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REAL WEDDING

# Sarah & John

July 5, 2019



Newport resident John Toracinta really lucked out when a summer roommate introduced him to her friend, Sarah Hoffelder. Two years after meeting, the pair started dating, and five years later, he proposed atop a red rock cliff in Denver. Given their Newport association, it felt like the natural place to tie the knot. The pair were wed at St. Mary's Church (after a last-minute dash to City Hall, when they discovered that the maid of honor had signed the wrong line on the marriage license), then everyone headed to Fort Adams for the reception. —LISA G. MCCURDY

"Newport is where our story began. We figured it would be a great start to our next chapter."

### FORT-IFIED

The couple chose Fort Adams for its history, iconic views and casual vibe. Cocktails in the North Casemates were followed by a tented reception on the North Lawn, with its views of the Newport Pell Bridge and Narragansett Bay. "We wanted almost like an outdoor summer party, as opposed to something in a ballroom. And Fort Adams offered that," John says.

### HOW SWEET IT IS

The couple opted for a sweetheart cake from Mad Hatter Bakery — a vanilla creation adorned with white roses and greenery. Guests topped off the summer night with a full ice cream sundae bar.

### THE TIME OF THEIR LIFE

After dinner, John and Sarah treated their guests to a little entertainment. "We surprised the entire wedding with a choreographed dance from the movie *Dirty Dancing*, after secretly taking dance lessons for three months," says the groom. And, if you were wondering — yes, they nailed the lift.

### PRESTO CHANGO

The bride chose two different gowns for her big day. For the ceremony, Sarah wore a strapless mermaid-cut fit-and-flare gown covered with lace motifs, accented with sequins and beading, from Sottero and Midgley. "As cliché as it sounds, I just fell in love with the way the dress fit my body," she says. "I am naturally very petite, and never would have imagined picking out a strapless cut, but this dress immediately made me feel confident and sexy in my own way." For the reception (and the big dance), Sarah wore a simple spandex-material dress from Express, with built-in shorts and sneakers.

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The newlyweds honeymooned in London and Croatia, and settled in Middletown, where Sarah is a behavior analyst and John works in product marketing.



A reception dress made for dancing!



### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER, VIDEOGRAPHER: Move Mountains Co.  
CEREMONY VENUE: St. Mary's Church  
RECEPTION VENUE: North Lawn at Fort Adams  
BRIDAL GOWN: Alexandra's Boutique  
BRIDESMAIDS DRESSES: Joanna August  
SUIT: The Black Lux  
HAIR, MAKEUP: Jennie Kay Beauty  
NAILS: Signature Nails  
FLOWERS: Clements' Marketplace  
CATERER, DECOR RENTAL: Glorious Affairs Ltd.  
CAKE: Mad Hatter Bakery  
TRANSPORTATION: Viking Tours  
RECEPTION ENTERTAINMENT: DJ Bob Carpenter, Main Event Weddings

REAL WEDDING

# Jaimie & Bryan

September 21, 2019



Jaimie Orrico's family home in Newport made the City by the Sea the ideal location for her wedding to Bryan Farris. But the couple's ties to Newport run even deeper. Their first weekend trip together was to Newport, and many of their major milestones as a couple happened here. So, of course, when Bryan was ready to pop the question, the place to do it was Newport — the Music Room at the Breakers, to be exact. "The following day, and to my surprise, Bryan had planned for both our families to meet us in Newport to celebrate our engagement and St. Patrick's Day," says Jaimie. Naturally, a Newport wedding was to follow. —LGM

"Bryan fell in love with Newport, too, and we couldn't imagine getting married anywhere else."

#### STEEPED IN HISTORY

The couple's familiarity with Newport meant that they could embrace all of the historic culture that the city has to offer. After a ceremony at Newport's famed St. Mary's Church, guests gathered for a reception at Eisenhower House. "The house had that New England charm we were searching for, with such an amazing view of the bay and the bridge," says Jaimie.

#### MARCHING TO THEIR OWN DRUMMER

Guests were treated to a surprise visit from the Portsmouth High School Drumline, which set the mood for the evening's festivities. "Everyone was ready to dance into the reception," says Jaimie. The couple worked with the students and the PHS Music Department in the months leading up to the wedding to add this unique touch to their big day.

