

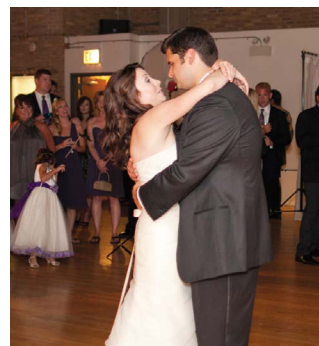


DOING THINGS THEIR WAY

ANDREA REICH & DAVID DIAMOND, RAVENSWOOD EVENT CENTER

After a quick stop at a neighborhood ice cream parlor and while walking down a quiet stretch of Newport Avenue in Roscoe Village, David Diamond proposed to Andrea Reich. The next morning they took the 'L' train to Jewelers' Row and chose an engagement ring together. "I now have a beautiful ring that perhaps neither of us would have chosen without both of us being there," says the bride. While proposing before a ring is somewhat nontraditional, Andrea says, "David and I are not exactly a traditional couple."

WRITTEN BY EMILY VANDEVENDER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY BETHANY FRITZ OF MAYPOLE STUDIOS



VENDORS

CEREMONY & RECEPTION SITE
Ravenswood Event Center

PHOTOGRAPHY
Bethany Fritz of Maypole Studios

WEDDING CONSULTANT
Beth Bernstein of SQN Events

BRIDE'S GOWN
Vera Wang and Cymbeline

VEIL
Vera Wang

SHOES
The Left Bank Jewelry & Bridal Finery
and Kate Spade

HAIR & MAKEUP
Beauty on Call

BRIDESMAIDS' DRESSES
Bella Bridesmaid

FORMALWEAR
Nordstrom

INVITATIONS
Village Paperie and Gifts

FLOWERS
Dilly Lily

MENU/CATERING
Ravenswood Event Center

MUSIC/ENTERTAINMENT
Parkwest Strings and Toast & Jam DJs

WEDDING CAKE
Bake

FAVORS
Luscious Layers Bakery and Dinkel's
Bakery

TRANSPORTATION
Aries Charter Transportation

GUEST & WEDDING NIGHT
ACCOMMODATIONS
Hotel Palomar Chicago

THEIR WEDDING CELEBRATION BEGAN at the Ravenswood Event Center. David and Andrea's guests entered the venue's atrium, where they enjoyed the cocktail hour. The cocktail hour was then followed by the ceremony, for which guests moved into the atrium as the sun was setting.

With many young children in their families, Andrea and David could not choose

WEDDING

them down the aisle. To avoid any hurt feelings, they chose to include all of the kids from ages 3 to 9 in a children's processional.

Their personal touches were romantic: the bride and groom wrote their own vows—the moment in which Andrea was “the most calm and focused,” she says, “because it was just David and me, telling each other how much we loved each other.”

David also wrote the ring exchange.

The celebration continued into the night with dinner and dancing in both the loft and atrium of the venue. The father of the bride's toast during dinner “was one of the most memorable experiences,” said David. “It was both funny and sentimental, and that's when the step we had just taken really started to sink in, and we both began to relax, together.”