## EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN







### AS SEEN IN Forbes, Fortune & Entrepreneur

# Creating Magical Moments

With creativity and know-how, Becki Annastas and Dream Events & Catering satisfy hearts and appetites.

ashville has long been associated with producing twangy tunes and music stars, but behind the scenes is where Becki Annastas finds her niche. As owner of Dream Events & Catering, she acts as a stage manager, leading a team in producing swoon-worthy events and dining experiences designed to delight the senses.

"We're celebrating people's milestones," Annastas says. "We want to provide an opportunity for people to experience what they've envisioned without worrying about the details."

A certified woman-owned business, Dream has been dedicated to going above and beyond since its founding in 1991. Assuming ownership in 2015, Annastas has grown the company into one of Music City's most sought-after, full-service providers.

"We're here for anything a client may need," says Annastas, pointing to Dream's in-house team of trained chefs and event specialists, as well as premier partners across Nashville. "That may mean a full-service event one day and boxed lunches for their employees the next. We strive to look at the big picture and create lasting relationships, rather than single transactions, to serve a multitude of needs."

### ACT OF SERVICE

A heart for serving permeates the entire company, something Annastas exemplifies in her approach to the client experience. "People work for people, not companies," she shares. "The values our employees hold and how they interact with clients is important."

Crafting a culture centered on trust and respect—with a heavy dose of fun—helps Annastas support and encourage her team. The diversity of the staff's personalities and passions leads to highly creative yet meticulously organized productions. Whether concocting a new appetizer for a themed conference or discerning the best guest count to accommodate a bride's budget, the team offers vetted advice to make clients' dreams come to life.

"We're a small part of a much bigger picture," says Annastas. "We discover our clients' goal, then paint a picture and let them guide us."



#### EXPERIENCE BREEDS WISDOM

Planning parties for two guests to 10,000 attendees is the norm for Dream. Backed by tried-and-true methods and several lastminute requests—once catering an event for 8,500 guests in the middle of downtown Nashville on three weeks' notice—Annastas encourages clients to consider two key points to ensure a successful event.

"Take into consideration your guest count, because that has the largest effect on your budget and capabilities," she says. "Also be aware of what's going on in the community. An increase in prices at the grocery store will affect your vendors too. Catering and event planning are customized services, and every guest deserves to feel like it's an experience curated just for them."

Crafting an unforgettable gathering, Annastas notes, requires many moving parts, but it's a career that keeps her yearning for more. "What gets me up in the morning is the anticipation of who I'm going to talk to, what I'm going to learn, and the satisfaction of watching our team execute a perfect event," she says. "Every day is different, and I'm fortunate my path fell into something as exciting as food and parties."



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