

**TEXAS STORYTELLING FESTIVAL 2007**  
**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS**

**FRIDAY March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Workshop A - Story Shenanigans - Ann Marie Newman

Through imaginative story play using puppets, props, character voices, and other creative devices, participants will explore ways to breathe new life into traditional tales to enhance the storytelling and writing experience. All props and materials will be provided. Designed for all level tellers and those who work with youth.

Workshop B - Once Upon A Future - Anne McCrady

Personal narratives can be more than memories of the past. They can include what is presently happening, enabling us to take hold of our lives right now. Participants will explore how the settings, characters, and challenges of our everyday lives will become the stories we will tell in the future.

Workshop C - Basic Songwriting for Storytellers - Joseph Pinson

Focusing on basic forms of song writing and basic chord progression to create melodies, participants - no matter what their level of musical knowledge - will learn how to take an idea and turn it into a song to incorporate in their storytelling. No prior musical knowledge or instruments are needed.

Workshop D - Color It Locally: Regionalism in Storytelling - Donna Ingham

This showcase will demonstrate storytelling that exploits elements of speech, dress, mannerisms, habits of thought, and topography peculiar to a region - TEXAS, for example. Through the techniques modeled, participants will learn how to portray, through stories, the people and life of any geographic setting.

Workshop E - Family Reunion: Telling the Stories of God - Kathy Culmer

Two favorite pastimes at family reunions - eating and telling stories - connect us, define our heritage, and give us hope for the future. Come feast upon the stories of God that connect, inspire, and empower us. Share some of your favorite bible stories and discover new ways of telling old stories.

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Workshop F - Eyes and Ears - Taking a Story from Performance to Print - Gayle Ross

Learn techniques for taking your story from performance to print. This workshop is designed for storytellers who want to become storyteller/authors. Topics include choosing the right story, polishing the language, keeping the storyteller's "voice" alive in print, working with an editor, "show" vs "tell", finding a publisher, and more.

**SATURDAY March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007**

Master Class - Olga Loya

Workshop G - On Your Feet and Telling: Beginning Storytelling - Jiann Powers

This introductory workshop supports those who are new to storytelling and to educators who want to use storytelling in the classroom. Come participate and have fun exploring practical tips, techniques, telling, and resources within whole group and partner interactions. This workshop will literally have you on your feet and telling.

Workshop H - Coaching Kids With Class: Story Clubs for Students - Shelby Smith

This energizing workshop is for those who know storytelling can be a vital part of a student's education, but know that getting a storytelling group started presents many challenges. Come learn how to get started, how to find a group, where to find stories, and how to coach young storytellers.

Workshop I - Storytelling for Environmental Education - Reba Ott and Lucinda Wise

Environmental education uses the scientific approach. Stories that acknowledge nature allow us to experience life differently. See demonstrations of tales using props, pourquoi, and personal stories incorporating authentic knowledge of the natural world for ideas to enhance your favorite stories/anecdotes to bring about a deeper awareness of our earth.

Master Class - Dan Keding

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Workshop J - I Say “Cric”, You Say “Crac”: Integrating the Art of Storytelling into the Curriculum - Sue Kuentz

Integrating storytelling into the classroom brings a new level of confidence and self-esteem to students while improving their communication skills. In addition, storytelling targets many of the TEKS objectives - listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Join this session to witness the magic and power storytelling can bring to the classroom.

Workshop K - Creating a Storytelling Persona - Don Sanders

Historical and personal stories often benefit by being told “in character” - from the point of view of the historical participant or from the point of view of the teller. However, creating a character or mask can have advantages and disadvantages. Come explore the possibilities and pitfalls with examples and exercises.

Workshop L - Storytelling in Secondary and Higher Education - David Thompson and Lucinda Wise

Storytelling is an exciting and stimulating way to engage students of secondary and higher education. From “rapping” Chaucer to declaiming “Beowulf”, from Oral History to “realms beyond”, come and gain insights from the presenters and from fellow participants which will enhance your teaching and telling with older students.

**SUNDAY April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007**

Master Class - Peter Cook