



From ME to You
Latest News from ME Productions
May, 2007

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Greetings from Amanda!

Hello! I'm Amanda Heyder, Executive Sales and Event Manager at ME Productions and I'm happy to bring you this month's newsletter.



From production to décor and florals, destination management, entertainment, lighting/sound, business theater and premiums, ME Productions can assist with all of your meeting and special event needs. Let me know how I can help!

Celebrating Local Culture

Experience Local Culture During Your Next Meeting

Wherever ME Productions travels with clients, we encourage them to offer guests a taste of the authentic culture and traditions of the destination they are visiting.

From Miami to Bora Bora, Los Cabos to Bermuda and beyond, we have found attendees are more receptive to the message you are trying to communicate when using the following strategies for integrating local culture:



Hand-crafted doll from Los Cabos, Mexico event.



A photo from a group snorkeling activity in Bermuda.



In Bora Bora, guests sit in the water for a general session and native feast- now that's different!

1. **Initial Welcome** - Airport or hotel welcome with music, local beverage and decorative items (leis, hats, shirts, etc.)
2. **Tours and Activities** - Bring a guide or resident expert



Native dance troupe performs for a group in Bora Bora.



A tasting of local fruits in Cancun.



A banquet table in Costa Rica festively adorned with local peppers and textiles.

who can tell anecdotes and folklore while riding on buses to and from sites. Stop along the way to taste local fruits or products made in popular shops.

3. **Food Tastings/Demos** - Have the host hotel distribute samples of local food during idle times, such as when people are waiting to load a bus, or during a break. Involve local chefs in demonstrations to make the activities interactive.

4. **Arts and Crafts** - Hold a local arts and crafts fair during one of your breaks or integrate it into one of the evening events. During the fair, arrange for the artisans to demonstrate their craft, so people can witness the workmanship that goes into these local products.

5. **Music** - Play local music on the hotel PA system and during your general sessions and meals. Offer the CD as a pillow gift one night during the meeting.

6. **Entertainment** - Hire local performers to entertain your guests during the meeting, including children's groups, church choirs or ensembles that perform dances or plays that reveal the history of the destination.

7. **Dine-Around** - Organize a dine-around of restaurants offering local food one night during the event. The evening may include chef demonstrations, interactive cooking opportunities for your guests or a chef's table. Offer gift-wrapped recipe cards as a memento of the evening.

8. **Meet Local Residents** - Invite prominent local residents to join your group during the meeting, or have the residents invite your guests to their homes. This will surely be a memorable experience your guests will never forget.

9. **Flora/Fauna** - Integrate nature walks and tours into the meeting and bring small domesticated animals to events. Local flowers in guest rooms and on dining tables add an exotic touch.

10. **Gifts** - Give your guests native, handcrafted gifts every evening; you can also give them locally-made teaser gifts before the meeting and a farewell gift that is made in the destination.

Staff Spotlight: Amanda Heyder, Executive Sales & Event Manager

Amanda has been a valued member of the ME Productions team for five years. Since 2005, she's been a member of our Millionaire's Club, having generated more than \$1 million in sales per year.

Before joining ME, Amanda was event coordinator for the Orange Bowl Parade. Born in Hollywood, FL, Amanda received her bachelor's degree in business management and master's degrees in travel & tourism, specializing in special events, from the University of Florida.



[Click here](#) to learn more about our *ME Productions staff*.

Premium of the Month



This month, we feature the work of Pop artist Romero Britto. This modern-day Brazilian master has captivated the art world with vivid colors, joyful themes and bold compositions.

Britto is synonymous with South Florida: his gallery is located on Lincoln Road in South Beach and he has called Miami home since 1989. As a matter of fact, ME Productions has produced special events in Britto's Miami gallery!

These beautiful Britto vases make perfect welcome gifts, room drop items or recognition awards. For details, contact our [premiums department](#).