#### FRUITS AND FLORALS

"We worked to enhance the natural beauty of the Eisenhower House without it translating as rustic," says Jaimie of her work with Carlone's Florist and Ryan Designs. White and cream flowers — primarily hydrangeas and roses — were combined with olive branches and ivy on the tables, and in a long garland of roses and greenery on the 40-person head table that anchored the reception space. Lemons and limes filled glass hurricanes at the bars. "I just loved the idea to utilize fruit instead of florals to add a touch of color to our reception," says Jaimie.

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The newlyweds honeymooned in Greece and Italy, then returned home to New York, where Bryan is a director at an investment bank, and Jaimie is vice president at another investment bank.



#### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Tiffany Axtmann Photography  
CEREMONY VENUE: St. Mary's Church  
RECEPTION VENUE: Eisenhower House  
BRIDAL GOWN: Pronovias  
BRIDESMAID DRESSES: Alfred Sung  
TUXEDOS & SUITS: The Black Tux/Suit Supply  
HAIR, MAKEUP: Allison Barbera Beauty  
FLOWERS: Carlone's Florist  
CATERER: Russell Marin  
CAKE: Scialo Bros. Bakery  
RECEPTION ENTERTAINMENT: J-Riz Entertainment, Portsmouth High School Drumline

Jaimie wore her mother's cathedral veil during the ceremony.

REAL WEDDING

# Priscilla & Eli

July 6, 2019



When Priscilla Argueta and Eli Keimach first met in college, he had to work extra hard to attract her interest. "Eli was very persistent," Priscilla acknowledges. After nearly a year, she decided to give him a chance, and was instantly smitten. When Eli proposed on Priscilla's 26<sup>th</sup> birthday, they decided on a New England summer wedding. "We wanted to find a place that we both loved and would be fun to go to for all of our out-of-town guests," says Priscilla. They chose the Atlantic Resort at Wyndham Newport Hotel for their getaway wedding weekend. —LGM

"We loved the fact that we could have a wedding in Newport, but not right on the beach, as we didn't really want a typical beach wedding."

### ALL IN THE FAMILY

From Priscilla's father walking her down the aisle to Eli's sister as the wedding officiant, the couple's big day was focused on family. "It's the one day where you and your partner have everyone that means the most to you in the world in the same room, and they're there to celebrate you both," says the bride. The couple incorporated a ring-warming ceremony into their nuptials, passing the jewelry around for each guest to pray over. Even their 3-year-old nephew and ringbearer, James, got in on the fun. "He took the microphone away from his mom when she was supposed to give her matron of honor speech," Priscilla recalls. "James felt that it was his turn to make a speech for us, and stole the whole show!"

### DREAMY DECOR

The couple worked with Flowerthyme to create a bright and natural look with flowing greenery through both the ceremony and reception. Playing off the bridesmaids' blush gowns, florals included peonies, garden roses, ranunculus, garden spray roses and mixed eucalyptus. Crystals hanging from the Wyndham's ceiling added to the day's dreamy and magical atmosphere.

### HAVE THEIR CAKE

The three-tiered cake from Sugar Mama's Sweets and Treats meant that there was a dessert option for every palate: the bottom layer was pineapple coconut cake, the middle was lemon, and the top tier was strawberry. The cake was wrapped in white icing and covered in blush flowers and greenery to tie in with the reception decor. And to make sure every sweet tooth was satisfied, there was a bar with cannoli, brownies and more.

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The couple honeymooned in Mexico and returned to Durham, North Carolina, where Priscilla is a corporate recruiter and Eli is an assistant football coach at Duke University.



Guests were asked to sign a piece to make the couple's puzzle complete.

### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Joanna Sue Photography  
VENUE: Atlantic Resort at Wyndham Newport Hotel  
PLANNER: Sweet Deets Events  
BRIDAL GOWN, BRIDESMAIDS DRESSES: Ana's Bridal Boutique  
SUITS: Miltons, Jas. A. Sank  
HAIR, MAKEUP: Beauty by Bianca  
NAILS: Pinkies Nail Spa  
FLOWERS: Flowerthyme  
CAKE: Sugar Mama's Sweets and Treats  
RECEPTION ENTERTAINMENT: Chris Saraiva

REAL WEDDING

# Kate & Matt

August 31, 2019



On a plane to Miami in 2016, Kate Lozinski found her true adventure with the man sitting next to her, Matt Brennan. Travel and spontaneity became the center of their courtship, from a hiking trip to Zion and Bryce National Parks in Utah to adopting their German shepherd, Boomer. After Matt proposed on top of a mountain in Asheville, North Carolina, overlooking the Blue Ridge Mountains, their wedding became another chance to share the beauty of one of their favorite places – Newport – with their friends and family. — LGM

"Our favorite moment from our wedding was running around on the beach at sunset, when the sky turned the craziest shade of orange, blissfully chasing seagulls, laughing, and jumping around at how perfect everything was in that moment."

