

Lorenza & Peter in Virginia

15th July, 2012

In case any of you have missed the news, Lorenza and I have moved to Virginia, USA. We arrived here just over a month ago now, and we have been busy settling in. After moving from Chelmsford to Warrington nearly two years ago, then back again last summer, we are hoping that now we can stay in one home for a few years.



We have found ourselves a beautiful home to stay in. We are renting the upper floor of an 1890s colonial style house in the small town of Woodstock, in the scenic Shenandoah Valley about 90 miles west of Washington. This is near to where our friends here lead a church. Lorenza has been busy making it look as good inside as it does outside.

It took us a long time and a lot of effort to obtain visas so that we can live and run a business in the USA. We applied through the embassy in Rome, which

meant a quick trip in May to visit that amazing city, and to say goodbye to Lorenza's family near Florence. In Rome we learned that we had been granted E-2 visas for two years, which will be renewable for five years at a time, indefinitely while our business is operating successfully.

Our business is a dance studio. Lorenza is the CEO and sole owner, and I am her business manager. This arrangement will allow me to accept other work in the future. We have leased a retail unit in the nearby medium sized town of Winchester, and we are having this converted into a high quality dance studio, complete with sprung floors and a mural based on the paintings of Degas. The studio has an Italian theme, reflected in the business name, Italia Performing Arts. Lorenza will specialise in classical ballet, and we will hire teachers for classes in other dance genres. We are planning a Grand Opening in late August and hope to be open for business with the new school year in September.

There is a lot for us to do before we can open, overseeing the work on the building and publicising our classes. So we have a busy few months ahead of us. But we are trusting God that he will lead us and make this a successful venture.

Peter and Lorenza Kirk

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