

We love hearing about people and places who make everyone, no matter their skin tone, religion, or ethnicity feel comfortable, welcome and at home. If you have a chance, please be sure to check out Patty's Facebook page and website.

<http://www.pattyshairgarden.com/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/pattyshairgarden>

"We found a wonderful hair dresser in White Plains for Lilly's hair. Her name is Patty Henriques. She's all about everything natural and healthy. She completely "gets" Lilly and Lilly's hair. May sound like I'm putting too much into it, but when it comes to black hair - as a white person - I need a professional! There's no way to have the skill if you haven't grown up learning it. And even then, it doesn't mean you are good at it. We *re-found* her on this



trip in her own salon on Mamaroneck, Patty's Hair Garden. I can't even tell you the joy I had when I heard her voice. She knew exactly who I was and said, "My Lilly! Oh! the Lord is SO good! Bring me my Lilly! I love that girl!"



I can do Lilly's hair and I do, but every now and again, I like to take her in for a special do & to get professional advice. I've been to many salons & didn't make an appointment because I already saw the look of judgment in the eyes of the stylists. I get it. We don't look like the typical client families. But, still we need the service. And hello! I'm doing my best, right? Patty welcomes us with open arms, no judgment, just love and a boat load of SKILL.

Her schedule was already filled, so she took us at 7 am! This time, she suggested locs for Lilly. The process of getting them started was approx. 4 hours. Lilly's hair always takes about 4 hours - even here at home. (Washing, conditioning, combing - oh the combing & picking! and drying straight. And then the twisting usually goes pretty quickly.) Patty washed, picked, conditioned and let her sit under the steamer to re-nurish the hair. Then she worked in about 10 products including black pure bees wax (which is now all over most of her pillows :) She worked each small section lengthening and rolling, then twirling it into a bahntu knot back down on Lilly's head. Patty explained to me that after a few days I should let each knot out to be long. She said I will be buying a steamer for the house and using essential oils to moisturize the hair as it grows. As she knew Lilly would be going to summer camp soon she said, that I should put the locs back into the knots when she's at camp. Huh? I said, 'today's Friday and camp starts Sunday.' 'Oh, then we'll just leave it in the knots', she said. uh yeah! I'm not going to be able to recreate ANYTHING you've done in the salon - I thought that was a given, since she's a miracle worker.



So now Lilly has the bahntu knots which look like a pick-a-ninny. I'm sure that's no longer a politically correct phrase. She was worried that people may think she looks like a boy with short hair. So she's been wearing a lot of pink. She has pierced ears, but doesn't really like earrings. "