

The Circus adds another ring with new educational series

Epi After Dark Podcast launches; audio service explores the ins and outs of rare diseases

New Canaan, Connecticut Apr 27, 2022 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Just like its namesake, where more rings mean more shows, The Circus of Scientific Curiosity has added another attraction with the recent launch of the Epi After Dark Podcast as the up-and-coming online presence continues to expand.

On this journey toward the goal of becoming a premier source of scientific entertainment, proprietor T.J. “Pax” Hardy takes an audience through the strange and complex in virology and beyond.

Hardy is, by trade, an epidemiologist, or for these purposes, better thought of as an investigator on the hunt for deadly diseases.

From the mundane to the surprising, he has always taken pleasure in breaking down rare and mysterious afflictions.

And now, with the launch of the Epi After Dark Podcast, he is taking the public along for the ride.

Along with his study of diseases, Hardy has long been fascinated with sharing and promoting compelling aspects of the micro worlds always right under our fingertips.

And with The Circus of Scientific Curiosity, he has created a space where all thoughts and ideas are welcome.

“Our mission is to ensure respect and dignity are maintained on the Circus of Scientific Curiosity,” Hardy said. “I want it to be a home to open dialog, courageous thought, and the spark of imagination.”

“The Circus promotes scientific entertainment, education, and communication,” he continued. “A podcast is a great way to showcase the conversation going on in the field and break down the deep mysteries surrounding the disease.”

Episodes from the first season are available now, exploring The House of Opportunists, with episodes planned to explore, Toxoplasmosis, Pneumocystis, Histoplasmosis, and much more.

“We want to open these topics to anyone inquisitive-minded that desires to explore the complex world of opportunists,” Hardy said.

“It’s an ongoing pleasure to every day learn how to better understand the epidemiology, history, and the future of the cause of some of the most interesting afflictions that can befall a man.”

With a Master’s in Public Health and years of experience as a field epidemiologist, Hardy, blends a mix of real-world parlance with the intellectually challenging into a deep dive into medical curiosities.

“The first episode is a great example of exactly what the Epi After Dark Podcast looks to accomplish,” Hardy said. “We want to look at something like Toxoplasmosis and break down what it is, how it works, and perhaps most importantly, how we can avoid its deleterious effects.”

But most importantly, sharing with the public the truth about and having scientifically compelling, while approachable information is the primary goal of The Circus of Scientific Curiosity.

"I want to see the website and the Podcast grow as we explore the increasingly complex mysteries that surround the minuscule troublemakers all around us," Hardy said.

Along with the Epi After Dark Podcast, visitors to The Circus of Scientific Curiosity will also find relevant health information for today, like the COVID-19 resource center.

"As a field epidemiologist, having scientifically sound information about things like the COVID-19 is vital," Hardy said. "But there's no political spin here, just good scientific knowledge that I hope people will share and spark conversations about the very nature of some of most ancient life on the planet."

The website also features an outlet for merchandise.

"The Epi After Dark merchandise sales help keep the conversation going," Hardy said. "And it has been an interesting way to connect with the Circus's biggest fans while commemorating the incredible artwork that accompanies each episode by sharing those prints with the world. Each print for the Epi After Dark Podcast is as complex as the subject matter and worthy of their own notoriety."

While it might be said, Hardy's trade is sharing curiosity, his career in the field is in itself impressive.

Born in Greenwich, Conn., and grew up in nearby New Canaan, Conn. Hardy attended St. Luke's School until graduating in 2004.

He would go on to earn a bachelor's degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at New York University and earned a Master of Public Health in Environmental Health Science with a concentration in Molecular Epidemiology.

Highlights of his time in the field include two years in Thailand with the World Health Organization in their Field Epidemiology Training Program and completing a fellowship in HIV at the University of North Carolina Gillings School of Public Health.

"It's been an amazing experience growing to the point of launching something like Epi After Dark, but I hope now to pass on all that my experiences have taught me," Hardy said.

[For more information about the Circus of Scientific Curiosity, or the Epi After Dark Podcast, visit, epiafterdark.com.](https://epiafterdark.com)

Media Contact

T.J. "Pax" Hardy, Founder The Circus of Scientific Curiosity

snackpax@epiafterdark.com

(720) 629-9979

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