

2023

Block Island WEDDINGS

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*When you know it's right...
The Atlantic Inn —
Invested in your relationship...*

PAGE 6





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Photos: Ashlea Snell Photography

Eileen: 28, from West Hartford, Conn.
Liam: 28, from West Hartford, Conn.
Now reside in: Seattle, Wash.



Photos: Hilary B. Photography



EILEEN LI & WILLIAM (LIAM) SONG DICKSON *July 30, 2022*

Liam fell in love with Block Island even before he fell in love with Eileen because his family had been going to Block Island for their summer vacations since the late 1980s. He met Eileen in high school, and she was invited to come along starting in 2012, so Block Island is a very sentimental spot for them both. There was never a question they wouldn't have their wedding on Block Island.

The idea of sharing this very special place with their family and friends was so appealing that they made it a destination wedding, and said they enjoyed running into people they knew, days before and after the wedding, wherever they went on the island. The couple had their rehearsal dinner at a cottage one of their families had rented for the week so it was intimate and fun. Another good idea was having an informal departure brunch at Aldo's so people could just drop in on the way to the ferry.

The ceremony was on the back lawn of the Spring House, and their beloved dog, "Ari" nearly stole all the attention from the beautiful bride in his role as ring bearer. The reception was on the back patio at the Spring House, featuring a cake from Aldo's with both vanilla and chocolate tiers filled with layers of custard. Wedding favors were jars of honey from Littlefield Bee Farm complete with custom labels.

Eileen and Liam loved their first dance to "Love on the Brain" by Rihanna and the beach bonfire at the after party at Ballard's, where they hung out with friends on the beach and looked up at the stars. A perfect wedding!

Top 2 Pieces of Advice:

1. Be on the island ahead of time, spending time together before the wedding is more fun.
2. Find vendors that know Block Island to make things smooth.



The Details

WEDDING VENUE: **Spring House**;
 PHOTOGRAPHER: **Hilary B. Photography**;
 VIDEOGRAPHER: **Well Spun Weddings**;
 LIGHTING: **Ryan Designs**; DJ: **Arpeggio Weddings**; FLOWERS: **La Bella Rose**;
 CAKE: **Aldo's**.



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When you know it's right

The Atlantic Inn — Invested in your relationship

By Rona Mann

It all started with a meeting, didn't it?

Maybe you and your future wife/husband met way back in grammar school. Perhaps it was in a college class, on a blind date, at a local pub, as invitees to the same party. Maybe it was even at someone else's wedding. But somehow you knew this relationship was honest, was different, was special, not like the others...and soon, you were invested in each other, and you knew for sure that this was the right one.

If you've chosen Block Island for this very personal event and want to share it with family and friends, then you've known from the beginning this would not be a cookie-cutter wedding. This would be special. It begins with magnificent sweeping views, perhaps the main reason you chose to get married on Block Island. Few places in the world compare with those views, and few on Block Island have the expansive, breathtaking views as those from The Atlantic Inn offering the highest point overlooking the ocean. Here is a place that is more than just a destination, it is a venue owned by people who meet you on that unique and singular journey to your marriage and quickly become partners in your relationship. As keepers of this outstanding inn high on the hill and encompassing more than six acres, Brad and Anne Marthens firmly believe that your wedding should be YOUR wedding, a complete reflection of who you are as individuals, who you are as a couple, and precisely what YOU want.

That's why The Atlantic Inn offers more than just a beautiful view and first-rate accommodations; they do their best to offer customization of every detail in your wedding experience, whether it's just for one day or for an entire weekend. There are no "packages" at The Atlantic Inn, you sit down with Brad and together design every aspect of this once-in-a-lifetime experience from the rehearsal dinner to guest rooms to the ceremony, reception, and even to an after-party or next-day brunch, if that is what you desire.

Their wedding packages are customized to the cuisine you select, and everything is made and created from scratch by Executive Chef Dennis Gomes, even the butchering and smoking are performed on the premises so there is total control over every hors d'oeuvre, every dinner, every dessert. Not only is the food preparation and plating exquisite, but The Atlantic Inn has an enviable wine list and was previously given the "Award of Excellence" and named one of the Best of Rhode Island by Wine Spectator Magazine.

Every acre of this perfectly manicured property may be used for the larger destination weddings as only one wedding is booked per weekend, so you may elect to perhaps enjoy a casual BBQ rehearsal dinner on the

lawn, your ceremony overlooking the ocean, your post-wedding brunch indoors or out. This is YOUR wedding, and there's no right or wrong, there is only your happiness. "We try to do it the way people want, not what we want," Brad says firmly, and that is the mantra and the only way the staff knows how to serve. The chef prepares exceptional revolving menus to keep the experience unique and fresh, yet remains ever mindful of special requests, food allergies, and choices of a particular kind of cuisine.