#### STEPPING THROUGH HISTORY

While the bride and groom prefer simple accents and decor, there was no question that they would wed at St. Mary's Church. A sanctuary steeped in history, it's best known as the site where John F. Kennedy and Jacqueline Bouvier exchanged vows in 1953. "Walking out of the Kennedy doors was a dream," says Kate.

#### ALL FUN AND GAMES

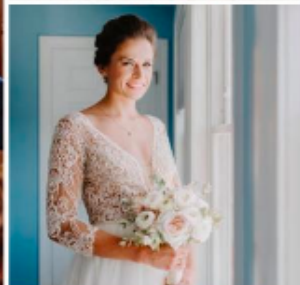
The reception at Newport Beach House reflected the couple's playful personalities. Tables were labeled with retro postcards of America's national parks, and the outdoor space was outfitted with a giant Jenga tower and cornhole boards sporting their college logos (handmade by the bride). The Adirondack chairs overlooking the ocean now adorn the couple's backyard.

#### #LoveAtFirstFlight

In a nod to their meet-cute, the couple's social media hashtag reflected their journeys together. But the adventures on their wedding day didn't stop there. Photographer Katie Karberg helped the duo take a special photo on top of the gates at the Breakers. "We have the same picture from the first time Matt visited Rhode Island in 2016," says Kate. Only this time, she notes, "it involved climbing in a wedding gown!"

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The couple honeymooned in the Seychelles and now live in Virginia, where Kate works as an assistant VP at an investment bank, and Matt is VP of business development for a cybersecurity company.



The couple are avid hikers, so each table was named for a national park.



#### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Katie Karberg Photography  
CEREMONY VENUE: St. Mary's Catholic Church  
RECEPTION VENUE, CATERER: Newport Beach House  
BRIDAL GOWN: Watters  
BRIDESMAIDS DRESSES: Iulus.com  
HAIR, MAKEUP: Allison Barbera Beauty  
NAILS: Love Nails & Spa  
FLOWERS: Twigs  
BRIDAL PARTY TRANSPORTATION: Viking Tours  
RECEPTION ENTERTAINMENT: DJ Graeme Ritchie  
VIDEOGRAPHER: Amylon Productions  
REHEARSAL DINNER: The Mooring



REAL WEDDING

# Carolyn & Sankarsh

July 5-7, 2019



When Carolyn Vazza arrived at Perdue University in 2013, her roommate introduced her to a friend named Sankarsh Iyengar. "I always joke that he never gave me a chance to meet anyone else since I met him the day before classes started my freshman year," she says. The pair quickly became friends, and then more. Five years later, Sankarsh proposed in her parents' candlelit rose garden. To honor their family traditions, the couple chose to celebrate an American ceremony at Castle Hill Inn on July 5, and a South Indian ceremony at the Newport Marriott on July 7. "Since we were having two completely different wedding ceremonies in the same weekend," Carolyn explains, "we wanted an area where our guests could have a mini-vacation." —LGM

"Having wedding planners that were Newport locals not only boosted our confidence, but ensured we got the best deals on all the vendors."

## A MINOR ALTAR-CATION

On her way to the American ceremony, Carolyn had an unexpected run-in with the Newport Police after a fender-bender. "No one was hurt, but let's just say I wasn't appropriately dressed to speak to a police officer as a passenger in the car," she says. "I was wearing jean shorts and a bathrobe that said 'Bride.' I'm glad I find it funny now."

## BURNING LOVE

While the wedding decor at Castle Hill Inn included lush floral table runners woven with candles, flames played a more prominent role in their South Indian wedding at the Marriott. (In fact, the greatest challenge in planning their wedding was identifying a venue that would allow them to incorporate a fire.) "The ceremonial fire is probably the most important aspect of Hindu weddings, as it is regarded as a purifier and a sustainer of life," Sankarsh explains. The couple recites prayers as they walk around the fire seven times; the completion of this ritual signifies their official union.

