

National Storytelling Network

GEORGIA 2025 CONFERENCE

RECORD CONFERENCE PROPOSAL NUMBERS AND FRINGE APPLICATION OPEN



Leslie Shelley & Rishi Nixon
Conference Co-Chairs
National Storytelling Network

Excitement is building as the outpouring of over 100 proposals — more than a healthy increase from last year — submitted to the Georgia 2025 National Storytelling Conference are being reviewed! Floored by the enthusiasm, our evaluators will have a *very* tough time putting together the program. Selections will be announced in January, prior to registration opening. Details on conference scholarships and volunteer opportunities are to come soon.

Weren't able to get a proposal in? Or interested in experimenting with a promising future program? We would also like to remind you that the Georgia 2025 National Storytelling **Fringe** is still accepting entries. Due December 13, 2024 at midnight PST, fringe entries can be emailed to fringe@storynet.org. Please make sure to read all [guidelines](#) carefully before making an entry.

We are excited to see you in the charming Southern college town of Kennesaw next year, and sincerely thank all who have submitted proposals and fringe entries. Keep Georgia on your mind!

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**NSN BOARD MEETINGS
ARE OPEN TO ALL
MEMBERS!**

Click [here](#) to read this month's and prior meeting minutes.

CLICK THE RED HALF OF
THE PAGE TO TURN BACK

CLICK THE BLUE HALF TO
TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

INTO THE DARK AND BACK



Delanna Reed
President & Chair of the Board of Directors
National Storytelling Network

For me, the change from Daylight Savings Time to standard time brought daylight to a screeching halt, foreshadowing the coming of winter. The Winter Solstice, December 21, will truly mark the shortest day of the year. Cold, dark nights bring a time of contemplation and reflection as we transition into a new year. At the same time, the holidays bustle with activities; traffic, travel, shopping, and parties. As we wind down the year at NSN, we haven't stopped working to strengthen our organization. Our Special Interest Groups have held their last workshops and meetings for the year, while looking and planning ahead for 2025. The national conference committee is reviewing presentation proposals for the July Atlanta conference and fringe applications are being accepted through December 13. The Fringe drawing occurs live on December 15 to select the winners. You can attend via Zoom and be the first to know! Click [here](#) to apply.

Thanks to generous donations earned through the fall online auction, we have the funds to reinstate the member grants in 2025! We will be announcing the opening of applications after the first of the year. In addition, NSN has donated to the Storyteller Relief Fund (SRF) managed by Artists Standing Strong Together (ASST, "assist") to aid storytellers impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, as well as other emergencies that come their way. If you need assistance, click [here](#) to apply now. The grants have been increased to \$500. We have a limited number of available grants, which is why we will continue to collect donations to that fund throughout the coming year. If you are able to donate, please click on the Donate button on the storynet.org homepage and direct your donations to storyteller disaster relief.

During this time of giving, consider giving your money and time to the National Storytelling Network. Your volunteer board is hard at work to provide services and community to storytellers around the country and the world. Please renew your membership and consider giving a little extra any time you can. If you can't spare the funds, you can volunteer to help on one of our committees by contacting board member Melissa Fees at info@storynet.org. (Put her name in the subject line.)

Thanks to NSN Treasurer Bob Johnson, I now know that if you are 70 ½ or older you can contribute to NSN and get credit for it on your tax return even if you cannot itemize. If you contribute directly from an IRA this will also count as your required minimum distribution (RMD). These are called Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD). You can satisfy some or all of your RMD and at the same time avoid paying tax on the distribution (which you would if you simply withdrew and sent us a check). Each state has different laws that can affect your contribution so be sure to check with a tax professional. You can [read IRS publication 590-B](#), page 13 for more details. Here is an [article](#) from Fidelity.



As we look at what is happening in our country and the world, we can grow discouraged by the darkness that surrounds us. But take heart – as storytellers we know the power of story to make the truth palatable and to bring hope instead of despair. As we enter the darkness of winter, let us remember that spring is sure to follow. May your holidays be filled with good food, good drink, good company, and joy.

