Greetings Southern Members

I am proud of all that we have accomplished. I have to say, Southern is one big family. All the passion and teamwork that has been shown, is so encouraging. So many times we get busy, bogged down with day to day stuff and we can get drained. Then you see a group of people come together with such drive and determination, you can't help but to be lifted up and energized again.

Our focus this year has been our Student Chapter, Customer Awareness as well as the industry outside of our Chapter. These areas are of great importance to us and will continue to focus on these areas.

The board and I are always open to suggestions on ways to grow and to continue supporting our industry. Please don't hold back. We would love to hear from you.

A huge Thank you to everyone that has stepped forward and mastered an event this past year. Also to all those who gave of their time and money to support Southern. I encourage every member to please reach out to our board and let them know how much they are appreciated. The ones serving you are truly passionate individuals to do what they do. So I say Thank You to you as well.

We are getting geared up for Symposium and what an exciting one it is going to be! I am looking forward to seeing everyone there and don't forget our members meeting.

Thanks for all you do!!!
Randy Wooten
Annual Meeting

Meet and reconnect with Southern Chapter members at National Symposium. The Annual Meeting is a wonderful opportunity to touch base with other Southern Chapter members, meet your Board of Directors and find out what is going on in the region.

The Annual Meeting for Southern Chapter AIFD will be held at National Symposium on Sunday, July 2 at 10am. Stop in to welcome and congratulate our new Inductees as they receive their Southern Chapter pin. Introduce yourself to the board, tell them about your dreams and hopes for Southern and any ideas you may have to make us a stronger region.

The board is looking for volunteers to fill committee positions. We encourage everyone to participate. Please let us know how you would like to help make Southern even stronger.

2017 Southern Regional Chapter Scholarship winner
Stephanie Boiani

Meet our 2017 Southern Regional Chapter AIFD Scholarship winner Stephanie Boiani. Stephanie calls New Orleans, LA home where she is the General Manager and Lead Designer for Thiboeaux’s Floral Studio. Her enthusiasm for the industry has given her many opportunities to grow her talents. For the past 2½ yrs she has been coached by, one of our very own member, Paul Norman AIFD. This has allowed her to advance her skills and grow toward becoming a member of AIFD. Along with this extraordinary opportunity she has displayed her designs at the “Art In Bloom” at the Museum of Modern Art in New Orleans and exhibited her creative floral headpieces in Pesara, Italy. Stephanie has also worked on the Mardi Gras Society Balls in New Orleans.

Her background has allowed her to work with fashion design at Mengaroni Art Institute in Pesaro, Italy. Stephanie’s hobbies are interior design and botany, oil and water painting, sewing and designing clothing patterns. She is also interested in foreign languages as well as the cultures of those who speak it.

When asked what her goals are, at the top of the list is becoming an AIFD Certified Floral Designer. She will continue to support the floral industry and one day would like to own a business that allows her to explore both domestic and international floral design.
We are proud to award Stephanie this wonderful scholarship from the Southern Regional Chapter Fund on behalf of the AIFD Foundation. The AIFD Foundation has given so many people a wonderful opportunity to expand their horizons through scholarships and grants. When you have an opportunity to support them please do so. Please congratulate Stephanie for becoming this year’s scholarship winner and give her a big southern welcome to Seattle 2017 Symposium X.

**Prize: National Symposium 2018, Washington, DC**

AIFD offers a chance to win National Symposium 2018 in Washington, DC

Participate to Win the AIFD Discover DC Package
AIFD National Symposium | June 30 - July 4, 2018

Package includes:
- 2018 AIFD Symposium Premium Registration (includes tickets to Induction Dinner and President’s Dinner)
- Up to $400.00 Travel Expense Reimbursement
- Marriott Wardman Park | Room & Tax for 2 Nights
- 2018 AIFD Hands-On Design Experience
- Approximate value of prize is $1,830.00

Take a Chance for $20.00 Each or Six Chances for $100.00

To enter:
- Purchase tickets from the AIFD Foundation Desk or from any AIFD Foundation Trustee at National Symposium “X” in Seattle – July 1-5

Announcement of winner will be July 5, 2017 during the Live Auction
You do not need to be present to win

Net Proceeds to benefit the AIFD Foundation

The North Carolina Museum of Art held its 3rd annual Festival of Flowers and Art (Art in Bloom) this past March. Over 13,000 guests over the 4-day festival attended to enjoy and photograph 56 beautiful floral art interpretations and 5 major focal point floral platform exhibits. Everyone seemed to have stepped up their design work this year – over all it was spectacular. Southern Chapter AIFD & NC State Florists’ Association designers and friends that participated in the event this year included:
Kevin Hinton AIFD and Kevin Coble AIFD created the platform design that greeted AIB guests as they entered the exhibits. The AIB planning committee selects the designers for the 5 major platform designs from a pool of designers competing for the platform. The committee was impressed with Kevin Hinton AIFD and Kevin Coble AIFD’s proposal to create a modern interpretation of a tropical rainforest. According to AIB program director Laura Finan, the AIFD Southern installation was “hands-down the most photographed arrangement in the exhibit.” Kudos to the Kevins for a job well done! Special thanks to Green Point Nursery for the amazing product for this installation.