## CULTURAL TRADITIONS

"The rituals we were planning are slightly different from most Indian weddings people in the U.S. are used to," says Sankarsh. There is a ceremonial welcoming of the Groom, Varaprvashanam; the Oonjal, a wooden swing on which the couple sits in hopes that their marriage is as smooth as swinging on a swing; and the Malai Mathudal, an exchange of garlands to welcome each other into their families. Alankar Decor and Planners provided a welcome gate, the Oonjal, a pair of sculpted elephants to line the aisle, and a photo backdrop with an umbrella and rickshaw.



The flowers on the trails were chosen to complement the flowers in the bouquet.



## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The couple took a pre-wedding honeymoon to Singapore and India so Carolyn could meet Sankarsh's extended family. The pair now live in Maryland, where Carolyn is a medical laboratory scientist and Sankarsh is an electrical engineer.

## Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Melissa Robotti Photography  
CEREMONY & RECEPTION VENUES: Castle Hill Inn, Newport Marriott  
PLANNER: Lella Ryan Events  
HAIR, MAKEUP: New Leaf Hair Studio  
FLOWERS: Sayles Livingston Design  
INDIAN WEDDING DECOR: Alankar Decor and Planners  
CATERERS: Castle Hill Inn, Indian Accent Catering  
CAKE: Confectionery Designs  
CEREMONY MUSIC: La Bella Musica  
RECEPTION ENTERTAINMENT: Splash!



REAL WEDDING

# Lindsay & Kyle

October 11, 2019



After mutual friends introduced Lindsay Deutschmann and Kyle O'Leary, the pair didn't date right away. But once their relationship took a romantic turn, they texted daily and talked on the phone every night (once for nearly eight straight hours). Lindsay from her home in South Carolina and Kyle from his residence in Virginia. After they became engaged and moved to Newport so Kyle could attend the Naval War College, they realized that's also where they wanted to tie the knot. "We loved being able to have our friends and family experience all of the things that we love so much about Newport and Rhode Island while they were here to share in our special day," Lindsay says. In keeping with her ca. 1900 engagement ring, the couple chose Rosecliff for their elegant ceremony and celebration. —LGM

"We loved being able to use local companies for almost every aspect of our special day, and we were blown away by how many amazing options we had."

#### L + K

The couple created a custom monogram, which was used throughout the wedding, appearing on the gold wax seal of their escort cards, and on the pillows adorning the lounge area on the terrace. The welcome boxes featured a sketch of Rosecliff along with the monogram, and it was featured on the invitations and program, tying everything together.

#### SUPER MOM

About four months before the wedding, Lindsay's mother suffered a severe stroke. "She worked incredibly hard every day before the wedding, and when the day came, she was able to walk me down the aisle and give an amazing speech—in a pink ball gown, to boot," says the bride. "I don't think there was a dry eye at the ceremony!"

#### THE REST IS HISTORY

Both Lindsay and Kyle studied history in college, so Rosecliff was a perfect venue for the occasion. "The architecture is absolutely stunning," says Lindsay. "When we walked into the ballroom for the first time, all we could do was look up at the beautiful ceiling." The reception featured a Marie Antoinette-themed dessert table with macaron towers, custom mini-cakes, croque-mouche, and other bite-size desserts. Each dining table was named for a Newport mansion, and custom sketches of the mansions were adhered to mirrors hung



What says "thanks for being my groomsman"? Be a personalized ax!

on a bowwood display. A live artist captured their first dance on canvas. And Lindsay and Kyle worked with local glassblower Thomas Shreeff Glass to make each guest a hand-blown glass pineapple—a historic symbol of hospitality to remind them of their special weekend in Newport.

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The newlyweds honeymooned across the western U.S., stopping in Yosemite and Zion national parks, as well as Napa and Lake Tahoe. Eventually, they settled in Mystic, Connecticut, where Lindsay is an HR manager and Kyle is a submarine officer in the Navy.

#### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Brianna Wilbur Photography  
VENUE: Rosecliff  
PLANNER: Infinite Events  
BRIDAL GOWN: JIM Couture  
INVITATIONS: Champagne and Ink  
HAIR, MAKEUP: All Loroza Beauty  
NAILS: Nautical Nails & Spa  
FLOWERS: Stoneblissom  
CATERER: Russel Marin Catering & Events  
CAKE: Confectionary Designs  
TRANSPORTATION: Viking Tours, Rockstar Limo  
LIVE PAINTING: Vesna Longan  
CELEBRATION MUSIC: Atlantic Strings  
RECEPTION ENTERTAINMENT: Elevated Pulse Productions

REAL WEDDING

# Rachel & Mike

August 29, 2019



Rachel Baker first encountered Mike Osborne on a dating app in late 2014. "Mike swiped right for obvious reasons. Rachel swiped right because she thought Mike had a boat," the couple quipped on their wedding website. The two settled on a first date at a dive bar in San Francisco's Mission District, but Rachel cut the date short (it was past her bedtime, after all). Mike wouldn't give up that easily, however, and his persistence led to a second date, then more. "After we'd been dating for a while, Rachel somewhat jokingly mentioned that I had three years to pop the question or she was out of there," Mike says. "I took that to heart and made sure I hit her timeline — and with only a couple of weeks to spare." —LGM

"One of the greatest parts of choosing to get married in Newport was being able to travel back 4-5 times to plan, which only deepened our connection to the area."

#### HONORING HER FATHER

On a visit to Rhode Island in 2017, Mike proposed to Rachel at the Point Judith Lighthouse, near where her father's ashes had been spread. "It was there that, symbolically in front of her father, I got down on one knee and asked Rachel to marry me," he says.

#### A TOUCH OF DUTCH (MASTERS)

In a nod to Newport's history, the bride and groom hosted a formal affair at Glen Manor House, pulling decor inspiration from the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Dutch Masters, with deep, rich hues and pops of color against dark backgrounds. The bride and bridesmaids held bouquets of muted blush and burgundy blooms set amidst greenery, while a sumptuous arch set the backdrop for the ceremony. The colors carried to the reception, where dahlias, roses, astrantia romana, ranunculus, scabiosa and lisianthus played deep colors against black liners. Even the cake was black, with metallic gold marbling and jewel-toned flowers trailing off the top. "The black cake was a risk, but it really was a show-stopper," says Rachel.

#### FIRST LOOK x 2

Most couples stage a "first look" in order to assuage nerves ahead of the ceremony, or to give themselves more time for portraits. But Rachel seized the opportunity to lighten the mood and play a prank on her groom. "After some suspenseful moments, I got the tap [on my shoulder], collect myself, and turn around — only to see one of my groomsmen in a wedding dress," says Mike. "It was an absolutely outrageous moment that actually calmed my nerves and put me at ease for the real first look."



#### WEDDING DAY GIFTS

Rachel and Mike gave their mothers gold bracelets engraved with their wedding anniversary dates. "Our parents have always been the ultimate sources of inspiration for us on what it means to be husband and wife, and what love really means," says Mike.

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

After honeymooning in Africa, the pair returned to San Francisco, where Rachel is a cardiac transplant nurse and Mike is a VP in investment management.

#### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Allison Markava  
VENUE: Glen Manor House  
BRIDAL GOWN: Lace & Bustle Bridal  
BRIDESMAIDS DRESSES: BHLDN  
TUXEDO: SuitSupply  
PLANNER: Lella Ryan Events  
MAKEUP: New Leaf Hair Studio  
NAILS: Spa fbr at Hotel Viking  
FLOWERS: fig & Squill  
CATERER: Blackstone Caterers  
CAKE: Confectionery Designs  
LINEN/DECOR RENTAL: PEAK Event Services



REAL WEDDING

# Natalie & Nicole

October 12, 2019



From their first date, Natalie Doyle and Nicole Fiore were clearly made for each other. After meeting at work and planning their first date, both unwittingly picked the same off-the-beaten-path pizza parlor, thinking they were impressing the other with their insider knowledge of Boston cuisine. As they took a stroll after dinner, fireworks lit up the sky, and the pair knew that this was something special. Three years later, when Nicole proposed to Natalie, they picked Newport as the ideal destination for their wedding. —LGM

"Newport is the perfect mix of beach getaway elegance, historical landmark and destination wedding — without going too far from home."

