

by Lisa Carmichael

KIM'S CONTEMPORARY CUBE

Implementing Ikebana style with **KIM YOUNG**



Designers from eight states including Ala., Ark., Kan., Ky., La., Miss., Mo., and Okla., participated in this year's Arkansas State Mid-America's Cup. Contestants were judged on three categories: bridal, sympathy, and surprise.

Kim Young of LeFleur in Calera, Ala., was one of three first-place winners in the bridal category. Contestants were also asked to participate in a design show and feature an everyday and signature arrangement. Kim's signature arrangement, Contemporary Cube, was inspired by the clean and linear lines of Ikebana design, the Japanese art of flower arrangement. The triangular shape of Kim's design features long linear stems paired with vibrant orange and green flowers and foliage. Back home at her shop, Kim's goal with this design is to create a modern-styled arrange-

ment that is reasonably priced and appeals to both male and female customers. She will, on occasion, mix in different colors, like purples with yellows or pink with greens, depending on the customer. Kim typically sells at least one of these cube arrangements each week.

Kim and her mother, Carol Martin, opened their shop just four years ago, and in a short time, Kim has accumulated other designer awards including: the Alabama State Florist Association 2008 Designer of the Year; second place in the 2009 ASFA Bridal Bouquet Competition; and second place in the 2008 Alabama Cup.

Kim has completed design classes at Auburn University, and has a BA in commercial art and photography. She is a member in both a state and a local florist association. 



Designer
KIM YOUNG

Shop:
LeFLEUR

Location:
CALERA, ALA.

Opened:
2005



Inspiration and arrangement necessities

To recreate such an arrangement, the following products will be needed:

FRESH FLORAL: Bells of Ireland, green hydrangea, orange asiatic lilies, orange calla lilies, orange spray roses

FOLIAGE: foxtail fern, flax leaves, and fatsia leaf

HARD GOODS: 5 X 5 Orange Glass Cube and 1/3 block of Oasis foam.

- 1 Insert two parallel flax leaves and two stems of Bell of Ireland in the center of Oasis foam. Make a slit in top middle portion of one flax leaf and insert other flax leaf thru slit to create a tear drop shape.
- 2 Insert flax leaves into Oasis foam towards front side of container. Make two bends in both flax leaves forming overlapping triangle shapes.
- 3 Insert a fatsia leaf and other greens into the foam on the opposite side of the flax triangles for framing. Place one orange Asiatic lily on the opposite side of the fatsia leaf, and then varying heights stepping up through the arrangement.
- 4 Insert a stem of hydrangea into the foam with orange spray roses picked around it. Arrange individual groupings of the protea and hypericum around the greens and hydrangea to fill in open space. Lastly, to create a sense of motion, loop calla lilies around the greens and lilies extending upward into the design.

