

MAY 2021

Denver

CENTRAL PARK LIVING



**A FAMILY THAT
WORKS & PLAYS
TOGETHER**

Meet the Georgesons



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Resident Feature by Anne Hebert
Cover Photo by Laura Orozco Photography



A FAMILY THAT WORKS & PLAYS TOGETHER

Meet the Georgesons

By Anne Hebert

Photos by Laura Orozco Photography

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK PAINTED PRAIRIE FOR SPONSORING THIS MONTH'S FEATURE STORY

“Play Hard, Work Hard” is the Georgeson family motto. Larry, Kyndra, 15-year-old daughter Cassidy, 13-year-old son Calvin, and a menagerie of animals embody the reality of work-life balance.

Larry and Kyndra own and operate Georgeson Style, a residential interior design and design-build company. They also own retailer Kyndred, a curated online shopping experience selling home goods and décor. Cassidy is a freshman at Denver School of the Arts (DSA) in the visual arts department, and Calvin is in the seventh grade at McAuliffe International School.

The Georgesons have lived in Central Park near Westerly Creek since 2004. While the growth and success of their businesses has put a bit of a squeeze on their living space—the dining room currently serves as their office—the family has resisted the urge to move to a larger home in Central Park. “We love our neighbors

and are fortunate to have made some of our best friends living in this home,” says Kyndra. They live within walking distance of the Town Center, the Stanley Marketplace, and Central Park making the location perfect for their entire family.

Larry and Kyndra met while socializing with a large group of co-workers. The group had become their “office family” and often went out after work to cheer on the Avalanche or the Rockies at a bar near the office. One evening, Kyndra confided in Larry that she was going on a weekend camping trip to Moab but didn’t have all the supplies she needed. The next morning when Kyndra arrived at work, there was a headlamp sitting on her desk from Larry. That’s when she says she knew he was “the one.” They were engaged six months later and have been married for 24 years.

Larry is a graduate of the University of Colorado. He worked as a teacher, and a firefighter in Steamboat, CO before moving to

Marina del Rey, CA to do custom design interiors for privately owned boats. That job gave him his start in design. Later, he returned to Colorado to work in design installation as a project manager at a Knoll furniture dealership. He then took a job at a construction company. It was there that he was encouraged to get his General Contractor’s license.

A long standing “joke” is that everybody loves Larry, and Kyndra says it is absolutely true. Perhaps, because of his teaching and firefighting background, children and animals especially gravitate to Larry.

Kyndra earned her degree in interior design from Kansas State University. She worked at design firms and as a commercial window covering representative in Denver for over 20 years. Kyndra also did design work on the side for self-owned Platinum Design Studio. That company evolved into Georgeson Style, a joint venture she and Larry started 2016. They already knew they made a dynamic team from their days working together on design and design installation projects at the Knoll furniture dealership.

Cassidy and Calvin were both adopted internationally. Cassidy is from China and



Cassidy working on an art project



Calvin playing soccer. Photo provided by the Georgeson family

Calvin is from Nepal. Cassidy’s adoption process was relatively simple, but the process of adopting Calvin was far more complicated. Larry wound up moving to Nepal for eight months, but fierce determination to adopt Calvin enabled the Georgeson’s to become a family of four. That experi-

ence also gave Larry and Kyndra a new perspective. Opening their own business has been a way for them to do work they love while dedicating themselves to family life. The strategy has paid off and Kyndra says, “We have great clients and have made even better friends over the years.”

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A shared passion for thrifting and antiquing have given Larry and Kyndra the opportunity to travel the country in search of junk stores and second-hand shops. They still enjoy taking the entire family down to South Broadway for a Saturday lunch and a chance to visit the shops and sift through boxes of treasures.

A trip to China before the pandemic to visit Cassidy's birthplace gave the entire family a chance to immerse themselves in Chinese culture. Highlights of the trip included visiting a Panda reserve and seeing the Terracotta Warriors. A trip to Nepal to visit Calvin's birthplace is next on the agenda as soon as post-pandemic travel is feasible.

Cassidy is a dedicated artist and loves graphic design and anime. She also plays on a local volleyball team with some of her friends from DSA. Calvin is very involved in soccer and has recently begun playing on the flag football team at his school.

The entire family volunteers at Warren Village and other non-profits. The kids love to shop and make cards and cookies to share with families in need during the holidays.

As longtime residents of Central Park, the Georgesons say they love nothing more than having cocktails with other families on their block while the kids hang out with friends they've known since they were little. Kyndra says, "We would like to give a huge thank you for all the support, love and kindness over the past years. The last 14 months have been tough, but we couldn't have done it without the support of our Central Park neighbors."



Travel Photo provided by the Georgeson family

NEIGHBORHOOD ART STUDIO NURTURES ARTISTS OF ALL AGES

By Anne Hebert

Adriana Saurini, founder and owner of Neighborhood Art Studio began her business with inspiration from her then pre-school aged daughter. She was looking for a place to enroll her child in art classes and realized that nothing like that existed in the Central Park area at that time. She reached out to other area parents and learned that they were also interested in enrolling their kids in art programs that would stretch their children's imaginations and creativity.

Saurini was a well-known face-painter at the time and began holding art classes in her living room and a classroom at Stapleton Fellowship Church. Her goal was to provide a safe, supportive environment where "there is no such thing as making mistakes." Artists of all ages are welcomed and encouraged to explore various techniques and processes while building self-confidence and pride in accomplishment. "The most rewarding thing is when children say they have had the best time creating art they are proud of," says Saurini.

The concept flourished and is now a thriving business that inspires play-based learning for children ages two years and, up and adults. "No day is the same as the one before," Saurini says. "The day-to-day variety is a great thing about owning this business."

The studio has just moved to larger space at the same address and offers a diverse range of classes, art clubs, workshops, and camps that teach problem-solving skills and empowers artists to find joy in creativity. Virtual classes are available as are Art Kits To-Go for home-based projects.

Summer camp spots are always in high demand at the studio. Saurini says that double the space allows an increase in available camp slots. To ensure a place, she recommends that parents enroll as soon as they are able.

To learn more about Neighborhood Art Studio, or to register for classes, please visit neighborhoodartstudio.com.



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