

BUSINESS BEAT



# DISCOVER **XOXO, FRANCES**

YOUR NORTH SHORE DESTINATION FOR  
EXQUISITE STATIONERY AND INVITATIONS

BY REBECCA OSBERG • PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRENDA ROBLES





We look forward to partnering with you for your next milestone celebration and continuing the cherished tradition of memorable paper goods. Join us in celebrating life's special moments – one exquisite invitation at a time!

—KAREN



**IF YOU'RE SEARCHING** for the perfect stationery and invitations to mark life's memorable moments, look no further than XOXO, frances, your local North Shore expert in fine paper goods. Whether you're planning a dreamy wedding, a heartwarming baby announcement, or any special celebration, our custom and semi-custom designs are crafted to ensure every occasion becomes a cherished memory. And that's just the beginning – explore our extensive array of party essentials, from personalized cups and napkins to ribbons, straws, and favor bags, because every celebration deserves a sprinkle of sparkle!

At the heart of XOXO, frances is Karen Kremeier, a true paper aficionado whose passion for stationery blossomed at age 13. It all began when she landed her first job at Elements, a gift and card store in Orange County. Following her undergraduate degree from USC and an MBA from Vanderbilt, Karen embarked on a successful career in investment banking, M&A, and sales. However, her love for paper never faded. She further honed her skills by working weekends at Soiree San Francisco and spent a pivotal year with Elizabeth Grace in Chicago. With a smile, she recalls, "It only took 47 years of planning to finally realize my dream of opening my own store."

The charming name XOXO, frances is a heartfelt tribute to Karen's grandmother, Frances Margaret Youell Shally. An artist at heart, Frances was known for

her beautiful drawings and creative spirit. Every holiday and birthday, she delighted her grandchildren with handmade, illustrative cards – a tradition that Karen holds dear. Embracing her grandmother's passion for mail, Karen continues that legacy through her work at XOXO, frances.

In her journey toward opening her shop, Karen formed a meaningful partnership with Sheryl Oberman of Stationery Station, a beloved name in North Shore stationery. When Sheryl retired, Karen seized the opportunity to acquire her industry knowledge and maintain connections with top paper companies. Committed to upholding the exceptional quality and personalized service for which Stationery Station was known, XOXO, frances proudly carries on this esteemed tradition.

In addition to their welcoming showroom located in Glencoe, they've partnered with Bashy Bash in Winnetka to offer an even broader selection of party essentials. They invite you to visit them and explore samples of their stunning invitations and party supplies!

**AT XOXO, FRANCES,  
WE PROUDLY  
FEATURE AN  
ARRAY OF TOP-TIER  
BRANDS, INCLUDING**

Allie Munroe  
Ar-en  
Arzberger  
Bella Figura  
Boatman Geller  
Carlson Craft  
Checkerboard  
Crane  
Designers Fine Press  
Double Trip Press  
Embossed Graphics  
Haute Papier  
Kelly Hughes  
Lallie  
Oblation  
Postscript Paper  
PrintAppeal  
Smock  
Kramer Drive

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