We are grateful for Jody McLeod AIFD who stepped in at the last minute to do a live demonstration in the lobby area of the museum while AIB guests watched and asked questions. Carol Inskeep AIFD and David Powers AIFD were originally planning to do this event, but were unable to make it. Thankfully Jody McLeod AIFD graciously took over for them. The demonstration was staged in a high-traffic area of the museum, near the coffee shop, restaurant and museum store. Jody interpreted an 8-minute animated video which depicted a tree that goes through the 4 seasons. Jody did a masterful job interpreting the art and entertaining the attendees.
A new feature at AIB this year was an onstage competition between two designers interpreting the same work of art. The artwork was a painting from one of the museum’s temporary exhibits of portraits from Tudor England. While the designers were creating their compositions, one of the museum’s curators gave a lecture on the paintings and symbolism common in the portraits of the era. This “War of the Roses” competition was fascinating, informative and highly entertaining. I look forward to more of this type of program in the future for Art in Bloom. Thanks to Sue Bain AIFD and Jody McLeod AIFD for designing amazing compositions for this event. The audience was not able to select a winner, so the competition ended in a tie. Special thanks to Cleveland Plant and Flowers for providing the gorgeous flowers for these last 2 programs.

Horti-Couture
Inspiration: Tahiti

The floral fashion show produced by Southern Chapter AIFD and North Carolina State Florist’s Association at NC Museum of Art in Raleigh, North Carolina was a huge success! The auditorium sold out 230 seats and had a wait list of guests that were not able to get in. Our show was featured on WRAL, a local Raleigh news station and was attended by Southern Bride and Groom magazine.
Because theme for the show was Tahiti, designers were asked to take some aspect of the island paradise to interpret into flowers. Designers truly rose to the challenge and showcased their amazing talent in these interpretations. Designers were inspired by birds, butterflies, waterfalls, volcanoes, jungles and rain forests, native fashion and even tattoos! The show attracted a lot of attention and generated a lot of great PR for AIFD.

We were honored to have National President Anthony Vigliotta AIFD attend this high-profile event.

This show was a massive undertaking and could not be possible without the floral village that came together to make it happen. Special thanks to Laura Finan, the Art in Bloom Program Manager at the NC Museum of Art, for her tireless commitment to this project and for pulling all kinds of strings to make it happen, to Luke Mehaffie, Media Services Coordinator at the museum for help with music and lighting to make the show really shine, and to Sharon McGukin AIFD who did a phenomenal job commentating the show.
Thanks to the committee that coordinated the event: Terry Godfrey AIFD, Sue Bain AIFD, Angela Darrah AIFD, Carol Inskeep AIFD, Carol Dowd AIFD and Doug Odom. Many thanks to all the designers/design assistants and stage crew that came together for this wonderful show:

Aisha Crivens AIFD
Anahit Hakobyan
Angela Darrah AIFD
Anthony Vigliotta AIFD
Bryan Swann
Carol Dowd AIFD
Carol Inskeep AIFD
Christi Lopez EMC
Cydney Davis-English
David Shover AIFD
Derrick Wood
Doug Odom
Ellen Seagraves
Gena Sweeney
Jennifer Litterst AIFD
Kate Han AIFD
Kesami Holmes AIFD
Kevin Hinton AIFD
Kyoung Hwang
Lisa Ruf
Lori Himes AIFD
Michael Whaley AIFD
Michele Rhodes
Nelson Simpson AIFD
Renee Becker
Renee Younger
Robin Weir AIFD
Robyn Arnold AIFD
Sherene Tan
Stephanie Garrett AIFD
Susan Bain AIFD
Terry Godfrey AIFD

Design inspiration: Island Couture by Bryan Swann
Sponsor: DV Flora
Photo courtesy of Sean Purcell Photography

Design inspiration: Volcanoes by Terry Godfrey AIFD & Aisha Crivens AIFD
Sponsor: Potomac Floral Wholesale
Photo courtesy of Sean Purcell Photography

Design inspiration: Orchids by Kate Han AIFD
Photo courtesy of Sean Purcell Photography

Design inspiration: Island Couture by Chirti Lopez EMC
Sponsor: Green Point Nurseries
Photo courtesy of Sean Purcell Photography
Please join us in thanking our sponsors for this event.

Kelly Mace
Smithers-Oasis North America
kmace@smithersoasis.com

Janet Reid
Golden Flowers
janet.irizarry@goldenflowers.com

Eric Tanouye
Green Point Nurseries
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Danny Hinton
Cleveland Plant & Flowers
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Evelyn Mino
Lihmil Wholesale Flowers
evelyn@lihmil.com

Jacob Reiss
Potomac Floral Wholesale
treiss@flowerwholesale.com

Vince Tromatore
DV Flora
vtromatore@dvflora.com

I would like to thank all the designers that took time out of their busy work schedule to participate this year, many having travelled some distance to attend.

Please hold the date for next year’s Art in Bloom – March 22 – 25, 2018. Accents will keep you posted on the activities planned for this amazing event.

