts.com. Members are also asked to refer business to other CBA members as often as possible.

BRIDAL SHOWS: CBA sponsors three bridal shows per year. Michael & Angela Koska are the Bridal Show Coordinators and can be reached at (803) 865-9497 or mail@michaelkoska.com. In addition, CBA sponsors a booth at all area bridal shows to distribute CBA Bridal Guides, collect leads, and further promote member businesses.

WEB SITE: CBA has a fantastic web site (www.columbiabride.com) that consistently ranks among the most popular wedding-related sites in the Midlands. Membership includes a business listing and a hotlink to your website.

BRIDAL GUIDE: CBA publishes an annual membership directory/bridal magazine in September that is distributed at all member businesses and bridal shows throughout the Midlands. This publication (10,000+ annual circulation) is an excellent marketing tool and also serves as a helpful guide for all newly engaged brides. All members are required to purchase an ad in the bridal magazine. Contact Walter Caudle, Bridal Guide Coordinator, at (803) 730-8815 or wcaudle@aol.com for information on content, ad pricing, and production deadlines. To request bulk copies of the current Bridal Guide, contact Lynn Trevett, Trevett's Mail Service, at (803) 781-3150 or mail@trevetts.com.

2012 COLUMBIA BRIDAL ASSOCIATES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Scott Jones
American Floral
803-781-3150
flowerman@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Adam Ruffin
Palmetto Party Rental
803-794-0010
adam@palmettopartyrental.com

GRIEVANCE COORDINATOR

Linda Ingle
Jo-Lin's Bridal & Formalwear
803-781-9697
jolinsinc@bellsouth.net

INTERNET COORDINATOR

Bill Grant
Cinema Couture
803-749-9168
bill@cinemacouture.com

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Richenda Batson
Applause Catering
803-933-9580
applausecatering@gmail.com

BRIDAL GUIDE COORDINATOR

Walter Caudle
Music & More...To Go
803-730-8815
wfcaudle@aol.com

SECRETARY

Melanie Murphy
By Invitation Only
803-782-9084
murphyweddings@aol.com

AT LARGE REPRESENTATIVE

Pamela Richards
Capital City Club
803-256-2000
Pamela.richards@ourclub.com

AT LARGE REPRESENTATIVE

Dave Gilbert
PartyTime Entertainment
803-779-1003
partytime@sc.rr.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michael & Angela Koska
Michael Koska Photography
803-865-9497
mail@michaelkoska.com

2012 COLUMBIA BRIDAL ASSOCIATES APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Your name and job title

Company name

Mailing address

Physical address

City

State

Zip

Business phone

Fax

Home phone

Cell phone/pager

E-mail

Web site

Membership category for which you are applying: *(Please check only one)*

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Banking Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Country Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Hotels (limited service) | <input type="checkbox"/> Reception Facilities (limited service) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bartending Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Decorative Ice | <input type="checkbox"/> Invitations | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beauty/Wellness | <input type="checkbox"/> DJs | <input type="checkbox"/> Live Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Videographers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridal Gown Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Floral Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Men's Formal Wear | <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding Cakes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridal Registry | <input type="checkbox"/> Florists | <input type="checkbox"/> Party Rentals | <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bridal Wear | <input type="checkbox"/> Honeymoon Consultants | <input type="checkbox"/> Photographers | <input type="checkbox"/> Wedding Planner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catering | <input type="checkbox"/> Hotels (full service) | <input type="checkbox"/> Reception Facilities (full service) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Briefly describe your business, including the products and/or services you provide:

How long have you been in business in Columbia? _____

Is this your only profession? _____ If not, please indicate the nature of your other business or professional activities.

Please list affiliations in other business and professional organizations:

How did you learn about CBA? _____

Who is your CBA membership sponsor? _____

Application Process

To be considered for membership, please submit the following: completed application and a \$100 application fee. Upon review by the membership chairperson and/or the board of directors, the receipt of your application will be presented to the general membership for approval at the next regular meeting. Annual dues are \$900.00. In addition, all members must purchase and ad of at least \$295.00 for a ¼ page ad in the CBA Bridal Guide.

In applying for membership with CBA, I attest to the accuracy of the information in this application. I understand selection for membership is based on approval of the general membership and I agree to accept their decision. I further agree to abide by the by-laws and conduct my business affairs with vendors and clients in a legal and ethical fashion.

Signature _____ Date _____

Return application to: Richenda Batson, Membership Chairperson, 1208 Laurel Street, Columbia, SC 29201
Phone: (803) 933-9580
Email: applausecatering@gmail.com