

Michael Haston



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About Me

New York Botanical Garden certified floral designer who is creative, fast-working, reliable, and flexible with styles. I am skilled at creating original designs as well as replicating arrangements. I work with some of NYC's top floral designers and freelance throughout the region.

Skills Summary

- Floral design
 - Flower conditioning, preparation & longevity
 - Extensive expertise using foam-free methods including chicken wire, tape, tubes, frogs, branches, etc.
 - Boutonnieres, corsages, flower crowns, garlands, wreaths, hand-tied bouquets, etc.
- Event planning & execution
- Interior design & merchandising
- Houseplant & garden care
- Comfortable on ladders and lifting heavy objects
- Licensed driver with experience driving large trucks
- Business experience using Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook and interacting with international high-profile clients

Work Experience

Worked on florals that have been featured in:

- Vogue
- Vogue Runway
- The New York Times
- T Style Magazine
- Flower Magazine
- Bride Magazine
- New York Fashion Week
- LEAF Flower Festival New York
- Featured alumnus of New York Botanical Garden

Worked for:

- Oscar Mora
- Theresa Rivera
- Joshua Werber
- Christin Geall, etc.

Freelance Work

- Conditioning flowers, creating arrangements, working closely within a team, teaching techniques
- Wiring and taping, rigging, vessel preparation
- Setup and strike of projects
- Building structures unique to events and installation of large-scale pieces, i.e. arches, chuppahs, trees, etc.
- Managing other florists on projects and guiding work
- Working under tight deadlines with little oversight

Internship with Joshua Werber

- Assisting designer with the creation of meticulous, precise floral crowns, learning techniques for specialty wiring a wide variety of flowers, preparing all floral materials for use
- Assisting with various projects including editorial work for magazines and catalogs, runway shows, private parties, etc.

Education

New York Botanical Garden Summer Intensive Program in Floral Design 2019

Middle Tennessee State University – Music Performance on French Horn 2000

Additional training in Indoor Gardening, Low-light indoor Plants, Landscape Design, Prop Styling, Ikebana, etc.

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Non-floral Work Experience



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Before working the floral design field, I enjoyed a 15+ year career working at large-scale organizations as an Executive/Personal Assistant to Presidents and CEOs. My day-to-day responsibilities involved taking care of anything that would free up the Principal's time to focus on strategic business. That meant managing the Principal's email and phone calls, planning travel for Principal and his/her family for both business and personal reasons, managing expenses and budgets, and handling vendors in the Principal's homes and staff relations at work. Planned events like all-staff meetings, executive retreats, holiday parties, family weddings, bar mitzvahs, etc.

Global Health Strategies – April 2013 – April 2020



Sr. Executive and Personal Assistant to the CEO and President of a multi-national advocacy and communications consulting firm.

- Planned yearly international vacations for a family of 9 people, and work travel to locations around the world
- Managed multiple households in NYC, Fire Island, Hamptons including all household utilities, vendors, multiple extensive renovations, and performed light maintenance
- Managed the construction of a new roof deck on a 130+ year old midtown Manhattan office building. Followed all requirements from city government, architectural specifications, and building owner/management demands

Human Rights Campaign – January 2010 – April 2013



Sr. Executive and Personal Assistant to the President of America's largest civil rights organization for LGBTQ+ rights.

- Planned weekly trips for President to cities around America for fundraising dinners, handled all briefing meetings and materials
- Handled phone calls from the White House, Members of Congress, media, etc.
- Helped ensure a smooth transition between Presidents of the organization and interviewed and trained my successor for the new President

CARE – April 2005 – January 2010 – March 2005



Sr. Executive Assistant to the Executive Vice President of one of the world's largest poverty-fighting organizations with offices in over 90 countries.

- Worked on CARE's annual advocacy conference in Washington, DC and coordinated associated dinners in ambassador residences around DC with diplomats, donors, and members of Congress