

## SYBIL BROOKE SYLVESTER

Having spent her childhood learning from the grandes dames of the Birmingham flower industry, Sybil Brooke Sylvester can name any flower you hold in front of her. After brief stints arranging silk and fresh flowers, Sybil went solo at age 34, selling original dried floral arrangements under the label “Wildflower” at a local antique and accessories shop. Working from her garage, Sybil started to build her citywide reputation as an excellent decorator for weddings, parties and holiday homes.

In May of 1996, Sybil opened her own shop, Wildflower Designs. Sybil’s mission was to bring cutting-edge floral designs to Birmingham’s traditional scene. Wildflower Designs then grew to employ 3 to 4 full-time floral designers, expanding upward to 50 helpers for major events. Sybil’s unique style combining European and Southern traditions, and her philosophy of personalized treatment for every client, regardless of budget, has made Wildflower Designs one of the South’s most sought-after floral boutiques. In July of 2009, Sybil moved her business back home to her garage which gives her time to enjoy her garden – but has not interrupted her busy floral schedule.

Sybil’s expertise and acclaim have grown with that of Wildflower Designs. She has been a featured speaker at dozens of gatherings and events, from a national speaking tour of Parisian’s Home Stores to several demonstrations at the Southeastern Flower Show to private workshops for members of the Garden Club of America, and she has enjoyed being the keynote speaker at several Junior League and Art in Bloom events. Sybil has been engaged as a photo stylist for *Southern Living*, *Coastal Living* and *Southern Accents*, and her work has been featured in *Southern Living Weddings*, *Southern Accents*, *Coastal Living*, *Bridal Guide*, and recently in numerous articles for *FLOWER* and *VERANDA* national magazines. Sybil has also completed three years with an on-going column for Southern Accents magazine entitled “flower school” and she is proud to have held the title of Contributing Editor to Southern Accents magazine and of her ongoing involvement and title as Contributing Editor with *Flower* magazine. Sybil shares her expertise by serving as a wedding, party and event-planning consultant and by teaching an in-shop flower school. Sybil has always dreamed that “Wildflower will travel” and is happy to report that dreams do come true. Her newest flower travels have included instruction for three separate “Floral Themed” cruises with Crystal Cruise Line... followed by a mammoth wedding in Cashiers, North Carolina.

Never forgetting the roots that have nourished her blossoming career, Sybil has donated countless hours to local charitable organizations, including the Alabama Symphony Orchestra, the Birmingham Museum of Art and Magic Moments. She has served as a member of the board of the University of Alabama at Birmingham’s Comprehensive Cancer Center, the Alumni Board for The Altamont School, as a member of the Museum Educational Council of the Birmingham Museum of Art, a member of the board for St. Anne’s Home, a board member for The Pepper Place Farmer’s Market Association, Inc. and served as Assistant Director to “Project Light”, an inner-city literacy program in Fairfield, Alabama.

Sybil the proud author of a newly published book, *FRESH*, which shares her floral design philosophy. She is, also, the proud mama of two grown children and the grandmother of four precious granddaughters and a dear grandson. She lives with her husband, Bill along with Gabby, a Cavalier Spaniel, in Birmingham, Alabama.