UPDATE

TELLABRATION 2024 AND BEYOND

Many Tellablations were held this year: Concord, New Hampshire, presented by the Central New Hampshire Storytelling Guild; Ridgefield, CT Historical Society; June Bug Center in Floyd, VA presented by Let Me Tell Ya! And Blue Ridge Story Space; Resonance and National Youth Storytelling virtual event (Utah); Mo-Tell in St. Louis; McKinney Center in Jonesborough, TN; and 25 sites throughout Connecticut!

NSN would love to be able to promote all Tellabration events on our website. If you plan to host a Tellabration next year, do let us know at info@storynet.org.

Click [here](#) to read more history and info about Tellabration.

ANNOUNCEMENT

NSN STEWARDING THE RAY HICKS LEGACY FUND

The newly established committee for [the Ray Hicks Legacy Fund](#) is meeting regularly and there are great ideas percolating for 2025!

Members of the committee include: Adam Booth, Connie R. Blake, Elizabeth Ellis, Mary Hamilton, and Angela Lloyd (NSN Board member).



NSN WEBSITE NEWS

Dot@storynet.org

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DIRECTORY

- Go to the website <https://storynet.org/>
- Scroll down to the page and click the button that says Hire a Teller.
- Type Cleveland in the Name field.
- My profile will appear. This is how your profile will look.
- Now return to the homepage by clicking on the NSN icon at the top of the page.
- In the upper right corner, login to the website. If you have forgotten your password, there is a option to replace it. If you have forgotten your username, call me at 651-703-8191. DO NOT create a new profile.
- Once your are logged in, you will be transported to the Member Area.
- Look for the box titled Update Directory Info and click it.
- On the next page, click the red wording to update your listing.
- Complete any open fields especially your photo and website URL.
- Types of Stories - you may click any number of types that you perform.
- Then click Save.
- You will be transferred to the NSN homepage.
- Click on the Hire a Teller button and enter your last name in the Name field.
- This will bring up your profile. Review for accuracy and repeat this process to make any changes.
- When finished updating your profile, try a few searches to see what the directory is capable of presenting.



The "Hire A Teller" section of the website (www.storynet.org) has been updated and is now operational.

Tellers are beginning to add photos and types of storytelling to really enhance the use of the Directory.

If you would like to be part of the Directory, you must be an NSN member and pay an annual fee of \$20.

I invite you to do a few searches and see how easy it is to obtain information.

-Dot



[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)



Storytelling In Organizations Presents a Virtual Workshop
"StoryGrowth. Creating a Culture of Development
Through Storytelling and Story Work"

When:
Thursday
January 16, 2025

Time:
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. CST
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. EST

Where:
Zoom



Facilitator: Artem Mushin-Makedonskiy
Founder and CEO of Historia Academy

Goal: Participants will craft several story-based practices for creating and sustaining a culture of development

Objectives:

- Learn the role of storytelling and storywork in working with organizational culture;
- Discover key ideas that need to be transmitted through stories to sustain and create an environment that fosters skill development and personal growth;
- Learn how to structure a story that can transmit key ideas in a positive non-manipulative way;
- Discover how understanding the story structure can help people create their own story-based practices that maintain the culture of development of an organization



SIO Members: Free
Non-SIO Members: Free

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Storytelling In Organizations Presents a Virtual Presentation
"Lead with a Story: The Secret to Inspiring Leadership"

When:
Wednesday
February 19, 2025

Time:
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. CST
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. EST

Where:
Zoom



Facilitator: Michael Brundy
President of the Tejas Storytelling Association
President of the Dallas Storytelling Guild

Learn the secret to inspiring leadership, lead with a story!

In this engaging talk, packed with practical tips, real-life examples, and a dash of humor, you will learn how to use stories to build trust, connect with your team, inspire action, drive meaningful change, and lead with impact.



