

The Grand Table at Merrehope  
with Dr. Jim DelPrince  
MSU Horticulture Specialist  
Thursday, November 2, 2023

Meridian Restorations Foundation, Inc.  
Merrehope  
905 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr.  
Meridian, MS 39301  
601-483-8439  
[merrehopemeridian@gmail.com](mailto:merrehopemeridian@gmail.com)  
[merrehope.com](http://merrehope.com)



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## DelPrince Returns to Merrehope for The Grand Table

MERIDIAN, Miss. -- Gardening and floral design enthusiasts and professionals can enjoy a floral design demonstration focusing on fall and holiday tablescapes along with a reception at Merrehope in Meridian.

"The Grand Table at Merrehope" will feature Jim DelPrince, a horticulture specialist with the Mississippi State University Extension Service. Just in time for the holidays, DelPrince will create a series of designs that together support a unified look for the dining room table. A variety of fall and holiday enhanced elements will be used along with cut flowers.

The event will be held November 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. at historic home, located at 905 Martin Luther King Junior Drive. Sparkling cranberry Prosecco cocktails will be served along with fall delicacies. Advance tickets are required and cost \$40 per person. Seating is limited. His April demonstration at Merrehope, Petals & Prosecco a sold out quickly so interested parties are encouraged to purchase tickets early by calling Merrehope at 601-483-8439 or emailing [merrehopemeridian@gmail.com](mailto:merrehopemeridian@gmail.com).

After teaching students on the MSU Starkville campus for 23 years, DelPrince joined the MSU Extension Service in 2015. Based at the MSU Coastal Research and Extension Center, he offers classes, workshops and other educational opportunities to amateur floral enthusiasts, professional designers and members of Mississippi's green industry. DelPrince developed and leads the Extension Master Floral Designer program, a one-of-a-kind certificate program for volunteers. He also developed and delivers a comprehensive certificate training program for professional florists.

DelPrince's research benefits cut flower and cut ornamental foliage growers and producers. This year, he is working with MSU faculty to help Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Alabama Christmas tree growers build their value-added product business by selling and marketing wreaths, swags, garlands, and arrangements.

A laureate member of the American Institute of Floral Designers, DelPrince was recently inducted in the Society of American Florists' American Academy of Floriculture. In 2016, he was granted the Award of Service to the Floral Industry from the American Institute of Floral Designers.

He is the author or co-author of books on floral design, interior plantscaping, floristry history, and floristry terminology, including the most popular floral design textbook in North America. He is also the author of numerous scholarly articles and Extension publications.