#### GOAT ISLAND GETAWAY

The brides chose Belle Mer as their venue, not only for its sweeping vistas of Narragansett Bay, but for its tranquil location away from the hustle and bustle of downtown Newport. "We wanted a location that offered an ocean vibe with formal elegance," says Natalie. "Everything was perfect — especially the mix of indoor and outdoor spaces, allowing guests to freely enjoy the ocean breeze." (In another coincidence, they discovered that most of the employees were students at Johnson and Wales University, Natalie's alma mater!)

#### A COUPLE IN STEP

The brides kept their gowns a secret from each other until their wedding day, but both chose similar styles with plenty of lace. During the ceremony, "we took a moment at the altar to stop and turn to all of the people who mean the world to us looking back — really taking in the moment, standing together, hand in hand, about to become wives," says Natalie.

#### SPECIAL MOMENTS

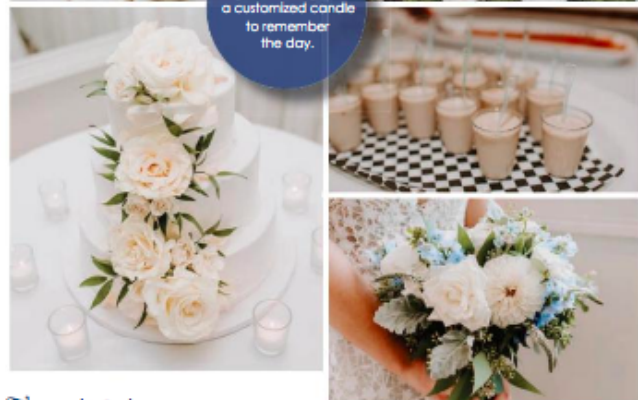
Each detail of the wedding was planned out thoughtfully, from the lush hydrangea altar (a collaboration between Nicole's father and Young Designs) to the vegan vanilla cake (to accommodate an allergy) and sweet cotton candy sendoff. But it was an unscripted moment that truly brought their journey full circle: At the end of the night, Natalie, Nicole and their guests were treated to a fireworks display put on by another wedding nearby. It was a serendipitous reminder of the date that started it all.

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

After honeymooning at Gurney's Resort on Goat Island, the couple returned to Boston, where Natalie works as an executive assistant for a financial firm, and Nicole is a customer service manager at the educational travel company where the two met.



The brides gave each guest a customized candle to remember the day.



#### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Katie Karlberg Photography  
PLANNER: Megan Johnson at Longwood Venues  
VENUE, CATERING, CAKE: Belle Mer  
BRIDAL GOWNS: I Do Wedding Bridal, David's Bridal  
HAIR: Curl Up & Dye Salon  
MAKEUP: Audrey Maschella, Blush Vanity Room  
FLOWERS: Young Designs LLC  
RECEPTION ENTERTAINMENT: DJ Ron Furr, Entertainment Specialists  
REHEARSAL DINNER: Salvation Cafe



REAL WEDDING

# Kristen & Mike

August 16, 2019



Kristen Weigel and Mike Booth's wedding was a reflection of the couple's laid-back attitudes and the creative spirit in both of their families. The college sweethearts started the festivities with a casual rehearsal dinner at Kristen's family home in Jamestown on Thursday night, followed by an intimate outdoor wedding ceremony on Friday. After the ceremony, the group gathered for dinner in the family's garage, which was transformed for the occasion with strings of white lights, heirloom white wicker furniture and a wall hung with old mirrored windows. An improvised chandelier woven with vines, branches and string lights illuminated a table covered with crisp white tablecloths and a slate gray runner. A larger reception was held in Narragansett the next day, giving out-of-town guests several opportunities to gather. "Our approach ... was not conventional, but in the end, it turned out to be just what we wanted, and the guests loved it," says Kristen. —LGM

"We both come from families of creative DIY people, so we made sure to tap into everyone's strengths to pull this wedding's celebration together."

#### A FAMILY TABLE

The botanical table runner for the Friday dinner was made up of silver dollar eucalyptus leaves, seeded eucalyptus and feathered eucalyptus, with baby's breath, lavender and small potted succulents tucked into the leaves. (Even the bridal bouquet had a large succulent in the center, which Kristen planted after the wedding.) As an added personalized touch, the china used for the post-wedding dinner was Kristen's parents' and grandparents' wedding china, and the silverware consisted of multiple wedding sets from both sides of Kristen's family.

