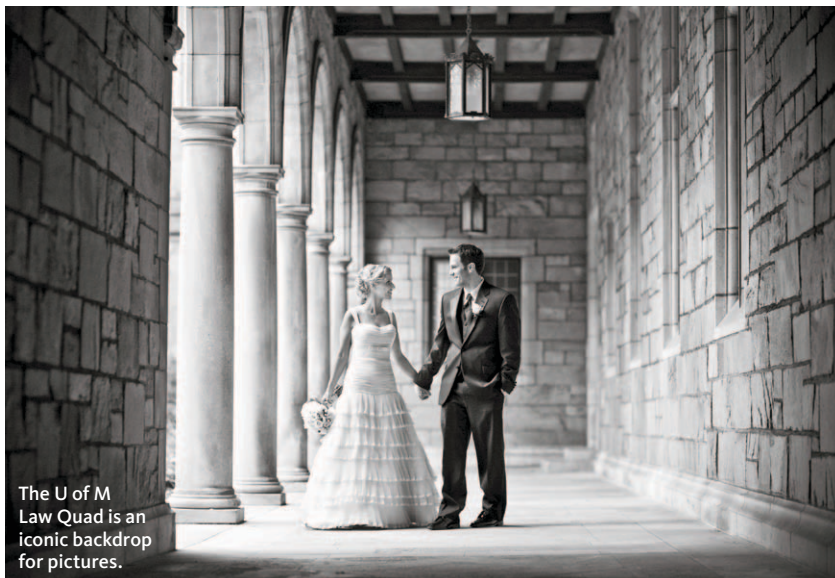


the inside scoop



The U of M Law Quad is an iconic backdrop for pictures.



THE PLANNER
Jennifer House
A Moment In Time
Wedding & Event
Production, Plymouth

MomentsInTime.biz

YEARS IN THE BIZ

6 years

SECRET WEAPON

"I always get the job done with a smile and with enthusiasm."



THE PLANNERS
**Kate Upton,
Jennifer Warner
and Sherrie Miller**

e1e3 Event Design
and Planning, serving all of Michigan
e1e3Events.com

YEARS IN THE BIZ

A combined 35-plus years

SECRET WEAPON

"The lucky number three. We're three planners with three areas of service: coordination, florals and rentals."



THE PLANNER
Valerie Smies
RSVP Events,
Grand Rapids
Events-by-RSVP.com

YEARS IN THE BIZ

5 years

SECRET WEAPON

"Our close relationships with the state's best vendors."

specialty sweets

"Vegan cakes are a highly sought-after item here, whether the bride and groom are vegan or are trying to accommodate their guests' dietary restrictions. But a legit vegan cake baker is hard to come by, so I send my clients to Cakes by Rubina (CakesbyRubina.com). Not only do her cakes taste amazing, but she's also an artist in terms of their design." —*Jennifer*

local brews

"Since craft beers are so big right now, serve a few different kinds from one of the area's breweries. List them on a chalkboard and include why you guys chose each one and who you think will like it." —*Kate and e1e3*

flower time

"Peony season here is really short. You'll only see them at the market for a couple of weeks, from the end of May through early June. This is a gripe for many of my brides, since flying them in makes them more expensive. Try garden roses or fluffy hydrangeas for a similar look." —*Valerie*

weather woes

"People say we have two seasons here: winter and construction. And it's kind of true. Because our winters are so harsh, construction work starts the minute it gets nice out, which can be a logistical disaster for a wedding. I always tell my brides to look into construction dates and alternate travel routes for their guests." —*Valerie*

innovative invites

"Invitations and wedding logos that take a more customized approach are hot, but it can be hard to pull off without a design degree. Enter Detroit-based Señor & Señora (SenorSenora.com). They have some really cool options for urban-themed weddings, as well as some more elegant looks. My personal faves are Motown-themed save-the-dates shaped like vinyl records and vintage-inspired Detroit-postcard save-the-dates." —*Jennifer*

delicious décor

"If you love the look of statement-making décor but don't have time to scour flea markets for unique pieces, trust the pros. Events by I. Candy (EventsbyICandy.com) has rental warehouses full of great finds, so it's a great place to start." —*Kate and e1e3*

standout space

"Muskegon doesn't have a great variety of indoor venues, so I was excited to see Watermark 920 (WatermarkCenter.com), a cool new loft space, open up. With its spacious, open layout, modern ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows, it's seriously the place to check out if you want something different for your wedding reception." —*Valerie*



Find local wedding planners at TheKnot.com/michigan