

## The Peale, Baltimore

*Out of the Blocks* Storytelling Series

Recorded by Aaron Henkin; Photographs and Music by Wendel Patrick

Produced for the *Out of the Blocks* website, created by the Peale, <https://ootb.thepeale.org/>

*Out of the Blocks* is supported by PRX and produced with grant funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cohen Opportunity Fund, The Hoffberger Foundation, Patricia and Mark Joseph, The Shelter Foundation, The Kenneth S Battye Charitable Trust, The Sana and Andy Brooks Family Fund, The Muse Web Foundation, and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios



Bairon Flores:

They got to be really clean.

Speaker 2:

Bairon's our head of the shop here and he is the painter. He's in control of all of our detail guys, the paint booth, and just runs the day-to-day here. Make sure that when the car leaves here, it's looking at its best.

Bairon Flores:

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Hi, my name is Bairon Flores. I'm from El Salvador. I've been working in here for almost two year. We've got to be concentrating every single thing we do, try to make perfect and look like... We try to make a happy the customer. We had the computer in here to mix all the paint we have right here.

Speaker 3:

Wow. So you can color match any car?

Bairon Flores:

Yeah. Sometime we take a week for make one color for one car. When I come here, my dream is I buy a motorcycle and then come back to my country. [inaudible 00:00:49]. When I come here, I start to know about history here, try to see people, something different, my mind changed. Now, I love this country. I really like everything.

Speaker 3:

You came here six years ago because you wanted to buy a motorcycle and then ride back home on a motorcycle?

Bairon Flores:

Yeah.

Speaker 3:

And here you are six years later, still here.

Bairon Flores:

Yeah, still here. Now, I had two baby. We had a boy and girl. For now, I still, I don't buy my motorcycle.

Speaker 3:

You still haven't bought a motorcycle?

Bairon Flores:

Yeah. No, no, my wife say, "It's too dangerous. You had two kids, you do not have to buy a motorcycle." I'd say, "Okay." I really love this job.

(silence)