



*Jessica & Michael*



# Our Story...

Hi, we are Michael and Jessica! Thank you for choosing to hear our story and to learn more about us as prospective parents.

Like many couples in this day and age, our story began online. In the fall of 2010, we had our first date in Washington Square Park. Our relationship continued to blossom over coffee dates, bookstore visits, apple picking trips, and a valiant attempt to try every great restaurant in Brooklyn. One cat, two apartments, and seven years later, we were engaged and married in Upstate New York in the summer of 2018.

While we love to take trips together and explore new places, our day-to-day lives and local errands seem to always turn into fun and interesting adventures as long as we are together. We have always wanted to be parents, so when a two-bedroom apartment opened up on our block, we jumped at the chance to have more space to grow. When talking about ways to grow our family, it became clear that adoption was the best option for us. We can't wait to welcome a child into our home!







# About Jessica

I have always loved performing. As an only child, growing up in a small town, it seemed obvious that I was born to play every role in my living room's production of *Mary Poppins* (my stuffed animals always gave me a standing ovation). As I got older, I began playing on bigger stages, including making dreams come true as Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* at Disney World.

Aside from performing, I found another life-long passion for education. As the first person in my family to attend college, I grew up understanding the important role that this can play in a child's life. After moving from Florida to New York City in 2010, my passions took me down many different paths, but my enthusiasm for finding something I truly love has remained.

As an adult, it's been rewarding to see the child-like wonder in the eyes of my nieces and nephew as they begin to develop their own interests, whether that be through sports, photography, theater or music. I'm looking forward to stepping into my new role as mom soon.







# About Michael

Growing up, my parents always encouraged me to try new things and to explore everything that interested me. They would indulge my curiosities and pushed me to pursue my passions and to stick with them no matter what. For example, when I started to develop my love of music they got me a second-hand guitar and encouraged me to keep practicing even when everything sounded terrible. I still play music and practice daily.

As a child, I also loved to work with my hands and build things. After quickly graduating past Legos and Lincoln Logs, my parents started taking me to the hardware store instead of the toy store. I'll always remember when they gave me my very own drill for my 12th birthday. I have always been a handy person and can fix almost anything, which has led me to a career that I love, solving large scale technical engineering problems.

My insatiable curiosity and love of learning is something I can't wait to pass onto a child. I've always pushed myself to pursue the things that I'm passionate about and I look forward to doing the same as a new father.





# Our Home



Whenever someone describes living in our community, the first word you'll usually hear is "charming". Our block is no exception with its brownstone buildings, tree-lined sidewalks, and a familiar group of neighborhood kids playing in the safety of our dead-end street. Our two-bedroom home, which still has many of the same vintage features from its early 1900's construction, provides a light-filled home for us and our lazy Maine Coone cat, Chef.

The small-town-feel of our neighborhood provides a welcoming break from the hustle and bustle of Manhattan while only being a train ride away from all NYC has to offer. Depending on the season, you can find us taking a walk through Brooklyn Bridge Park, cooking up homemade pasta from the local Italian grocer, or venturing into the city to see The Rockettes.

Another amazing perk of living in Brooklyn is that Michael's entire family is right across the bridge in Staten Island. We take our car out on the 15-minute drive weekly for Sunday dinners.





# Our Family

We are fortunate to have most of our biological and chosen families in one place. Michael has the classic “Big Italian Family” where everyone (no, really...everyone!) lives on Staten Island. He grew up viewing his aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents as babysitters, classmates, and best friends. Jessica’s family is split between Florida and West Virginia, and we make visits to both places often. We can’t wait to share the city, country, and beach life with a child.

Our parents are eager to welcome another grandchild into the family! We are very close to our nieces and nephew (ages 6, 3 and 2) and know they’re looking forward to having another playmate soon. This will be the first grandchild (and great-grandchild!) for Jessica’s family.

Our loving family is together often and a lot of our family gatherings are centered around food, music, and games (think 4th of July cookouts, cookie-decorating nights, charades, trivia, and big holiday meals). We can’t wait to add another plate to the table.







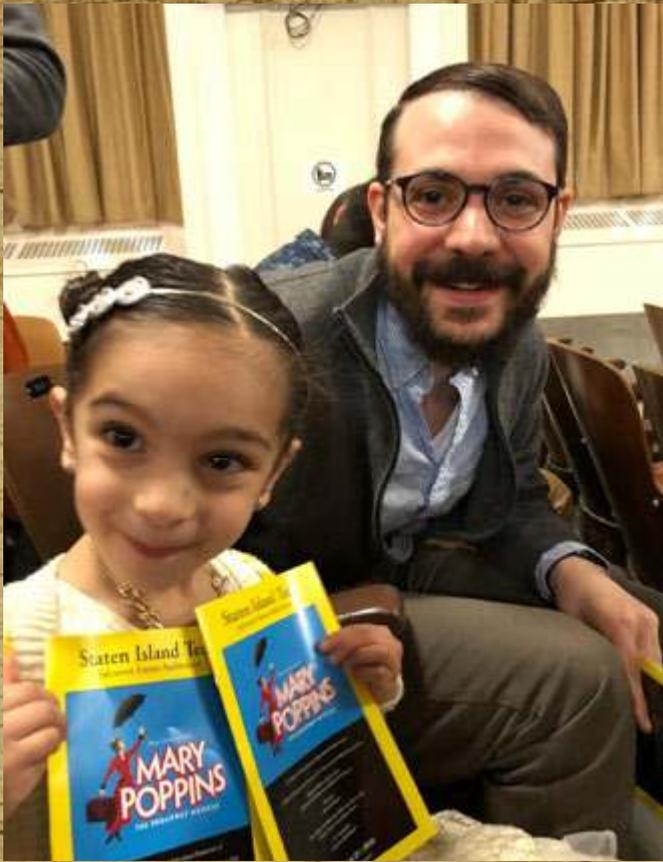


# Hobbies & Traditions

Living in Brooklyn has allowed us to embrace and explore so many of our hobbies and interests! Here are a few things we are looking forward to sharing with a child.

- Music! Michael plays several instruments, including guitar, banjo, and drums. Now that she's old enough, our niece comes over to our home regularly for ukulele lessons. She's currently mastering "You Are My Sunshine".
- Theatre! We both enjoy seeing new shows and can't wait to share this with a child. Our niece has recently started taking dance lessons and often asks for us to take her to see local musicals. This past Thanksgiving, we enjoyed a Christmas Carol performance at Michael's sisters' house from the three kids, which included the iconic "All I Want For Christmas Is You".
- Cooking! Michael is the cook and Jessica is the baker. You can expect made-from-scratch meals every day of the week with treats galore! One of our favorite activities is going apple picking in the fall and spending the week baking apple-themed desserts.
- Camping! We go camping in upstate New York several times a year. We've become quite adept at setting up a campsite and look forward to having a child join us for campfire s'mores. We also love going to the beach in the summer months.







We want to thank you for taking the time to view our profile and for considering us to raise your child. We want you to be comfortable with the immense decision you're making, and we are happy to share in the memories we make with your child.

We promise to give your baby everything we have to offer. Whether you are comfortable with visiting your child a few times a year or receiving letters with pictures, we promise your child's adoption journey will always be a part of their story.

We will provide a home filled with laughter. Your child will grow up with a strong family and the love you expect for them.

Love,  
*Jessica and Michael*



**Adoption STAR**

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