The Atlantic Inn accommodates weddings as small as just 2 people to 200 guests, with the same attention to detail given both ends of that spectrum. Tents, tables, chairs, everything that is needed is right there at The Atlantic Inn, and Brad makes certain that every T is crossed and every I dotted on the way to your beautiful journey.

The Atlantic Inn has at present 22 beautifully appointed rooms for your guests with a required 2-3 night booking, and when the guests are all yours, they take over the inn, both inside and out! What a wonderful, relaxing way to have an event. People who haven't seen each other in years have an opportunity to reunite in a comfortable, beautiful atmosphere. With each sound of the waves, wedding nerves seem to vanish, and what remains is what should remain: great food, great wine and cocktails, a relaxed and easy experience, and yes...fun. Because after all, whether a wedding is large or small, simple or elaborate, people still want to have a good time, especially the bride and groom!

From the moment you first sit with Innkeepers, Brad and Anne and look out at the ocean from one of the highest points on the island, you will feel any uncertainty begin to slip away with the tide, you'll realize that everything – positively everything – is being custom tailored for your day, your event, your weekend, and it won't be like every other wedding. It will be singularly and forever yours.

It's all about the relationship, it has been since you first met, and will be with Brad and Anne as well. Make your first appointment your last appointment. Make it at The Atlantic Inn because soon you'll realize this relationship is different, it's special, and very soon you'll find you are invested in each other and know for sure that this is the right one.

Schedule your personal appointment by calling The Atlantic Inn (401) 466-5883 or email them at: brad@atlanticinn.com or atlanticinn@biri.com. We also invite you to visit The Atlantic Inn at www.AtlanticInn.com.

Paid Editorial Feature

The Atlantic Inn & Restaurant 1879



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MORGAN LEE PETTI & BAILEY THOMAS ZIOBRO *August 20, 2022*

She: 37, from Stamford, Conn.
 He: 27, from Warren, R.I.
 Now reside in: Warwick, R.I.



Photos: Trevor Holden Photography



Morgan and Bailey had a long relationship with Block Island and with each other, meeting in 2016 when they both worked for the summer at Champlin's Marina, but only a friendship blossomed...it took love a bit longer, but when it did, look out!

"I'm not sure we ever directly planned a destination wedding," Morgan told us. "It was just that Block Island was always our first and only choice." Like so many other couples, they wanted to introduce this very special place to their friends and family, "and we wanted everyone to start making their own memories here."

The couple had their ceremony overlooking the Great Salt Pond on the lawn at The Sullivan House, which excited everyone except their well-behaved dog, Jax. He laid down during the vows and refused to get up to have the rings taken off his collar when it was his time to shine!

Cocktail hour followed on the lawn with a huge raw bar placed over a massive bed of ice in a wooden row boat, and it was literally gone in minutes. The cake was beautiful, simple, elegant and was a three-tiered, champagne-flavored cake with white frosting finished with flowers and designed to look as though it were wrapped in ribbon.

Morgan and Thomas kept with the simple beauty of the island when it came to favors so they had sweets for the guests to take home and some fun sparklers as people were leaving to cap off the night. Morgan credits her "amazingly talented mother" with custom-designing labels to glue on each candy wrapper, stickers for the favor boxes, homemade dog treats (bet that got Jax up!) in the shape of Block Island, sparkler labels, and even custom-designed cocktail napkins to match their theme colors. What a Mom!

Like every other couple, they loved the music

at the reception and said the band "electrified the dance floor."

Top 3 Pieces of Advice:

1. Remind your guests to plan way ahead, especially during July and August, or for older guests and those traveling with children.
2. Send Save-the-Date cards at least 10 months before the wedding.
3. Establish a detailed website with travel and lodging advice and offer to help.

The Details

VENUE: **The Sullivan House**;
 PLANNER: **Katie Maguire, Summer Sisters Weddings**; HAIR: **Salt Hair Shop**;
 FLOWERS: **Harvest Moon Florals**;
 PHOTOGRAPHY: **Trevor Holden Photography**; MUSIC FOR RECEPTION: **Free Downloads Band**; PARTY RENTALS: **Peak Events**; CAKE AND DESSERTS: **Sin Bakery, Providence**.



WEDDING CHECKLIST 10 to 12 Months Out

Pick a Date and discuss a budget

Decide on three different preferred dates for your wedding and list in order of preference. Remember that June and September are peak wedding months on Block Island – venues may have restrictions that don't meet your guest count or budget. Most hotels will have a three-night minimum required of your guests in July and August. If you are on a tight budget, consider having your wedding on a day other than Saturday.

Come up with an estimated guest count

Make a list of all the people you would like to see at the wedding. Make an A list and a B list and be prepared to trim the guest list if Covid issues or budgets require.

Discuss what kind of wedding and reception you envision

Formal or casual, tented or indoor, buffet, plated, or passed hors d'oeuvres

Discuss what your priorities are

Food? Good music? Decor? Location?

