

The 25 Trendsetters of 2007

Meet the one-of-a-kind innovators and talented pros bringing modern weddings to life. From invitation designers to cake bakers, these are the experts you need to know. Embrace their passion, and let their creativity inspire you.

EDITED BY AMY GOLDWASSER



Modern Bride
25
**TRENDSETTERS
AWARD**



Karen Bartolomei

SKY'S-THE-LIMIT STATIONER
Boston

When it comes to wedding invitations, stationer Karen Bartolomei, owner of Grapevine, works in another dimension, one in which nothing is impossible. Such an up-for-anything attitude has produced lushly tactile, 3-D invitations that can't be contained in envelopes: invites on terra-cotta tiles for a Mexican-themed

wedding, little handmade corsets on a bed of feathers (theme: Moulin Rouge) and laser-etched Plexiglas with faux lambskin. She routinely drives eight hours round-trip from her base in Boston to New York for hand-dyed ribbon, scours Paris flea markets for woodblock flower prints, and once had a paper company mix pulp with sand she'd collected from a beach for a Caribbean-themed

invitation. Even postage fails to escape her discerning eye: She further customizes using stamp designs from the 19th century to the present. The true Grapevine stamp, however, is the attention she gives to ensuring that the message, materials, font, colors and embellishments are absolutely perfect. —Riza Cruz

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**WHAT SHE'S
KNOWN FOR:**

*Capturing the
essence of a couple
with unique couture
invitations that are
truly for keeps*