**Wedding Website content editing, 06-28-2024**:

Is there a way to make this web site password protected, with a simple to remember password that we share in the invitation email? Suggested password: SaraFrank2024 or something like that.

**Home tab**:

Sunday, September 8, 2024

Please arrive by 10:30 – 10:45am; ceremony begins at 11:00am

[The Mountain Lakes House](https://maps.app.goo.gl/hLzcP8f44bVkHaSH6)

57 Mountain Ave  
Princeton, NJ 08540

Semi-formal attire

**Hotel tab**:

We have reserved a block of rooms for Friday Sept 6, Saturday Sept 7, and Sunday Sept 8 at the [Homewood Suites Princeton](https://maps.app.goo.gl/jdFvUH7p4pzKGaqZ9), which is a 15-minute drive (4 miles) from the wedding venue. Please note the only official wedding activities are scheduled for Sunday September 8 between 10:30am – 3pm (ceremony and reception, see Schedule tab). However, individual families may plan additional activities at other times or on other days that weekend.

The hotel block includes 2 kinds of suites --- one with a single king bed in the bedroom, and the other with 2 queen beds in the bedroom. Each bedroom is part of a suite, with a sofa bed in the adjoining room. The discounted rate is $119/room/day for either type of suite.

As rooms are claimed, if one type runs out, we will attempt to replenish – as hotel availability allows. Therefore, if you click the link below to make your reservation and the price listed is not the discounted rate, please email Judy at jfridov@emory.edu and she will do her best to get the options restored.

To reserve your hotel room(s) please click [this link](https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=PTNHWHW&groupCode=CHWFKC&arrivaldate=2024-09-07&departuredate=2024-09-09&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT).

**Transportation tab**:

**Local airports:**

The 2 large airports most convenient to Princeton are Philadelphia International (PHL) and Newark Liberty International (EWR). There is also a small airport much closer to Princeton (Trenton-Mercer, TTN) that is used by Frontier airlines. The flight options tend to be limited, but if you find one that works for you it may be a good option.

**Parking at the wedding venue**:

Important: Please note that parking at the wedding venue is extremely limited so we are asking people to carpool. More on that closer to the date.

**Schedule tab**:

10:30am – 10:45 am Guests arrive and are seated

11:00am – 11:30am Ceremony

11:30am – 12:30pm Hors d’oeuvres and photography

12:30pm – 3:00pm Lunch, music, and dancing

The Mountain Lakes House is located directly next to a nature preserve with lovely short hiking trails maintained by the Friends of Princeton Open Space. Here is a link to trail maps: <https://www.fopos.org/trail-maps>

Weather permitting, anyone who would like to hike the trails after the wedding reception is welcome to change into casual clothes in one of the restrooms at the Mountain Lakes House. Enjoy!

**Gifts & Tzedakah tab**:

It always brings us joy when, on an occasion for gift-giving, someone chooses to give in our honor to those who are in need. After all, we are blessed to already have what we need, and the principle of tzedakah (charity, or justice) is very important to us both.

Feel free to donate to the charity of your choice, and please tell us which charity you chose so we can know how to thank you. If you are looking for suggestions, here are some of our favorite charities:

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If you prefer to give a traditional gift, here is a link to a Google doc showing items we can use: \*\*\*\*\*. Please write your name next to the gift item you choose, and then please send the amount you wish to give by Zelle to sarafridov@gmail.com, or by check made out to Sara Fridovich-Keil or Chih-Yuan Chiu and mailed to 1292 Vista Leaf Drive, Decatur GA 30033. We will put your contribution toward the purchase of the item you selected and will send you a thank you photo of us holding the gift when it arrives. Thank you!

**COVID Safety tab**:

**Indoors/Outdoors**

We are planning to hold the wedding ceremony outside unless the weather makes this impossible. The hors d’oeuvres, lunch, and dancing will take place both outdoors and indoors.

**Masks**

Unless there is another COVID spike close to the wedding date, masks will be optional. Of course, if you are not feeling well on the day of the wedding, please stay home! We will miss you, but we will be grateful for your help in making sure our other wedding guests, including some very young and some senior, remain safe. Thank you.

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**Jewish Traditions tab**:

**Will kippot (plural of kippah) be provided?**

**Yes.**

**Can non-Jews wear kippot during the ceremony?**

Of course! Anyone who wishes to do so is welcome to wear a kippah.

**What is a chuppah? What will our chuppah be made of?**

A chuppah is the canopy under which we will stand during our wedding ceremony. It represents the new home we will build together. Our chuppah was made by Sara’s mother, Judy, and will be supported by our friends and family. It will be decorated with flowers and prayer shawls from our families.

(For now, remove this following question from the program.)

**What happens during a Jewish wedding ceremony?**

First, there is the hakafot, or circling, in which the bride and groom will circle each other seven times. Seven represents the number of days of creation, and our marriage is an act of creation as well.

Next, there will be blessings over the bond of marriage, followed by the exchange of vows and rings. Rings are traditionally placed on the couple's pointer fingers (not ring fingers), because of an ancient belief that the pointer finger is connected directly to the heart.

After some words by our officiant, Rabbi Ira Dounn, we will continue with the Sheva Brachot, which means "seven blessings." These blessings over the marriage are connected to the themes of creation and celebration. They will be read both in Hebrew and in English by our friends and family.

Next comes the Birkhat Kohanim (priestly blessing), which will be given by \*\*\*\*\*. In ancient times, this blessing was given by the Kohanim (priests) over everyone. In modern times, the blessing is often recited by parents over their children on Shabbat.

Finally, we will break a glass, symbolizing the fact that even at our most joyous occasions we must remember the continued brokenness of the world.

**What's a yichud?**

The yichud is the traditional period of seclusion in which the newlyweds spend the first few minutes of marriage alone together, immediately after the ceremony. After the yichud, we will join the celebration!

**Why will the bride and groom be lifted on chairs during the celebratory dancing?**

Tradition! [Cue Fiddler on the Roof]

**Other Info tab**:

**Food**

All of the food will be vegetarian and/or fish, with no shellfish. The invitation will list entrée options for the lunch, and each attendee will be asked to select their preferred entrée when they RSVP. If you anticipate any problems regarding food, please contact Sara’s mother, Judy, who will do her best to help.