

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/>



Robert Hardy (00:00):

I do have a lot of tattoos and it pretty much tell stories from different points in my life. I'm just really like artistic person and I just love expressing myself through my own hair, my own body art in body images so I'm really a artist at heart. Robert Hardy, The Press Hair Studio, 2427 St. Paul street. I know this is my very first tattoo, I guess you can call it my hair inspired tattoo. It's my name and it actually has a blow dryer and a comb and shears and smoke and flames. It's the very first tattoo that I had on this arm and I think that's why I won't get it redone because it symbolize where I started from.

Robert Hardy (01:03):

And like I say, you can see that everything else around it is a little bit more detailed and more professional looking than this particular tattoo. But I think that's why I didn't change it only because this was my first tattoo and it symbolized the hair industry and the patient that I had for hair. The most important lesson that my life has taught me is to be around good, positive energy. A lot of people just don't have good energy and in order for you to succeed and be successful in life, you just need to always

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. This program is supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council (msac.org).

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/>

have good energy in your space because negative energy really drains your energy whether you realize it or not.

Robert Hardy (01:51):

I don't know, growing up I really haven't had a father in my life. So I feel as though if I was raised maybe with a dad in the home, life probably would have went a little bit more different. I felt it by my mom being a single parent and having two other kids, it was hard for her to give me the best life because of the lack of help.

Aaron Henkin (02:20):

Do you know dad?

Robert Hardy (02:21):

I know him, I know of him. I don't know him personally but I know him, I've talked to him maybe once and twice in my whole entire life. I'm 30 years old at this point but I don't know him. I know him but I don't know him if you can understand what I'm saying.

Aaron Henkin (02:42):

And what do you think you would want to say to him about you and who you are?

Robert Hardy (02:50):

I guess to really just learn who I am as a person and accept me with no judgment. That's just basically it, just get to know me and accept me for who I am with no judgment.

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. This program is supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council (msac.org).