Design inspiration: Waterfalls Geena Sweeney
Photo courtesy of Sean Purcell Photography

Design inspiration: Tattoos and Traditional Headdresses
by Sue Bain AIFD & Robin Weir AIFD
Photo courtesy of Sean Purcell Photography
Accents would like to start listing educational opportunities in our newsletter. If you know of any state association conventions, workshops or other educational events happening in your area, please email Terry Godfrey at TerryGodfreyAIFD@gmail.com.

**FLORIDA STATE FLORAL ASSOCIATION:**

**MADE IN THE AMERICAS - 2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION**

June 8-11, 2017
Marriott Orlando Airport Lakeside 7499 Augusta National Dr Orlando, Fl 32822

For more information: [http://www.floridastatefloristsassociation.com/event-2497388](http://www.floridastatefloristsassociation.com/event-2497388)

**TENNESSEE STATE FLORISTS’ ASSOCIATION & CENTRAL TENNESSEE PROFESSIONAL FLORISTS’ ASSOCIATION:**

August 4-6, 2017
Marriott Cool Springs Hotel and Convention Center
Franklin, TN (just outside of Nashville)

Designers/Presenters:

Christy "Ce Ce" Todd - "Bespoke: Wedding Florals for the Design Conscious Bride". She will also be doing a hands-on tutorial. Wearable flowers to include pocket squares and hair accessories.

Randy Wooten AIFD - "CELEBRATE" Let's Celebrate the Seasons and all they have to offer... Randy will be doing a hands on workshop "Everyday Designs, It's Got Your Name On It...." Sponsored by FTD

Jamie Jamison Adams - "WEBSITE REAL ESTATE POTENTIAL" Sponsored by Flower Shop Network

Jerry Williamson - "BUILDING YOUR BUSINESS THROUGH NETWORKING"

Cindy Tole AIFD - "A Life Well Remembered" Sponsored by Teleflora.

Jim Marvin AIFD - "An Artful Season"

For more information: [http://www.tennesseestatefloristsassociation.com](http://www.tennesseestatefloristsassociation.com)
NORTH CAROLINA STATE FLORISTS’ ASSOCIATION

2017 Annual Convention
Naturally Inspired
Earth, Wind, Fire & Water
August 11-13, 2017
Doubletree Biltmore, Asheville, NC

Convention Highlights include FTD Program by Ann Jordan AIFD, 2016 NC Designer of the Year Program with Sara Callahan, Teleflora Program with John Hosek AIFD

Competitions:
- Designer of the Year
- NC Jim Treadaway Cup
- NC State Dogwood Cup
- Mask, Centerpiece, Headdress, Miniatures & Body Flowers Competitions

For more information:

NC Certified Professional Florist School

Sep 27 @10:00 am — Sep 30 @12:00 pm

Venue
Lihmil Wholesale Flowers
735 Indeneer Drive
Kernersville, NC 27284
336-993-1008

Instructor: Nelson Simpson, AIFD, PFCI, CFD, NCCPF

For more information:
https://www.ncfloristassociation.com/event/nc-certified-professional-florist-school/
Welcome to our new Southern Chapter AIFD members!

Inductees 2017
- David Arrieta CFD, Amaranto Boutique Floral, Alajuela, Costa Rica
- Brenda Blackburn CFD, Doris’ Flowers & Gifts, Columbia, TN
- Michael David Elder CFD, Pecolet, SC
- Victor Erarte CFD, Imperio de las Fiestas, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- Shawn Michael Foley CFD, Hot House Designs, Birmingham, AL
- Doris Hargrove CFD, Doris’ Flowers & Gifts, Columbia, TN
- Donald Johnson CFD, Hendersonville, TN
- Melinda Varvarigos CFD, Wellington Florist, Wellington, FL

New CFDs 2017
- Pilar Gonzales CFD, Hillandale, FL

Southern Chapter Board of Directors

President:
Randy Wooten AIFD, CFD
(912) 384-7288

President-Elect:
Kevin Hinton AIFD, CFD
(662) 255-6530

Vice President:
Carol Inskeep AIFD, CFD
(540) 907-0606

Secretary:
Teresa Godfrey AIFD, CFD
(301) 332-9338

Treasurer:
Adrienne Summers AIFD, CFD
(301) 473-8330

Past President:
Robyn Arnold AIFD, CFD
(813) 973-9176

Southern Regional Representative:
David Shover AIFD, CFD
(703) 281-4141

Board of Directors
2017
Carol Dowd AIFD, CFD – (910) 692-3800
Tim Lawing AIFD, CFD – (803) 808-3608
Sherry Moon AIFD, CFD – (404) 233-4446

2018
Christopher Branham AIFD, CFD – (606) 248-6003
Terry Conerly AIFD, CFD – (504) 313-8508
Jennifer Litterest AIFD, CFD – (757) 810-6099

2019
Aisha Crivens AIFD, CFD – (901) 683-4313
Darenda Darnell-Barbarz AIFD, CFD – (305) 245-4355
Angela Tully AIFD, CFD – (386) 846-6067

Congratulatons!