

# Maxine H. Burton, President + COO

Since 1982, as president and founder of Flowers, Inc. Balloons®, Maxine Burton has established her company as a leader in the balloon and gift industry. Maxine earned a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Master of Education from the University of Georgia, where she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority. She has continued her education at Harvard Business School, taking executive courses in 1998 and 2001. Maxine has received numerous local and national awards recognizing her as a leader in her industry and for her service to her community.

## Awards

- 2009 15 Gifted Women, by Gifts & Decorative Accessories  
Friends of the Extension by Epsilon Sigma Phi in association with Georgia 4-H Foundation
- 2008 Recipient of the Georgia Family Business of the Year Award, Large Category,  
by Cox Family Enterprise Center, Kennesaw State University
- 2008 Recipient of the William E. "Billy" Hudson Distinguished Citizen Award,  
Northeast Georgia Council of the Boy Scouts of America
- 2006 Top Emerging Company for Women in the Atlanta Metropolitan Area,  
*Atlanta Woman* magazine
- 2006 Ruby C. McSwain Philanthropist Award, the National Agricultural Alumni  
and Development Association
- 2005 Allan J. McDonald International Entrepreneur Award from Society of  
International Business Fellows
- 2002 Top Supplier, Best in Industry Award from Gift Basket Exchange Network
- 2002 The Leading Women Entrepreneurs of the World by The Star Group
- 2001 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year® for the Retail/Wholesale Category,  
Southeast Division
- 2001 Outstanding Georgia Citizen by Secretary of State Cathy Cox
- 1999 Appointed Lieutenant Colonel, Aide de Camp, Governor's Staff  
by Roy Barnes
- 1995 Honoree of the Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter of the University of Georgia
- 1994–96 Distinguished Lecturer/Practitioner, UGA Terry College of Business
- 1993 International Balloon Arts Convention (IBAC) Crystal Award
- 1991 National Marketing Award, *Florists' Review* magazine
- 1990 Athena Award

## Current Boards/Activities

- Women's Leadership Board of Harvard's  
Kennedy School of Government
- University of Georgia Arch Foundation, Trustee
- Georgia Ports Authority
- First American Bank & Trust
- The Committee of 200
- Society of International Business Fellows (SIBF)
- Leadership Athens
- Leadership Georgia



*Recipient of the 2001 Ernst & Young  
Entrepreneur of the Year® Award in  
Retail/Wholesale, Southeast Division*