



SunStar Strategic Partner Melissa Murphy Relocates to New York Office

Starting in April 2014, SunStar Strategic partner and barre instructor extraordinaire, Melissa Murphy, will be relocating from the firm's Washington, D.C. headquarters to work from the Manhattan office. She has moved to NYC to join her soon-to-be husband, and their cat, Swanky Edward. After spending eight years in her beloved neighborhood of Georgetown, we've caught up with Melissa to get her take on what life has been like so far in The Big Apple.

- 1. What has been your favorite thing about New York so far?*

The city has such a dynamic energy. I love just being part of it. I've done so much more walking which is an excellent way to see the city and it keeps me extra active.
- 2. What do you miss most about Georgetown and life in D.C.?*

DC is also an amazing city with so much to offer and I miss my family, friends and the more relaxed pace.
- 3. What do you wish you had known before starting your move? Any advice for other professionals about to swap their metropolis?*

Living in an apartment is different than house living so the best advice is to carefully select and bring the items you most love and purge everything else. I did a lot of this prior to moving as it was necessary, but also cathartic as you learn how much more important relationships and experiences are versus things.
- 4. Did you take anything special with you to remind you of DC?*

Lots of photos of course! I lived in the DC area for 12 years so I have many monument, cherry blossom and park photos.
- 5. Be honest...who has better food?*

Sorry but NYC wins on this front.
- 6. Can you describe your typical work day in NYC? How is it different?*

Commuting by subway is a big change. Working in a smaller office right next to a colleague is also quite different. Having lunch is a special experience with so many options – most of which can be brought right to the office. The day-to-day client work and strategic activities remain very much the same.



7. *How do you see your move impacting your career?*

I will have many more opportunities to see clients, meet with prospective clients, to interact with the press, attend events and so forth. It's a great thing for me as well as for SunStar.

8. *D.C. versus NYC...who wins?*

Ha, ha – I'm in NYC now so you can guess who the winner is.