

Workshops For the Adult Community

GETTING THE STORY OFF THE PAGE

Have you ever been moved by a story in print and retold it exactly as it was written, only to have it fall flat? For generations stories were passed on orally. The invention of the printing press required that those stories be translated into the written word. The nuance and subtlety of a live communication was translated into print. In order to help that story become three dimensional once again, you must blow the life back into it. This workshop will offer a model and practice at performing that very act.

2 hours

THE TECHNIQUES OF TELLING

The wonderful thing about story telling is that it is a folk art rather than a fine art. Far from having to balance on your toes or hit high C, all one has to do is figure out how **they** tell best. During this workshop we will play with and stretch all of your potential assets for making a story you love come alive. From dramatic use of your voice, an expressive body, an imagination that creates images in thin air, to dancing fingers, participants will play with techniques. Ultimately, you will emerge with a broader palette of expressive tools to choose from in your storytelling. 2-3 hours

HISTORY STORIES-BRINGING THE PAST ALIVE:

History books tell us the 'who' 'what' 'where' and 'when' of an event. They often venture a political, economic, social, or philosophical answer to the question 'why.' What they almost never include are the details that makes a piece of history into a story. That is the human 'why' and the idiosyncratic human details that elevate an anecdote from a text into a story that touches the heart. In this workshop you will learn how to take historic episodes and make them into vital stories.

2 hours

MASTER CLASS

During our time together each participant will have an opportunity to present material and receive coaching. The objective of this *Master Class* to help each teller find and develop their unique strengths. A rigorous and supportive environment is created through opening exercises, the structure of the feedback sessions, and the brief exercises or improvisations the entire group will frequently find themselves involved in as a response to their work.

Time depends upon the number of participants

DO IT YOURSELF.....*Making Stories from Your Life*

When you think of "story" in the classical sense everything from *Beuwolf* to *Little Red Riding Hood* comes to mind. These are tales filled with archetypes representing the ways of the world and deep moral lessons for growing. We have heard them. There are, however, other tales whose vibrations linger just as long, penetrate as deeply, and are already in your heart and mind to share. These are the stories of your life! During this workshop you will use a personal anecdote, or memory and shape a three dimensional story around it.

1-2 days

HER STORY

Until textbooks catch up with the reality of our past, stories must fill in the gaps. From Civil War heroines to Rosie the Riveter, Judith has carefully researched and written stories that reveal our untold past. In this workshop setting, she will model and have participants discover how they can use this exciting format to study women's history and create their own stories.

2 hours

GOD TALK...*Making Midrash*

From Buddha to Jesus, great theological thinkers have always used stories to communicate values and ideas. It is a powerful and immediate way to teach and to inspire. This workshop is for religious and lay people who wish to explore the Bible and communicate it's many stories from multiple vantage points. Using tales from the Torah participants develop their skills as adapters of 'the word.'

2 hours

BRINGING THE MUSEUM ALIVE

During this workshop participants will analyze the art, history, or environmental facts and messages they want to share with museum goers, and explore news ways of presenting facts and themes that will invest their listeners in the life of their museum.

2 hours

IN CHARACTER

Often an era, event, or historic movement is best brought to life by someone who lived through it. During our workshop participants will create a character for themselves who will draw listeners through their very personal vantage point on a specific time and place in history.

3 hours

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF FAIRY AND FOLK LORE IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOM

This is an approximately hour long lecture/demonstration. It is filled with humor, human experiences, and constant references to both Piaget and Erickson's scales of cognitive and emotional development. Topics covered include:

- The Child as Hero/Heroine of Their World
- Stories and Moral Development
- The Disney Revolution/Taking Back Our Stories
- Empowering the Imagination
- Creating Community Through Stories
- Addressing Social/Emotional Issue

1 hour lecture

IMPROVISING TALES

Let's Party! This is an interactive workshop during which participants stretch their imaginations and play. Your sense of the possible will grow as your inhibitions diminish, and you will emerge with wonderful ideas to initiate creative writing projects.

1 1/2 hours