Book ceremony location and pay deposit

Book reception location and pay deposit

Reserve blocks of rooms for wedding guests

Book ferry reservations for vehicles

Begin gathering ideas from bridal magazines and websites

See what your tastes are regarding flowers, decor, cakes, dresses, invites. Gather pictures to show these vendors your vision.

Select your bridal party

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LINDSEY TAYLOR EATOUGH & JAMES ROBERT LANE *September 10, 2022*



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Their paths crossed many times in their growing-up years when they lived just 10 minutes apart at the Jersey shore, but it didn't get serious until sailing camp and a memorable first kiss. During a sailing trip to Block Island with another couple, James proposed at Mohegan Bluffs, one of the most romantic and scenic points on the island. Originally, they thought they would marry in their hometown area, but ultimately chose Block Island because it was where Lindsey had vacationed with her family as a little girl and now the place where the couple got engaged. Lindsey speaks often of their special link to how important the sea, boats, and fishing are to both of them.

The weather was beautiful the day of the wedding and being married at the end of the dock at Champlin's made it extra special. One of the highlights for Lindsey was getting to ride in on the Oldport Launch with her Dad and surprise everyone. Champlin's, with its nine acres of waterfront property, made the reception even more memorable with a variety of appetizers with a fabulous seafood display and stuffies (stuffed clams) that everyone loved.

Their guests loved exploring the island, many arriving a week before the ceremony to truly experience all

Block Island offers.

"We had an oar painted with our family crest and at the reception all our guests signed it. The woman who did our invitations, Little Ivy Paper Goods, then put it as a watermark on all our signage, drink tickets, programs, napkins, koozies, cups, even on our pup, Marlin."

Top 3 Pieces of Advice:

1. Support local vendors... everything you need for your wedding can be found right on the island.
2. Point your guests to BlockIslandInfo.com. It has all the information they will need and is extremely helpful.
3. Work with an on-island wedding planner to help you bring your dream to life.

The Details

CEREMONY AND RECEPTION: **Champlin's Marina**; WELCOME EVENT: **Champlin's Marina**; REHEARSAL DINNER: **Shack at the B.I. Beach House**; WEDDING PLANNER: **Julie Kiley Events**; PHOTOGRAPHER: **Ashlea Snell Photography**; FLORIST: **Ayla Johnson, Harvest Moon Florals**; HAIR AND MAKEUP: **Jill Seppa, Koru Eco Spa**; CAKE: **Kate Musso, Odd Fellows Café**.



Lindsey: 33, from Rumson, N.J.
James: 27, from Oceanport, N.J.
Now reside in: Highlands, N.J.

Photos: Ashlea Snell Photography

WEDDING CHECKLIST 7 to 9 Months Out

Finalize guest list

Send out a save-the-date

Your guests will require more information due to the special circumstances regarding a Block Island wedding. An informational insert or e-mail along with the save-the-date will encourage them to make their travel arrangements early.

Things to include:

- Any other events outside of the wedding day that you would like to invite them to, such as a rehearsal dinner or Sunday brunch.
- Transportation info: ferries, plane, taxis.
- Room blocks or recommended accommodations.

Book caterer and pay deposit

Book DJ or band and pay deposit

Book ceremony music and pay deposit

Book photographer and pay deposit

Book videographer and pay deposit

Book officiant and pay deposit

Book cake designer and pay deposit

Book a florist and pay deposit

Book bride and groom's accommodations

Book vendor accommodations and ferry tickets (if applicable)

Order bridal gown and accessories

Book rehearsal dinner location

Begin researching invitations and wording

If you are inviting all of your guests to the rehearsal dinner, consider integrating this into your invite and RSVP. Pocket-fold invitations are very useful for presenting information about multiple events, as well as gathering RSVPs.

Shop for wedding bands and get ideas for engraving

Begin researching honeymoon spots

WEDDING CHECKLIST 4 to 6 Months Out

Book Hair Stylist And/Or Makeup Artist

Select and order invitations

Order bridesmaid dresses and accessories

Select and order tuxes and accessories

Meet with ceremony officiant and begin planning ceremony

Meet with caterer and begin finalizing menu details

Give guest list to bridal shower hostess

Make honeymoon reservations

Purchase wedding rings

Select style for escort cards, place cards, table numbers, menus, and programs

Order what can be ordered ahead of time

Schedule bridal gown fittings

Write all payment and contract deadlines on calendar

Balances due, final counts due, menu choices due, rental order due



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Photos: The Wild Soul Films and Photo



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HANNAH McCOLLAM & KRISTOPHER PEARISH *September 18, 2022*

What a unique and wonderful love story culminating in a unique and wonderful wedding on Block Island! Hannah and Kris met through the dating site, Bumble, but when it came time to propose, Kris did not go the traditional route. Hannah is a dolphin trainer, so working secretly with her co-workers, they had one of her dolphins bring a buoy to her that read, "Will you marry me?" Kris, down on one knee, then presented a traditional Claddagh ring since both are steeped in their Irish heritage.

