



REFLECTING ON PAST MEMORIES AND LOOKING FORWARD TO NEW ONES: MEET THE ISWARAS

By Hannah Zwick Photos by Kat for Briar Rose Photo Co.

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o ring in the new year, we're celebrating with the Iswara family! Sanjeevan "San" and Rebecca "Becky" Iswara have called Midtown East their home for over a decade, and in recent years they made the move to a bigger apartment in Sutton Place after their family grew by two, with 5- and 3-year-old Winston and Wyatt.

San and Becky met while playing sports at Drew University — he played soccer and she played field hockey. Their shared love of athletics even set the scene for one of their biggest milestones: While the couple was marathon training, San proposed to Becky at the Bethesda Fountain in Central Park, one of their favorite places to run and relax. They were married in 2013 at the Lord Thompson Manor, in Connecticut, surrounded by many family and friends. "Our wedding is one of our fondest memories together and we often wish we could go back in time to re-experience it!" Becky tells us.

While the couple met through sports in college, their passions outside of athletics and their tracks of study followed different paths. San holds a bachelor's degree in economics and behavioral science (psychology, sociology, anthropology). He's currently a Managing Director and the Deputy Chief Operating Officer for the Private Wealth Management Business at Rockefeller Capital Management. Prior to that, he spent 11+ years at Morgan Stanley, in a few capacities including the Wealth Management and Investment Banking businesses. Becky graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in behavioral science. While attending university, she participated in

an accredited program and received three teaching certifications: early childhood, elementary, and special education. Becky was a special education teacher for a couple of years until she decided to switch to a more specialized profession. She went on to receive her master's degree in speech-language pathology from Columbia University, Teachers College. She now has over 15 years of experience in the education field and started her own private practice about two years ago. Becky founded Midtown Speech NYC, a boutique private practice in speech and language pathology in Midtown Manhattan. With individualized assessments and personalized treatments, her practice helps children of all ages improve their speech, language and feeding skills. Becky's Instagram account @MidtownSpeechNYC is where she often shares tips, strategies and research on speech, language and feeding development. "I hope this is a helpful resource to all parents!"

Both San and Becky come from diverse family backgrounds. San is a first-generation American, with his parents immigrating from Sri Lanka. Becky has a mixed heritage of Irish, German, English and Scottish roots. The couple believes this has allowed their boys to have a strong understanding of diversity and a multi-cultural exposure. "Winston and Wyatt have an amazing bond and friendship!" Becky tells us. "They go to school in the area — Winston is in Kindergarten and Wyatt is in a 3s preschool program. They enjoy spending time with their friends at local parks and playgrounds. Currently, our boys are enrolled in weekly soccer classes, which makes San super excited given his collegiate soccer career."

The couple enjoys traveling, and especially loves to show the boys new places. While Covid has made traveling difficult, they're looking forward to more safe adventures in the future. "Between San and me," Becky explains, "we have traveled to 6 continents and 40+ countries. We have a pin map in our apartment where we pin all the places we have visited. It's the focal point in the kids' playroom and we've received many





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comments from guests about it. Some of our favorite trips were honeymooning in Thailand, hiking Machu Picchu in Peru, snorkeling in the Galapagos Islands, exploring the champagne region in France, and eating lots of delicious food in Capri, Italy." Additionally, the couple often visits a family home in Florida and takes the trip down to the Jersey Shore to see Becky's parents. Becky is originally from New Jersey, while San is originally from Staten Island. "We love taking little trips to various places," Becky continues, "and this past summer we ventured to Breckenridge, Colorado, for some quality time outdoors. We had an amazing time — hiking, taking a train ride through the Colorado mountains, and going horseback riding, which was a first for the





boys! We hope to take a big international trip after the pandemic, which will be the first trans-Atlantic trip for the boys!"

Like many of our cover families who love to adventure, the Iswaras also love to find little treasures right here in Sutton Place. "We love exploring local businesses and creating a good rapport with the staff and owners. Many of them know our family and our little boys' names. Our favorite places include The Greats of Craft, Angelo's, A La Mode, Ess-a-Bagel, and Midtown Restaurant. Other unsolicited plugs go out to our dry cleaner (Victor Cleaners), hair salon (Salon Wave), and barber (Premium Barbershop)." They also love Sutton for giving them the opportunity to meet many new families and friends, as well as its proximity to the riverside, local attractions and museums.

In a message to their neighbors and to *Sutton Place Social*, the couple tells us: "We truly feel honored to have been selected for this month. To be honest, it feels even more special to be the "New Year" edition as we love this time of year to reflect on past memories and look forward to even better ones in the new year! We hope that our feature is enjoyed by our community and allows us to connect with



new neighbors. We really enjoy flipping through the pages of the magazine and seeing the featured families and hearing more about local businesses. We are always on the hunt to find quality services in our neighborhood and build relationships with businesses that we enjoy! THANK YOU to the advertisers. I appreciate that our family feature, and the magazine in general, is available to our neighborhood with your support!"