SIO Members: Free
Non-SIO Members: Free



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THE INSIDE STORY: STORYTELLING AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS

A LIVE IN-PERSON WORKSHOP
WITH HEATHER FOREST

DEC. 6, 2024

7:00PM-9:30PM

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

WORKSHOP TUITION \$35

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Pathway Through the Dark

Annual Fundraiser for www.storytelling.org

Sunday, December 8, 2024

7:00-8:30 pm CST

Tickets \$15 or Pay what
you are able



Margaret Burk
Kelly Campos
Janice Del Negro
Jane Dorfman
Rachel Ann Harding
Megan Wells



NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK
DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

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Traditions and Truth
A Virtual Open Mic
Featuring Angela Lloyd

Online – Saturday
December 7, 2024
7:00–8:30pm CST
Free – Donations Welcome

Email: jdelnegro@dom.edu for the Zoom link and/or if you are interested in telling a story (7-10) minutes)

STORYTELLING.ORG
DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

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Tell Me A Story

MO-TELL
MISSOURI STORYTELLING

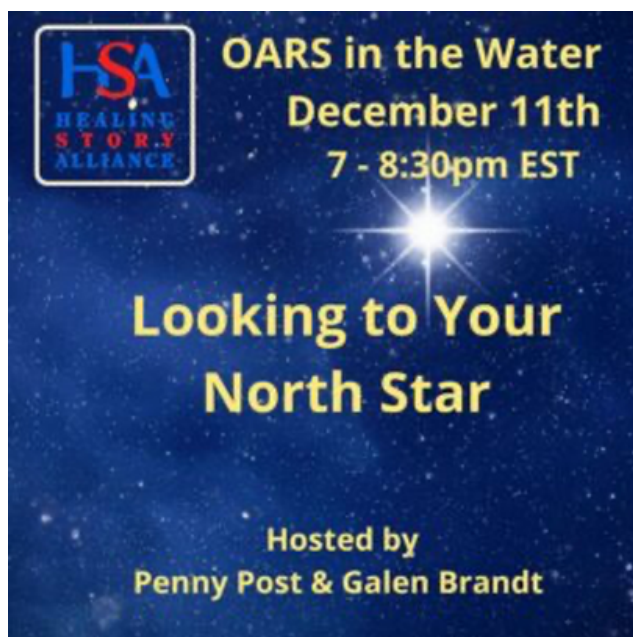
December 10, 2024
7:00 PM on Zoom

Featuring:
Linda Kuntz Brenda Lowe
Laura Packer Todd Wilkinson

www.MO-TELL.org

"We've heard it all before... we rejoice in the retelling!"

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HSA
HEALING
STORY
ALLIANCE

OARS in the Water
December 11th
7 - 8:30pm EST

Looking to Your
North Star

Hosted by
Penny Post & Galen Brandt

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RISK!

Live Show & Story Slam
at Caveat
in NYC and online
Monday, Dec 9th
at 7:00pm
Get tickets
and more information
at RISK-show.com/live

Hosted by Kevin Allison
With true stories by
Matthew Dicks,
Larry Dorsey Jr,
Valerie Ward
Three storytellers chosen
from the audience!

The hit true storytelling
show that Slate calls
"jaw-dropping, hilarious
and just plain touching!"



NATIONAL STORYTELLING CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2024 EVENTS

Kind Stories in Concert

Healing Story Alliance (HSA)

December 1, 2024 | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm EST

Traditions and Truth: An Open Mic Featuring Angela Lloyd

Storytelling.org and Dominican University

December 7, 2024 | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm CST

When Storytellers Write about Healing with Noa Baum

Healing Story Alliance (HSA)

December 8, 2024 | 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm CST

Pathway Through the Dark

Storytelling.org

December 8, 2024 | 7:00-8:30pm CST

RISK! Live Show and Slam in New York

December 9, 2024 | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm EST

Tell Me a Story

Missouri Storytelling (MO-TELL)

December 10, 2024 | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm CST

Oars in the Water: Looking to Your North Star

Healing Story Alliance (HSA)