They chose Block Island for a few different reasons, primarily because since she was an infant, Hannah and her family had visited almost yearly and loved it. It only took one visit with Hannah for Kris to feel the same and they both acknowledge there is a special kind of energy and beauty on the island.

Their guests also seemed to fall in love with the natural beauty of the island as well as the food and desserts. They especially loved the "A Taste of Block Island" dessert showcase suggested by

Hannah: 25, from New Fairfield, Conn.
 Kristopher: 24, from Panama City, Fla.
 Now reside in: Orlando, Fla.

Hannah's father.

Their ceremony was a traditional Celtic handfasting ceremony followed by a fabulous reception under the famous white tent at The Sullivan House and featuring famous Irish colcannon potatoes. The guests just loved dancing while watching the sunset from the lawn, and Hannah and Kris just loved being surrounded by friends and family. Tables had photos on them from the couple's trip to Ireland and were named after each locale visited in the Emerald Isle. The only thing they would have changed was to have the ceremony earlier in the day because it all flew by so quickly...it always does!

Top 3 Pieces of Advice:

1. Plan ahead. Block rooms, the venue, and

vendors relatively far in advance.

2. Spend more than just a day there. Block Island begs to be a popular "destination wedding" spot.

3. Be flexible. Let the unexpected just roll off your shoulders and know you will have the most incredible time at your wedding.

The Details

VENUE: **The Sullivan House**; CATERING: **Sullivan House/Block Island Gourmet**; RAW BAR: **Perry Phillips, Block Island Oyster Company**; DJ/MUSICIAN: **Dave Lefkin**; OFFICIANT/CELEBRANT: **Jayme Hennessy**; MUSICIANS: **Megan Hennessy and Heather Littlefield**; FLORALS: **Painted Rock Designs**; PHOTO/VIDEO: **The Wild Soul Films & Photo**; HAIR: **Kelly Parker**; MAKEUP: **Brigid McCollam**.

Hold Your Wedding at the Block Island Maritime Institute

Block Island Maritime Institute (BIMI) is Block Island's best kept secret for weddings, receptions, rehearsal dinners or just welcome receptions

- 1,915 sq. ft. Cove Room accommodates 130 for a sit-down dinner or 250 for a reception and has a built-in bar area
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Photos: Brad Smith



DANIELLE “DANI” KOLITZ & CHRISTOPHER “CHRIS” ALVES *September 23, 2022*

Just ask any bride. Stop any groom. Ask them if their wedding went 100 percent as ordered, wished, planned. Guarantee that no one will tell you it did because things happen. Life happens. And in this case, wind happened!

Dani, originally a Texas gal, met Chris, a New Englander from Massachusetts online via Bumble, the dating app., and it seemed written in the wind that they were made for each other. And so was Block Island when Chris proposed in April of 2021 on Mansion Beach. After traditionally dropping to one knee and receiving the answer he hoped for, the couple spent the rest of the morning toasting with champagne and celebrating on the beach. There was no question

Dani: 33, from Dallas, Texas
Chris: 38, Marion, Mass.
Now reside in: Lincoln, R.I.

about it...not only were they made for each other, but Block Island as a wedding destination would be their only choice. They wanted to share the beauty and love for this quaint and picturesque place with all the people they most cared about.

And they showed them everything they loved by hosting the rehearsal dinner at the National; the cocktail hour and reception at Spring House highlighted by Espresso Martinis, delicious food, two wedding cakes (a traditional cake, plus in honor of Dani’s southern roots, a groom’s cake); the clambake and

bonfire at Ballard’s prior to departure, and the relaxed time their guests had to explore lighthouses, beaches, and everything Block Island offers.

Were there glitches? Of course! Remember, nothing is 100 percent as planned. In this case, it was the wind that can blow with a fury on this magnificent open island, but the pros at the Spring House knew exactly what to do, moving the cocktail hour from the veranda into the parlor. The staff never missed a beat, and the guests continued to enjoy this special destination wedding. It was the ultimate Block Island experience with breathtaking sunsets, sweeping ocean vistas, and beaches to explore, all topped off with Dani and Chris’ special day.

Ask the newly minted couple

what memories they will always have, and it ranges from Dani’s best friend as officiant, to florist Michelle Jeanne’s floral creations to the intimacy and raw beauty of Mohegan Bluffs, right down to the Block Island-shaped cookies served to their guests.

Sometimes the unplanned adds some of the best moments, and in the years to come Dani and Chris will talk about their romantic wedding on Block Island, their love story written in the wind.

Top 2 Pieces of Advice:

1. Spring House is perfect, and Tanya is simply the best.
2. Make a weekend out of it. Allow your guests the opportunity to explore all the island has to offer.



