

AMERS & SAM



DEAR EXPECTANT PARENT(S)



We are Amers and Sam Goff, a couple in their mid thirties living in the heart of Los Angeles, CA. Over the next few pages we will walk you through our lives, interests, and desire to start a family.



Our first step in our adoption journey was finding the right agency. Pact's beliefs and practices are in line with our own. Working with them, we have learned a lot about parenting through adoption, creating lifelong open adoption blended families, and our own capacity to love and prioritize any little one who comes into our lives.

We hope that after reading through our letter, you choose us as the right family to raise your child.



ABOUT US



Sam is an artist, activist, educator, and pop culture nerd- with a soft spot for anime. It's what inspired her career in the animation industry. Amers is a nature loving creative who gardens, makes their own clothes, and can spend hours exploring tide pools at the beach. They love live theater, modern art, puppetry, and late night conversations with friends. They work as a therapist to children with disabilities.

We met in 2016 via the dating app OKCupid. Sam had sworn off of dating white women, and Amers was hung up on someone else. We hit it off over dinner and a movie on our first date. Sam proposed in 2018 and we got married in a citrus orchard in 2019. We now happily live on a hillside overlooking downtown Los Angeles with our 12 pets, weird art, and countless house plants.



ABOUT SAM



Sam @ Work

I currently work as a Creative Talent Manager for the animation industry. This means I represent artists and help them find work and excel in their careers. I also have a couple of adjunct professor jobs at local colleges teaching about animation. I love that my career is to be of service to others pursuing their dreams. Animation has always been my purpose in life. My dream is to be a mover and shaker in diversity representation in animated media!



FAST FACTS

What's your favorite color?
Green & Black (not together)

What's your favorite food?
Macaroni and Cheese

What's playing on repeat?
Janelle Monae

What are you watching?
comedy shows or cartoons

What's your favorite book?
The Broken Earth Trilogy by N.K. Jemisin

How do you like to relax?
Watch TV, read, or TikTok

What is your dream career?
Director of DEI programs for a major animation studio



ABOUT AMERS

FAST FACTS

What's your favorite color?

Burnt Orange

What's your favorite food?

Dungeness Crab

What's playing on repeat?

Melissa Ethridge

What are you watching?

Doctor Who

What's your favorite book?

Parable Series by Octavia Butler

How do you like to relax?

Swim or explore the beach

What is your dream career?

Exactly what I'm doing!

Amers @ Work

I have been a pediatric occupational therapist or OT for over a decade. I help children with special needs gain the developmental skills they need to thrive. In May of 2023 I founded my private practice, merging my OT skills with my love of swimming. I work from a local YMCA teaching adaptive swimming lessons. My swimmers need a swim instructor who takes their medical needs into account, keeping them safe in the water.



SO MANY HOBBIES

GARDENING



COMPETITIVE SWIMMING

TAIKO DRUMMING



SEWING & COSTUMING

READING



SEWING & COSTUMING

AND MORE!

CHOSEN FAMILY



From Amers: When I moved to Los Angeles in 2010, I rented a room from a family. Their adopted daughter Joyce was 8 at the time. Joyce quickly started calling me “Aunty” and coming to me to talk about her day, her sorrows and her struggles. She felt she did not belong in her adoptive family. Choosing me as an “Aunty” was her effort to find a safe adult and a place to belong.



Joyce’s adoption ended when she was 14. I stepped up as her advocate and parent as she navigated life in group homes. I introduced Joyce and Sam and we started to build a family together. Sam and I did our best to provide stability, guidance, and unconditional love while Joyce struggled to start a life on her own.

Two years ago Joyce gave birth to our grand-niece, Ava. Amers was honored to be in the room for her birth. Ava and Joyce are our family and we’re honored to be their chosen aunts.

RACE & FAMILY

Sam grew up in suburban Kansas in a predominantly white community. This made bonding with Amers's family, the Jensens, a little smoother. The Jensens are a thoughtful, highly intelligent, and cultured family. They are also a conservative, anti-pop-culture, and pretentious family. It has been an exciting (and at times challenging) adventure for Sam, learning to become part of the Jensen crew.



Amers grew up in Portland Oregon, also in a white community. Forming friendships with people of color as a young adult started them down their lifelong path of personal antiracism work. Walking into a big black immigrant family as someone's gay white girlfriend was daunting. A few of Sam's cousins immediately accepted Amers as family. When Amers started getting bossed around by Sam's aunties and teased for their whiteness by the cousins, they knew they'd been accepted. It's a large, loud, and infinitely loving and supportive family. Amers is honored to be a Goff.

CHILDCARE



Sam and Amers plan to take time off of work to bond with your child and adjust to life as parents. Sam will take 3 months of parental leave and use her accrued vacation time to stay home as long as possible. Amers runs their own business, so will not get a mandated leave. They plan to take one month completely off of work, then work a reduced schedule, providing childcare once Sam returns to work. When both of us are working at the same time, our neighbor Eileen, who is a child-care specialist, is eager to baby-sit. Once the child is old enough we plan to enroll them in a local daycare.

OPEN ADOPTION

We began our adoption journey seeking an open relationship with an adopted child's birth family. As we merge our two families to love and raise your child, we are committed to the ongoing work of building an open adoption that meets all of our needs. We commit to honestly share our feelings and expectations. We will hold space for you, and eventually for your child, to share yours as well. When conflicts happen, we will stay open and work through them together. If we need extra help, we will reach out to Pact for support. Adoption will be a lifelong reality for all of us. Openness will be a lifelong process as well.



ANIMAL LOVERS



COLLIN RABBITSON

OUR HOME

Our home is a canvas for our creativity and a physical safe space that we create and hold for family and community. Step foot in our living room and you'll be surrounded by the green of climbing, growing plants. Our walls display artwork and photos we both love. There is a curiosities cabinet filled with books and strange objects we've found over the years. There is a shelf of children's books next to the 3 story rabbit hutch. Nearby is a bench of toys for the kids who visit our home. Under our TV is our board game collection and a box of craft supplies. We've built a space that encourages people to engage with their creativity, talk with each other, and rest. That's exactly what a home should be.



It is not lost on us the immense privilege we hold in being homeowners in a market like Los Angeles. White privilege and generational wealth bought us this home. We purposefully live in a diverse neighborhood and make efforts to give back and engage as part of the local community so as to not attribute to gentrification.

OUR VIEWS ON PARENTING



We believe in gentle, emotionally intelligent parenting. We want to raise children who understand and navigate all of their emotions. We believe that “behavior problems” are a child’s way to meet a need or communicate. “Punishment” will take the form of natural consequences for actions. Our home will have rules, chores, and boundaries, but these will be negotiated as a family in a developmentally appropriate manner.

We believe in facilitating our children’s exploration of the world and of self expression. Our home will be full of play, imagination, and art. We will take time to play with and read to our kids. As they get older we will engage with them in their interests and hobbies.

Chosen family is uniquely important to Queer communities. We define family by unconditional love and support rather than blood. That’s why we love Joyce and Ava as our own. That’s how we know that we will love any child entrusted to us with all our hearts, along with the family that chooses to trust us with their precious child. Adoption will be a lifelong reality for you, for us, and for your child. We want to honor that reality.

THANK YOU

