

Ashley, in Limor Rosen, and Adam, wearing the Black Tux, were all smiles outside the church. Her cascading bouquet included peonies, muscari, garden roses, and sweet peas, among other spring blooms.



For the seating chart, wedding planner Rebecca Marin Shepherd placed pressed wildflowers between a tablecloth and a sheet of plexiglass. The table assignments were attached to the top.



ASHLEY BRYAN & ADAM FLORES

APRIL 21, 2017 / DALLAS

Three sentences. That's all Ashley Bryan and Adam Flores shared the first time they met, in 2012. They were at a party, both celebrating the end of their Harvard Graduate School of Education programs, though they'd never met. At one point, as Ashley walked down a hall, Adam stopped her. "He said, 'I've been wanting to meet you all year,'" she recalls. "And when I asked why he hadn't said anything before, he said, 'You always looked so serious in the library.' That was our whole exchange." Adam, who wasn't sure how to keep the conversation going, left hoping for another encounter.

After graduation, Ashley, an education strategist, went home to Dallas; Adam, now a high school principal, moved to Denver. But they had a mutual friend in Texas—and when Adam came to visit in 2014, he and Ashley had their brief exchange on their minds, so they decided to meet. "When I saw her, I got nervous," Adam says. "I bolted into a bike shop to calm down." It did the trick, and he and Ashley began dating; he eventually moved to Dallas. Two years later, he proposed in the same shop where he'd steadied his nerves.

For their ceremony, they chose the historic Frankford Church, on the Dallas prairie where Ashley grew up. As a child, she would play on the secluded property with her best friend (who became her matron of honor) and her sister. The idyllic site offered an intimate vibe and inspired the décor. "We didn't want an overstylized look, so we opted for wildflowers, less traditional floral vessels, and soft linens," Ashley says. The service was officiated by Eliot Howard, Adam's childhood pastor from Minneapolis. "Eliot's a wordsmith who always brings a crowd together," Adam says.

The party continued at the Filter Building on White Rock Lake, an old pump house turned event space with a picturesque view of the water. Guests feasted on biscuits, fried chicken, and other Texas standards from Bolsa, one of the pair's favorite restaurants. And then the dancing began. Ashley's mom's side of the family is Lebanese, and her cousins took out hand drums for the *dabke*, a traditional folk dance. "We were terrible at it, but it was so fun," Ashley says. "Everyone stayed on the dance floor all night." —Chrisanne Grisé

SOURCES Locations Frankford Church (ceremony); the Filter Building (reception) Event planning and design The Wildflowers Catering Bolsa Flowers Bows + Arrows Photography Apryl Ann Photography Stationery Bonne Nouvelle Design Calligraphy The Left Handed Calligrapher Cake Layered Music Jordan Kahn Orchestra (ceremony); Mars Hill Band (reception) Rentals Heather Taylor Home; Posh Couture Rentals; Marquee Event Rentals; TLC Event Rentals Videography Peyton Anne Frank Bride's gown Limor Rosen Hair and makeup Samantha Landis Groom's and groomsmen's tuxedos, and groom's bow tie The Black Tux See the Guide for more details



Cake tasting—and choosing this seminaked banana cake with chocolate ganache filling—were Adam's favorite part of wedding planning. (He's still disappointed that he only got to eat one bite on the big day!)



Adam's 8-year-old goddaughter, Gwen, traveled from Wales to be flower girl for the ceremony.

The reception meal was served family-style. "We wanted the experience to feel intimate and warm, like a gathering for a big dinner," says Ashley.



"I love bright, fun colors, and blue is our favorite, so it became the anchor," says Ashley. The palette—and the wildflower theme of the day—inspired the cheerful Haute Papier stationery suite.



Seating so many guests in the small church made for a tight fit, but the ceremony felt all the more personal.

Each bridesmaid chose her own navy- or lapis-blue dress. "I was drawn to the mix-and-match look," says Ashley.



HONEYMOON DISPATCH

The Itinerary: Since the couple work in education, April wasn't an ideal time to take a lengthy vacation—but they made the most of their four-day honeymoon in Tulum, Mexico. (They also plan to take a longer honeymoon someday.) **Hotel Hideaway:** They nestled up in the cozy **Nest Tulum** (nesttulum.com), a super-small boutique hotel with beach-facing rooms. **Highlights:** Their days were split between relaxing in the sand and exploring

the area, including visiting the **Tulum Ruins** (tulumruins.net), snorkeling at **Cenotes Dos Ojos** (cenotedosojos.com), and getting a Mayan-clay couples massage at **Mayan Clay Spa** (mayanclayspa.com). **Memorable Meal:** The two foodies weren't expecting incredible Italian food in Tulum, but **Posada Margherita's** grilled shrimp with fresh tomatoes (posadamargherita.com) was so delicious, Adam jokes, that it made him tear up.