The Details

REHEARSAL DINNER AND WELCOME EVENT: [The National](#); CEREMONY AND RECEPTION: [Spring House](#); DEPARTURE: [Clambake and bonfire at Ballard’s](#); FLOWERS: [Michelle Jeanne](#); CAKE: [Wingate’s Cake Design](#); PHOTOGRAPHER: [Brad Smith](#); VIDEOGRAPHER: [Sam Morrissey with Endeavor Weddings](#).

WEDDING CHECKLIST 2 to 3 Months Out

- Mail invitations
- Mail rehearsal dinner invites
- Order linen rentals
- Order or start making favors
- Confirm that bridal attendants have purchased their attire and accessories
- Take rings for sizing and engraving
- Purchase gifts for bridal attendants and parents
- Don’t forget a gift for the person you will be marrying
- Decide who will be reading and/or performing in wedding ceremony
- Finalize reception menu
- Select ceremony music
- Select reception music, must play and do-not-play lists and special dances and toasts



Photos: Hilary B. Photography

Elizabeth: 47, from Stockbridge, Mass.
Jack: 58, from Norwalk, Conn.
Now reside in: New Haven, Conn.



ELIZABETH IRENE RATHBUN & JOHN (JACK) WINTERS MILLS *September 24, 2022*

When love finds you - true love - it plays no favorites.

Love doesn't care about age or race or gender or background. When the right two people meet and fall in love, then there is no wrong. Although older than most of the couples represented here, this wedding was no less special because it was on Block Island.

Jack, an attorney, and Elizabeth, a psychologist, both with practices in New Haven met at a restaurant and were immediately attracted to one another. In September of 2021 Jack proposed on a beach with only the seals in attendance! Both Jack and Elizabeth knew the wedding had to be on Block Island because they consider it a treasured place filled with beauty, simplicity, and nature, and they very much wanted to share it with their loved ones.

The couple felt that the love and connection they shared seemed to radiate to all their guests, who felt everything about the wedding was special including their dog, Cassie who served as flower puppy. The Atlantic Inn

provided the perfect setting for the reception which was highlighted by one of the most beautiful and unusual cakes we've seen. It was a lemon cake with coconut frosting decorated with dried flowers and leaves, wonderful for a fall wedding.

Jack and Elizabeth painted old scallop and oyster shells and gave them to their guests as perfect favors of an island wedding. But there are always little mishaps that seem huge at the time and now may be laughed about. Elizabeth's fake eyelashes kept falling off right before the ceremony, and Jack had to be shown by the photographer how to put cufflinks on easily!

Their guests truly loved everything about Block Island and everything about the wedding saying how people who previously did not know each other seemed like old friends at the end.

Top 3 Pieces of Advice:

1. Be present.
2. Expect changes (the crazy wind) and small issues.
3. Laugh a lot.



The Details

VENUE: **The Atlantic Inn**; WEDDING COORDINATOR: **Kayley Boucher**; MUSIC COORDINATOR: **Cameron Greenlee**; BAND LEADER: **Joe Ballaro**; PHOTOGRAPHER: **Hilary B.**
Photography; FLOWERS: **Painted Rock Designs**; HAIR AND MAKEUP: **Jill, Koru Eco Spa**; WEDDING CAKE: **Kate Musso, Odd Fellows Café.**

