



Name: Lorraine Mariella CSEP, CMP  
Occupation: Meeting and Event Manager  
Planner or Supplier: Planner  
Current Employer: Eventium (Founder and President)

**How did you get your start in the industry?**

After having my children and returning to the work force, I decided I wanted a change in careers. While the Event industry was in a vibrant phase, I found there were limited places where one could obtain a formal education in the field. However, I *did* find a program at NYU and took several courses to get myself set up for success in the industry!

**How many years have you been in the industry?**

18 years

**What is your favorite thing about our industry?**

The diversity of careers--you can be an internal planner, work for a venue, work as an independent planner – there are so many options.

**What is the best career advice you've received?**

Find something you love to do and then figure out how to get someone to pay you to do it.

**If you were not in this industry, what would you be doing right now?**

I would probably be an artist or craftsman.

**Where did you grow up?**

Brooklyn, NY

**What is your favorite book?**

I don't have any one favorite book, but I love to read. You can always find at least 3 or 4 books on my nightstand. My selections are diverse. Some of my recent reads include "The girl with the pearl earring", "Blood for Flowers", and "Work Clean."

**What is your all-time favorite movie?**

The Notebook-- I still cry every time I watch it.

**How long have you been a member of MPI?**

10+ years

**What do you love about MPI New Jersey?**

Commitment to the Industry... I enjoy being a part of an organization that understands the importance of education and offers monthly opportunities for members to learn and network.