December 11, 2024 | 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm EST

Grapevine Storytelling with Harold Feld and Jude Treder-Wolf

December 11, 2024 | 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm EST

Voices In the Glen Story Swap

December 14, 2024 | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm CST

'Twas the Night Before Solstice

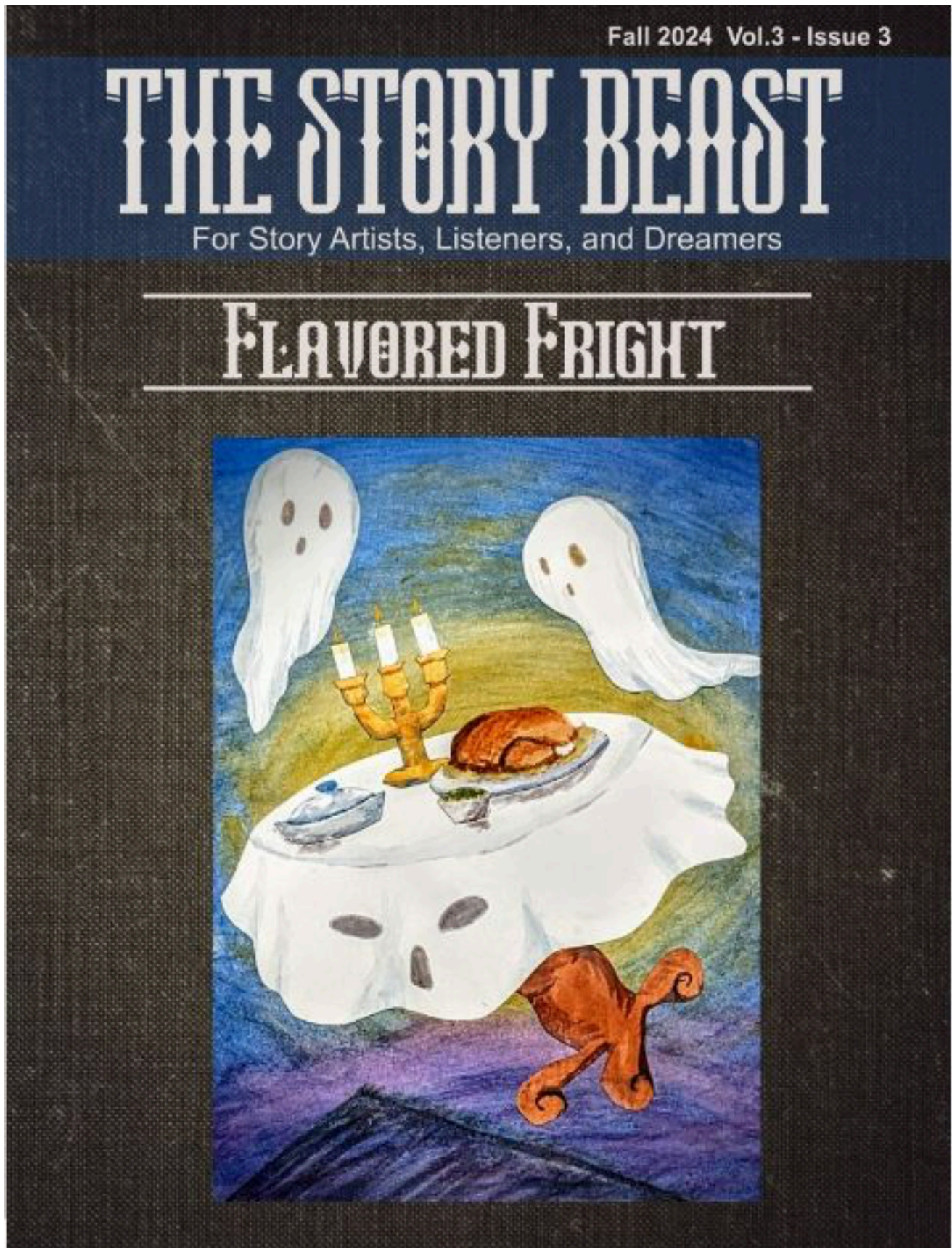
Seattle Storytellers Guild

December 20, 2024 | 7:00 pm PST



NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK
DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

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NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK
DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

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Rita Rigano	Copy Editor
Sara Armstrong	Copy Editor
Nick Smith	Editor
Cassie Selleck	Editor

HOW TO SUBMIT TO THE NEWSLETTER

Send us your events, articles, opportunities, storytelling or storyteller news, and more in an email to newsletter@storynet.org to go out to the national storytelling community!

1. Contributions due on the 25th of the month.
2. Membership in the National Storytelling Network *not* required.
3. Content subject to editing and inclusion in final issue not guaranteed.
4. If you are the author of your contribution, please also attach a headshot photo of yourself to go next to your byline.