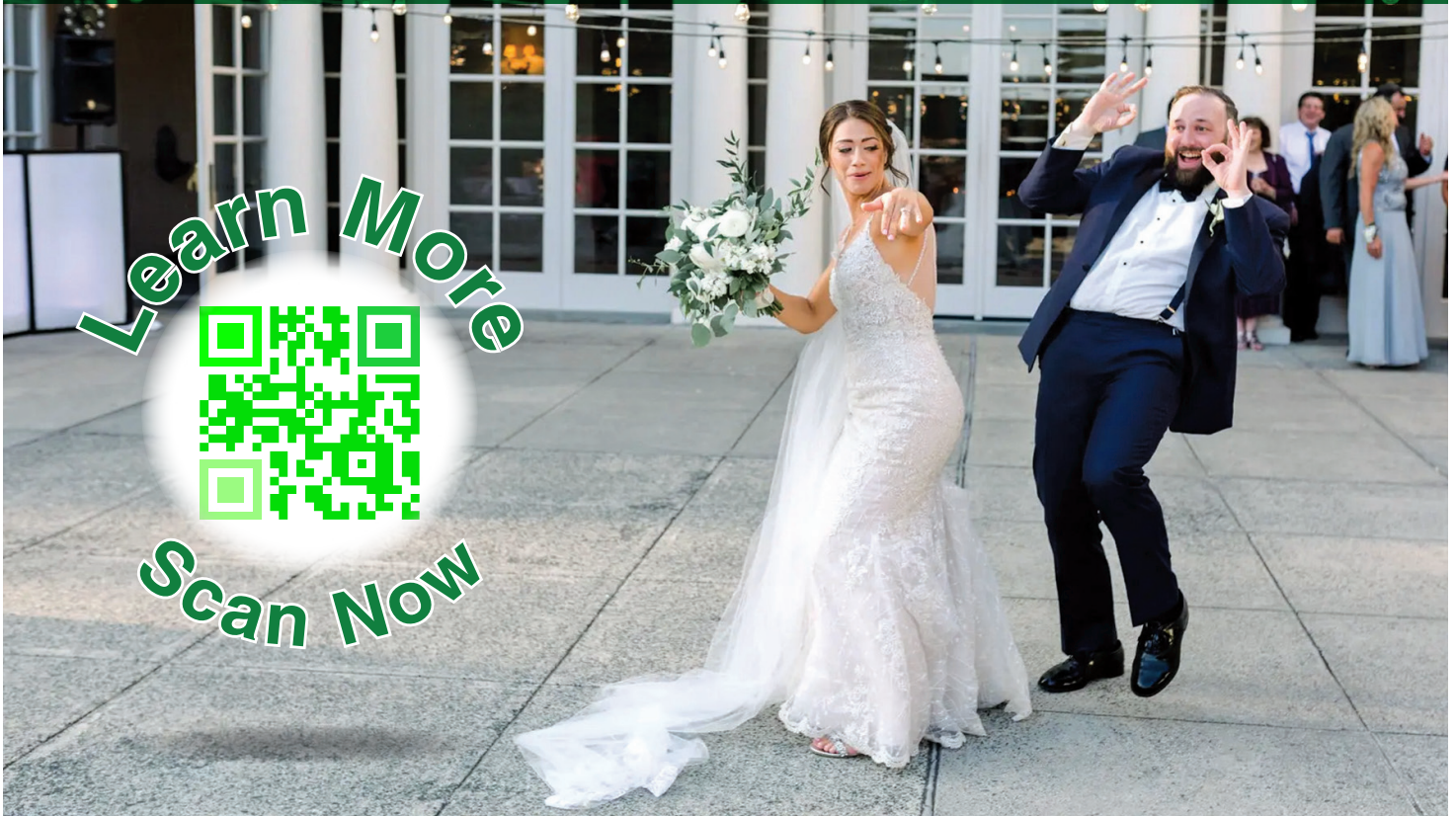
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WEDDING RENTALS



PHOTO BOOTHS



10 Consecutive Years



B_ENTERTAINED
DJS AND MORE



9 Consecutive Years

“When you know what you want, B_Entertained!”

By Rona Mann

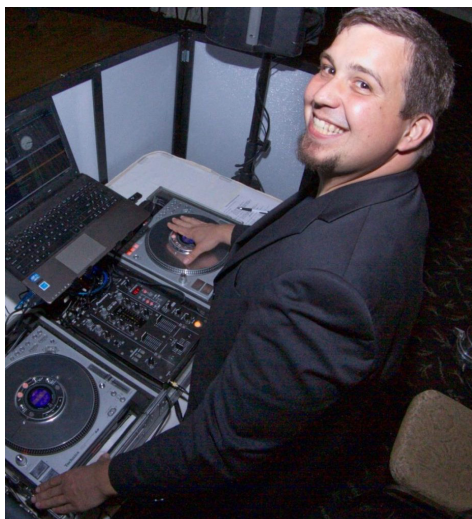
LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED! That's right it's YOUR day, a once-in-a-lifetime event, and the one you have been dreaming about your whole life and probably planning for as well! So don't you think you deserve a custom-designed ceremony and reception that you will always remember?

Let us introduce B_entertained DJs and More, your go-to source for all things entertainment and wedding production! They have been getting the party started for over 24 years with more than 2200 receptions performed...hundreds on the island! But as owner, Mike Burchard says, “No two receptions are alike, and we strive to make each unforgettable for our couples!” Their approach is first, they listen to all your wants, needs, and dreams; second, they meet with you again and again fine-tuning all your details and playlists, and third, they show up early, set up on time, and throw a party filled with fun, energy, and do whatever they can to make YOUR day special.

Now let's meet Mike Burchard, the Owner of B_entertained, and fearless leader of the B_entertained highly motivated and all'round fun-loving staff and crew of DJs. Mike started in the business when he was just 12 years old pushing records through the subway system of NYC, and over the last 24 years has built one of the most professional and recommended wedding entertainment groups in the Northeast serving Rhode Island, Connecticut, Western Massachusetts, and parts of New York.

Currently, the company boasts fourteen highly experienced and professional DJs who bring the highest level of skill to each and every job, but also toasts themselves as... “a group who makes every aspect of the wedding fun... even the planning process,” Mike laughs. Using their extensive background in all things wedding receptions, their comprehensive planning material available to each couple they work with, and the group's fun-loving spirit they are experts at taking your image, wishes, and dreams, and bringing them to reality!

