




Nikyta & Jonathan



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**Hi! We are Nikyta & Jonathan.
We live on a small, rural island in
Washington state. We are deeply
connected to our place, our
community, and our family here.**





We came together in 2017 with the shared value of creating a loving family. In 2018 we were married at Midnight Farms, which is owned by our dear friends, and where Nikyta teaches yoga.

Our wedding was a local foods potluck and had a range of guests from newborns to folks in their 90s. Some were from far away and some just a few doors down, some in suits and some in stained coveralls; we are connected to all types of people, but Nikyta especially makes everyone feel welcome.

We value healthy relationships, connection and play!

We share many values in our relationship: a focus on love, kindness, equity, respect, zero waste, and environmental stewardship. We love to be creative and have fun in the world!

Nikyta creates many events on our island, leads parades, dances, and performances and Jonathan is never afraid to jump into costume and join in!



About Jonathan



I was born in Southern California, but came to the Northwest for my last year of High School. My parents split early in my life but were super dedicated to me and respectful of each other. My sister Jenny is quite a bit younger than me and now has two kids of her own; I moved to this area to be near them. Later I met Nikyta, and my mom joined our Lopez home. Its fantastic to be connected to my family and have them so close.

My Dad lives in Central California; too rainy here for him, but we visit now and again. When I was not riding my bike as a kid I worked for him on home projects, which really instilled a work ethic I still value today. My dad had a little house on the coast, so I was definitely a water baby!





I am a Hospice Social Worker, which can be challenging, making play and time with friends all the more important...along with quiet time for a good book or show. I'm a bit of a homebody, but love to get out for a hike, and travel is very important to me.

Being open to new things and trying to be the best version of myself are guiding paths in my life. Connection to friends and family, and to the land around me makes that possible. I am grateful for them, and very lucky.



Lunch in Vancouver (left), and being silly in art museum in France (right).



Helping at the Tribal Canoe Journey landing

About Nikyta



I was raised by a strong, creative single mom who homesteaded her land and built our house (shown below). She empowered me to be a strong, successful, confident woman. She passed away in 2017 and I miss her dearly. Creativity and being of service were two key values that she taught me and they thread their way through my life and work.

Raised in a creative, artistic household, I was encouraged to be expressive. In high school I became an actor and spent 15 years focused on performance. After graduating from an acting conservatory, I discovered what I really wanted was to help others move through difficulties using the arts as a means of expression. I then did my graduate work in Expressive Arts Therapy and founded two large programs in agencies with at-risk youth. My lifelong yoga practice also evolved and I have been teaching yoga for over twenty years to all kinds of diverse folks ranging from kids to elders to celebrities.



Arts & Creativity

Family & Community

Nature & Healing





Create Healing Beauty

Above are the three words define what I do in the world. I am a creator of arts, programs, innovations, and solutions. I work towards healing individuals, communities, ecosystems and our planet. I define beauty as that which is not only pretty, but also balanced with justice and harmony. I am currently a Climate Change educator, and work at our local library innovating programs and events. I also teach yoga and mindfulness.

Widening the circle of family:

My biological father was mentally ill and not able to be in my life. I mourned not having my dream dad until my mom fell in love with Vern, and I did too! So at age 28 I asked Vern to be my official dad, and he has been the best dad I could have ever asked for.

When my mom died in 2017, I met and fell in love with Sheryl, Jonathan's mom. We were both surprised how authentically we adored each other. She has helped become that maternal support in my life, and lives downstairs from us.

These experiences give me some insight into the great joy that can come from the family we discover.



I love to move, dance, play, create, teach, and say YES to life!

Jonathan's mother, Sheryl, lives in the unit below us. Nikyta's dad, Vern, also lives on the same island. Jonathan's sister and her children live close by and we feel amazingly thankful that we all made the choice to be so closely connected!



We love our family!

Jonthan's sister, her husband, and our niece and nephew are a HUGE part of our lives!



