

# Roll Call of Meetings' Top Doers & Movers

This year's list of the 25 Most Influential People in the Meetings Industry — selected for the 12th consecutive year by the editors of *MeetingNews* — includes 12 people who have never before appeared on it, 12 who have been recognized one or more times, and one cosmic force. We took a little bit of license on that last one; this is a news magazine, and hurricanes comprised the biggest story of the past year, so Mom Nature gets the call.

For the 24 mortals profiled below, we stand in awe of their achievements, dedication and vision. Please join us in congratulating this outstanding group of leaders.

**Steve Kemble**  
**Principal**  
**Steve Kemble Event Design**  
**Dallas**



If you can get everyone in an industry to pay attention to you, you're in a position to wield considerable influence — if you just don't blow the opportunity.

Steve Kemble is the meeting planning profession's best at grabbing attention. But there's more to this man than off-the-charts ebullience (he can't just say "fabulous"; it's "FAAAAB-u-LOOOUUS!!!!"), double take-inducing attire, and a Robin Williams-like propensity for public clowning.

There's more to him even than the dozens of magazine articles — both trade and mainstream — and array of cable TV shows that have featured him.

There's also that his events are judged again and again to be best in class. By virtually all accounts Kemble is among the most skilled program designers the meetings business has seen, and he's won dozens of industry awards. And because of the spotlight in which he lives, his ideas radiate.

Not to be overlooked is a penchant for good-deed-doing. A long career of involvement in charity endeavors was capped last fall by Kemble's hugely successful initiative to get industry organizations to help hospitality professionals devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Steve Kemble may be a side show, but everybody's watching.