“The problem with this industry today is anyone can download a program, download a bunch of songs from the internet, and call themselves a DJ,” Mike says. “Most of our crew come from a previous club background, and is not



to say they will be playing club music throughout your reception, but more that they know how to feel out the crowd, read the vibe of the room, and throw the party that you will remember forever!” The energy can be felt throughout, and using what you want as an outline, they will take your guests' requests, fill in the blanks where needed, and electrify the dance floor!

There are no lulls, no musical breaks, as their DJs keep the party going and keep your guests happy... and yes, Grandma, you can still have a conversation with Aunt Betty at your table without yelling.

There is so much that goes into building the “musical ambiance” for your reception, so as you plan, the team of B_entertained helps you every step of the way. With email and text check-ins, friendly suggestions for music, and overall guidance on how to throw a kick-butt reception. For most couples, it's their first time getting married, hiring a DJ, and planning such a big event. So their job is to take the image that's in your head - everything from how to introduce the wedding party to how to end the evening - and make it happen. No surprises, just fun.

Yes, a wedding should be fun, and when you've chosen beautiful Block Island, you want everything to be perfect. B_entertained allows you to truly enjoy your own wedding and be part of the party without ever worrying about the music.

“We put a lot of effort into the pre-planning process,” Burchard adds. “We provide our couples with a great deal of planning material with our comprehensive online portal system that acts as your command center for your reception. You will be able to do everything from plan all the special musical aspects of your big day using our all-inclusive wedding planning guide, submit your contract and payments, and the best part is building your wedding playlist from our library of 250,000 songs that range from the '20s to today's chart-topping hits!”

B_entertained not only can provide the music and entertainment but also offer full-service production services with photo booths, custom-designed monogram lighting, and even a tent too! If your wedding is at a home on the island, on the beach, or the park, they can also provide you everything from the dance floor to tables, chairs, linens, ... and more!

Block Island is one of their favorite places to play, with Mike having a deep personal connection to the island, BUT... he doesn't know you. Yet! Contact a company that has it all: experience, an endless library of music, glowing testimonials, and only a very professional way of making every event memorable with all the fun included, guaranteed!

When guests remember a destination event, they will speak of the beauty of the place first. Next, before they talk about the food, the bridesmaids' dresses, or the after-parties, they always speak of the music, the dancing, and how the party kept going all night long. That's where B_entertained comes in because they never stop entertaining, and it's a celebration of YOUR big day from beginning to end!

For more information...and there's tons of it... www.everythingdjs.com

Call Mike directly at (860) 969-3532 - You'll love talking to him... if you want fun, he “gets” it!



Paid Editorial Feature

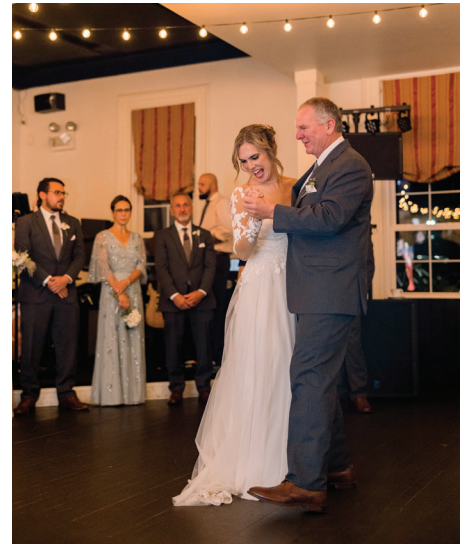
AMY CHAUNT & ADAM GONSALVES *October 1, 2022*



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There are all kinds of wedding memories, but this is one that not only will the bridal couple and their family remember, but their guests will speak of this for years to come because the wedding of Amy and Adam on Block Island took place in a hurricane, Hurricane Ian! Still, nothing could spoil Amy and Adam's day; it actually enriched it in so many ways.

By 11 a.m. that morning, Amy's parents were on the phone telling guests who were not yet on the island not to make the trip because the ferries might not be running back that night. An understatement! Guests who had leisurely taken the ferry over were marooned on the island for nearly a week or forced to fly out after the event! Sound like a

Amy: 31, from Tiverton, R.I.
Adam: 35, from Tiverton, R.I.
Now reside in: Cranston, R.I.

disaster? Not when you're dealing with on-island vendors who are pros. Nothing could happen that they could not fix...except the weather!

Adam and Amy chose Block Island because "getting married anywhere else just didn't feel right. Block Island is our place." The couple was especially glad they had booked the Spring House for the entire event because even though the ceremony was to have been outside, they were able to have a more intimate ceremony inside with candles by the fireplace, cocktails in another locale within the venue, dinner in yet another, and dancing in still another

part of the Spring House. People really got to know one another, and by the next day, the guests were all old friends.