Our Adventure Cat, Lovington!!!

Our cat LOVES to hike with us, on his own, WITHOUT a leash! He is extremely loving, hence his name, and deeply loyal and connected to us. And he LOVES kids!!

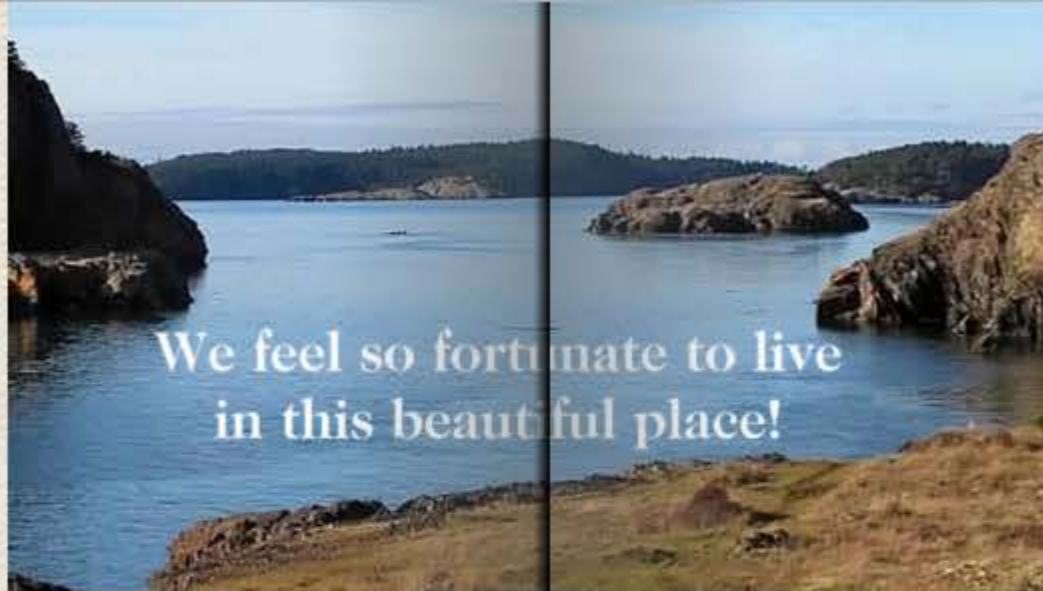
We often spend Sunday mornings in a "family cuddle" drinking our coffee in bed with this handsome kitton, then we all go on a walk.



Jonathan grows lots of veggies (below) and we love to cook with local food and grains: like this blackberry tart and plum jam!



Our table is the center of our home; it was made from wood that Nikyta and Vern hand milled from Vern's trees. We eat Sunday dinner around it every week together!



We are happy that it's still safe here for kids to explore forests & beaches, bike quiet rural roads, and play outside with their friends.



For us, community includes more than just people. We hope the child that enters our home will learn to love the environment and respect all the life around them.



We hope to give a child a Village!

Kids on our island participate in multi generational events of all kinds: you often see 8 year olds with 80 year olds in parades and island events.

People here are active in their schools and embrace all types of learning.

We are lucky to know many of the parents and children.

To the right: The Procession of the Species parade: A pod of Orcas with fins and a Sea Star.



We were given the gift of travel and adventure
and hope to pass this on!



Tokyo, Japan



Paris, France



Rishikesh, India

We live in a small place, but want a child to have big experiences! We hope they will have the opportunity to explore the world and gather many points of view. Our home will also be multilingual, as Nikyta is learning Spanish and we have many Spanish speakers on the island.

Our biggest wish for every child is that they are **LOVED, fully and completely.**



Our Adoption Aspirations

We hope we pass on the best of ourselves while recognizing our faults, always trying to be better people.

We hope our child's birth parents know that we value them as loved ones; not just because of their biological connection, but as people we joined in family.

We hope we can say that whatever happens, it was not ego, pride, or shame that drove us, but a commitment of love we renew every day.

