

Welcome, bienvenidos, willkommen!
Meet Katharina and Max...

Dear Friend,

Fifteen years ago, Max knelt on a snowy mountainside in the Rocky Mountains and asked Katharina to marry him. Since then we have been blessed by our love for each other, our warm extended family, wonderful friends, interesting travel, and jobs we love as college professors.



We were deliriously happy, when we stepped into our lives together in 2001...

...this
hasn't
changed
a bit!



We take delight in the children in our lives: nieces, nephews, and seven godchildren. We hope to become parents ourselves, so that we can share our love with a child, become the parents we have longed to be, and help the child pursue their dreams. We would love to welcome you and your loved ones into our family as you feel comfortable. We look forward to meeting you!



We live in a blooming garden in a cozy house in Silver Spring, Maryland. In the spring and summer we are awash in flowers, in autumn in falling leaves, and in the winter in snow. Squirrels and rabbits come to play. Our friends bring their children to hunt Easter eggs or kick a soccer ball on our lawn. There's a

child's bedroom right next to ours. Each morning, we hear the shouts and laughter from the nearby elementary school. Montgomery County is well-known for its excellent public schools. Our neighbors live in blended families. They speak English, Spanish, and many African and Asian languages. All kinds of children live here in a safe and loving community, one of the most diverse in the country. We would welcome a child of any race, and that child would feel at home and loved here.



We live close to the Chesapeake Bay and the Blue Ridge Mountains, which we love to explore on weekends...



About us...

Max is very patient and well-organized. Katharina is curious, social, and creative—we make the perfect team. We have conquered all difficulties with love, patience, and respect, including the fact that we can't have children on our own. We know many happy adoptive families who have chosen open adoption, and we hope to join them. Open adoption, we believe, allows children to know how much they are loved and appreciated.



Between the two of us, we have 4 nephews and nieces and seven godchildren. We are smitten with each one of them!

We met in a salsa dancing class. Max was such an awesome dancer that Katharina was swept away (so the legend goes—actually, she also liked his kind eyes, wit, and humor).

Back then, Katharina couldn't cook, even frozen pizza was a challenge. Trained by his mom, Max knows his way around a kitchen. When Katharina is homesick, he even bakes her the dark, dense bread of her German childhood to make her all better again. Kat bakes too—cupcakes and brownies.



MAX My grandparents immigrated to the U.S. from Poland and left school to go to work at sixteen. I grew up in Berkeley and speak Spanish fluently. My sisters have two kids each, whom I've helped look after since they were born, everything from changing diapers to teaching them to play guitar and ride a bike.



My mother died when I was 21. My father and I were always close. I learned so much from him about how to be a good father, by being involved, responsible, and affectionate. I will try to be that way with my child.

KAT I grew up in Germany. My family is small, but we are loud, big-hearted, laughing people—we certainly sound like more than four when we are in one room. The prospect of a grandchild makes my parents ecstatically happy. My own grandparents played an important role as I grew up.



I love the energy children have. Seeing a child exploring a new shape, texture, or color feels like an electric jolt to me that makes my heart beat faster. I have a lot to give to a child and have no doubt that loving a child will fundamentally change me and make me a better person.

Lifestyle & Community

Busted. We are kind of health nuts. But only as long as it is fun, too. We like to move: we bike, dance and Kat even flies on the trapeze.



We cook from scratch most nights. We like to prepare fresh food, but don't mind regular helpings of ice cream either. In the summer, we barbeque in our garden. We make homemade pizza (godson Noah made the shirts). In the winter, we bake sweet potatoes, beets and apples in the fireplace, so the whole house smells like the holidays.



Seeing our students finding their way gives us joy.

Building **community** is important to us. We do a lot of volunteering at our university. Katharina started a group to help first-generation and minority students be successful at school. We drive people to the polls on election day and run events on hunger and homelessness. We live in a closely-knit, diverse community. We look out for each other. We help our older neighbors with snow shoveling or clearing tree limbs. They make sure that our house is safe when we are away. It feels like a small town in a big city.



We are looking forward to sharing our love for hiking and biking with some little ones.

Thank you for taking the time to read about us.

We look forward to getting to know you, and the hopes and dreams you have for the future. It would be wonderful if you wanted to be a part of our lives. Thank you for considering adoption. We appreciate it.



Kat & Max

Contact Katharina and Max: katmax@yahoo.com or 240-242-9491