#### KEEPSAKE KICKS

The bride's mother, Carol, designed custom Converse sneakers for each of the bridesmaids, as well as the bride and groom, for Saturday's festivities. The designs included a map of the island and the Newport Pell Bridge with a plane overhead towing a banner that read CONGRATIS MIKE AND KRISTEN. Each person's role in the wedding was written on the tongue of the shoe. "Our hope is that every time the bridesmaids wear the shoes they think back to our celebration and the love that was shared that weekend," says Kristen.



#### ICING ON THE CAKE

A formal wedding cake was reserved for Saturday's celebration. For Friday's gathering, the groom's sister, who studied baking and pastry at Johnson and Wales University, made the couple's favorite desserts: blood orange crème brûlée and espresso chocolate lava cakes.

#### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

After a romantic mini-moon at the Serenity Inn in Newport, the couple returned to Milford, Massachusetts, where Kristen is an architect and Mike is a project engineer at Hasbro.

#### Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Lefebvre Photography  
VENUES: Private Home, Kinney Bungalow at Sunset Farm  
BRIDAL GOWN: BLDN, tailored by Maiden Bridal  
HAIR: Level Beauty Collective  
MAKEUP: Alex Walsh  
NAILS: Young's Nail Salon  
FLOWERS: Wren Floral Design, Carol Chew (bride's mother)  
CATERER: Wegman's Catering, W&G Fine Catering & Event Design  
CEREMONY MUSIC: Raj Kapoor, cellist

REAL WEDDING

# Lauren & Jordan

July 6, 2019



Lauren Eisenberg's first date with Jordan Cherson was as dreamy and romantic as their wedding would later be. "It wasn't just typical drinks and dinner," says the bride. "He picked me up in his dark green Wrangler and we drove [to Brooklyn] and rode Jane's Carousel. Then we walked around, ate, and ended up having our first kiss on this really small beach nearby." Three years later, Jordan proposed by the water at their favorite restaurant in Westchester, New York, where a photographer friend was on hand to capture the moment, and their parents were waiting on the balcony to celebrate. Choosing Newport for their wedding was an easy decision: their first vacation as a couple was in the City by the Sea. "We actually have a heart-shaped rock framed in our hallway that we found on our first trip," says Lauren. Prophetic indeed. —LGM

"Castle Hill Inn was always our favorite. It's simply magical, every time, rain or shine!"

## CHILDHOOD DREAMS

Lauren wanted the black-tie wedding to be romantic, magical and delicate — much like her Oscar de la Renta gown. The chuppah was covered in vines and bursting with roses, while at the reception, astibe, peonies, roses and ranunculus filled the tables, creating an atmosphere that Lauren says she had dreamed about since childhood.

## SWEET TOUCHES

From monogrammed fans for the ceremony to bathroom doors labelled with childhood photos of the bride and groom, the couple brought their own special touch to their Big Day. The wedding cake was topped with a 3D-printed likeness of the bride and groom, plus a special addition. "Since our pup, Gatsby, couldn't attend the wedding, we wanted to make sure he was included, so he also made it onto the cake with us," says Lauren.

## FORGET THE FORECAST

As the saying goes, if you don't like the weather in New England, just wait a few minutes. Lauren's advice to future brides is to put the forecast out of your mind. "On our wedding day, it looked like it was going to pour all day. You could see water in the sky, but the fog created the most magical fairytale environment that I didn't even know was possible."

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The couple's official honeymoon was postponed due to COVID-19, although they spent some post-wedding time in the Hamptons and at Castle Hill. They now live in Westchester, where Lauren is the director of photo production for a fashion house, and Jordan is a real estate broker.



Document the day with cameras for the bride and groom.



## Featured Vendors

PHOTOGRAPHER: Jana Williams  
VENUE, CATERING: Castle Hill Inn  
BRIDAL GOWN: Oscar de la Renta  
LUXEDO: Zahreh Uomo Inc.  
HAIR: Jennifer Tawa  
MAKEUP: Dani Wagener  
FLOWERS: JNG Event Consulting  
DECOR: Ryan Designs  
CAKE: Party Favors, Brookline, Mass.  
CAKE TOPPER: Doobd  
CEREMONY/RECEPTION MUSIC: Night Shift Entertainment