

## 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/>



Julianne Franz ([00:00](#)):

Julianne Franz.

Tami Jacobs ([00:02](#)):

Tami Jacobs.

Julianne & Tami ([00:03](#)):

625 Deepdene Road.

Tami Jacobs ([00:05](#)):

I'm a massage therapist and I'm yoga teacher.

Julianne Franz ([00:08](#)):

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I teach high school students. Theater Design and Production for the Theater at Carver Center in Towson as part of the Baltimore County Public School system.

Tami Jacobs ([00:16](#)):

I saw Julianne months before I actually met her. And that was on the date, actually with someone else. And I saw her walk up to the bar and I thought I said it in my head, but I actually said it out loud. And I said, "who is that?"

Julianne Franz ([00:31](#)):

From the moment of seeing her, and I didn't get a chance to meet her the first time that I saw her, she was pretty unforgettable. So when I was reintroduced to her by a mutual friend, it was, yeah, yeah, sure. I'd love to meet her.

Tami Jacobs ([00:44](#)):

She said, do you want to go out tonight? And we went to the Club Charles, and we had a drink and we walked back to her car together and we have been together ever since.

Julianne Franz ([00:58](#)):

Well, we're officially domestic partners on paper. We're not married. And in fact have been through a couple of bouts of separation in the last couple of years of our relationship. And I think it's in there that I have recognized so much of my, there is no other word to describe it, but my marriage to her that I have never strayed from believing that I wanted to be with her.

Tami Jacobs ([01:22](#)):

I call her my boulder and she hates it when I call her that because it's probably not the most flattering term of endearment, but I think of myself sometimes as like a tornado. And she's always the stable rock that stands still. And she grounds me.

Speaker 3 ([01:42](#)):

Say your name for me.

Ezra ([01:44](#)):

Ezra. 625 Deepdene Road.

Julianne Franz ([01:48](#)):

Yeah. So we have been lucky enough to make a baby. These two gals have made this just magnificent creature in Ezra.

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Ezra ([01:55](#)):

It's a bike.

Speaker 3 ([01:57](#)):

Yeah. You learning how to ride it.

Ezra ([01:59](#)):

Yeah. I already know how to ride it.

Speaker 3 ([02:05](#)):

You need to push to get started?

Tami Jacobs ([02:12](#)):

We decided that we would use a donor, a known donor, a donor that was willing to be known, so that Ezra would have that option when he was 18, to know his other part of his DNA.

Speaker 3 ([02:25](#)):

Will you tell me about what it's like to shop for half of your child-to-be's DNA?

Tami Jacobs ([02:31](#)):

Well, it's impossible if you don't set some really clear goals. So we had two requirements. The first was that he would be willing to be known to our child. And the second was that he was Jewish. ,With that in each of the banks that we looked in there were about eight options. So it narrowed. It narrowed a great deal. Now, if we didn't have those parameters, I mean, you could be at it for a really long time. We all look pretty good on paper.

Ezra ([02:57](#)):

Hey mom.

Tami Jacobs ([02:58](#)):

I hope for him, that he is confident in who he is. And I hope that he's a good man. I hope that he's a good man. I hope that he's good to women. I don't think he really has a choice growing up in a two mom household. I hope that he is proud of his two moms and that's not something that he has to ever hide. And I hope that more than anything, I hope that he finds what makes them happy.

Speaker 3 ([03:30](#)):

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You like having two moms?

Ezra ([03:32](#)):

I do.

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