Amy and Adam decided not to have wedding favors, electing instead to donate to the rescue where they got their dogs. Would they change anything? They both firmly say, "No!" The hurricane brought them together making them realize some things you just can't control, so they chilled out and enjoyed the alternatives.

Amy summed it up. "When all is said and done, what matters are the important things, the people who make your day and the person you're going to spend your life with."

Top 3 Pieces of Advice:

1. Prepare for all weather conditions...have a backup plan to your backup plans!
2. Hire local vendors...they know the island best, and you'll be in the best hands possible.
3. Just have fun and enjoy it!

The Details

CEREMONY AND RECEPTION: [Spring House](#);
PHOTOGRAPHER: [Coli Michael Photography](#); FLORIST:
[Painted Rock Designs](#); HAIR AND MAKEUP: [Complex Beauty](#);
WEDDING BAND: [7 Day Weekend](#); LIGHTING: [Ryan Designs](#);
REHEARSAL DINNER: [Block Island Beach House](#).

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BI Wedding Resource Guide

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Destination Weddings & Signature Celebrations

Block Island Oyster Bar & Grill is located at the Historic Manisses Hotel
401-465-6243 • kimberlysbi@aol.com



Photo: The Wild Soul Films and Photo

WEDDING CHECKLIST 1 Month Out

- Order wine, liquor and/or champagne, if necessary**
- Select readings for ceremony**
- Meet with officiant to finalize ceremony details**
- Do trial runs for hairstyles and makeup**
- Schedule pedicure and manicure for day before the wedding**
- Schedule ceremony rehearsal time**
- Decide when and where you will get your marriage license**

If both the bride and groom are legal residents of Rhode Island, you must obtain the marriage license from your local town clerk. If out of state, you must obtain your license on Block Island (can be done as late as the Thursday before your wedding.)

- Be fitted for bridal gown**
- Select or write vows**
- Begin drawing up an itinerary of wedding day details**

Think about when you would like the following events

to take place: bride and groom's first dance, parent dances, best man's toast, maid of honor toast, bouquet and garter toss. Are there special announcements or other special toasts that you would like to include in the reception events?

- Begin writing ceremony program**
- Purchase ceremony accessories**

Unity candle, ring pillow, etc...

- Purchase reception accessories**

Card box, toasting glasses, guest book, cake knife, garter, etc.

- Begin receiving RSVPs in mail**
- Track meal choices and accommodations**
- Write thank you notes as you receive shower and/or wedding gifts**
- Arrange for a babysitter if necessary**
- Get a pre-wedding haircut**
- Create a rain contingency plan**

WEDDING CHECKLIST 2 Weeks Out

- Pick up wedding bands**
- Final bridal gown fitting**
- Complete events schedules**
- Finalize event tent and/or table layout**
- Plan order of processional and recessional**
- Have wedding program printed**
- Print escort cards/chart, place cards, menus, ceremony program**
- Wrap attendant gifts and attach a note of thanks**

- Call guests who have not yet RSVPd**
- Confirm head count for vendors**
- Confirm menu choices to vendors**
- Obtain marriage license**
- Purchase items for guest welcome bags**
- Create a welcome letter with info for guest bags**
Include a schedule of events, transportation, what to do around Block Island, the couples favorite places, etc.
- Compile a list of where guests are staying**
This will make gift bag distribution much easier.

WEDDING CHECKLIST

1 Week Out

- Prepare a must-have photo list for photographer and videographer**
- Check weather forecast – rain plan?**
- Call all vendors and confirm all details**
- Complete escort cards and table numbers**
- Plan ceremony seating**
- Groom haircut**
- Make sure all grooms attendants try on tuxes and have obtained all accessories**
- Obtain/print final checks for vendors**
- Prepare tip envelopes for vendors**
- Finalize seating chart for reception and rehearsal dinner**
- Designate people for wedding day errands**
- Finalize wedding day time line and distribute to vendors and wedding party**

1 Day Out

- Decide if a rain plan will need to be put into place**
- Attend pedicure and manicure appointments**
- Inform attendants of their duties**
- Gather ceremony and reception items and give to your coordinator (or other designated helper)**
- Obtain a beach fire permit from police station if having a bonfire. (Permit valid for 24 hours.)**
- Rehearsal – bring marriage license**
- Rehearsal dinner**

Day of

- Attend hair and makeup appointments**
- Attend photography portrait sessions before wedding if applicable**
- Provide snacks and drinks for attendants**
- Bride and groom! Don't forget to eat something, and drink water.**
- Make sure to sign marriage license!**

After

- Gather ceremony and reception items**
- Return linens and any other rentals**
- Change bride's name if applicable and notify important parties**
- Mail wedding thank you notes within three months after wedding**
- Review proofs and order photos/video and/or albums**
- Settle financial matters**

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