



Jessica & Neil

Jessica and Neil's love story began five and a half years ago when they met at UNC-W during their freshman year. They quickly became friends, and soon began to realize that it was something more. After graduation, the couple moved to Raleigh to start their new life together, each pursuing their own dreams. They bought their first home together, where Neil proposed last fall.

The couple knew that they wanted to hold both the ceremony and reception on Duke University grounds, but wanted a different ambiance for each event. They chose the Terrace Gardens for their afternoon outdoor ceremony because of its natural beauty and romantic garden feel, and selected the Doris Duke Center for their indoor reception.

Jessica wore an ivory lace gown and carried a teardrop shaped bouquet of soft white hydrangeas, blush and pale peach roses, lavender and seasonal blooms, and accents of dusty miller and gold.

After the couple exchanged their vows, the guests moved from the ceremony site to a tented cocktail hour, where they enjoyed an open bar, imported cheeses, and passed hors d'oeuvres, including the grooms favorite: a Carolina grit cake topped with North Carolina collard green pesto.

Jennifer V. event design and planning worked with the bride to execute a natural, simple and romantic ambiance for the reception. Tables were covered in soft mint green linens, with large centerpieces of ivory, blush and lavender blooms with natural greenery. The combination created a clean and traditional look with a chic, modern palette.

The three-tiered chocolate chip cake had a cannoli cream filling and was iced with white buttercream, and topped with fresh flowers for an additional pop of color.







As a darling and very appropriate detail, the couple sent their family and friends home with precious potted succulents. Jessica loved the idea of utilizing these favors as escort cards, and allowing the guests to take them as favors from the garden wedding.

After their last dance, the college sweethearts walked through a tunnel of sparklers and into their getaway car.

PLANNER Jennifer Viscosi/Jennifer V. event design and planning

PHOTOGRAPHER Sarah Joann Photography

VENUE Sarah P. Duke Gardens

CATERER Catering Works

FLORIST Joseph Barnes/Catering Works

WEDDING CAKE Catering Works

HAIR AND MAKE UP Nicole Yusko with Baccio Salon

RENTALS Classic Party Rentals and CE Rental

ENTERTAINMENT Triad DJ & Events

LIGHTING Get Lit Special Event Lighting

CEREMONY MUSIC Valerie Wood/ All Ages Piano Studio

TRANSPORTATION A Formal Affair Limo

GET AWAY CAR White Horse Transportation

Jennifer V.

event design and planning



ALL PHOTOS: WONDERLAND PICTURES

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