

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

- 2015 Dianthus flower named in Maxine's honor by the International Floriculture Expo
- 2013 Named UGA Graduate School Alumni of Distinction by University of Georgia
- 2013 Inducted into CEO, an international organization of top business leaders
- 2012 Key to the City presented by the Honorable Nancy Denson, Mayor of the Unified Government of Athens–Clarke County, Georgia, upon the 30th anniversary of the company, **burton + BURTON™**
- 2012 Athens Woman of Distinction by Girl Scouts of Historic North Georgia
- 2009 15 Gifted Women, by Gifts & Decorative Accessories
- 2009 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 Alan J. McDonald International Entrepreneur Award from Society of International Business Fellows
- 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 Named Lieutenant Colonel, Aide de Camp, Governor's Staff by Georgia Gov. Roy Barnes
- 1995 Honoree of the Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter of the University of GA
- 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/Community Involvement

Women's Leadership Board of Harvard Business School
University of Georgia Arch Foundation, Trustee
Georgia Council for the Arts
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