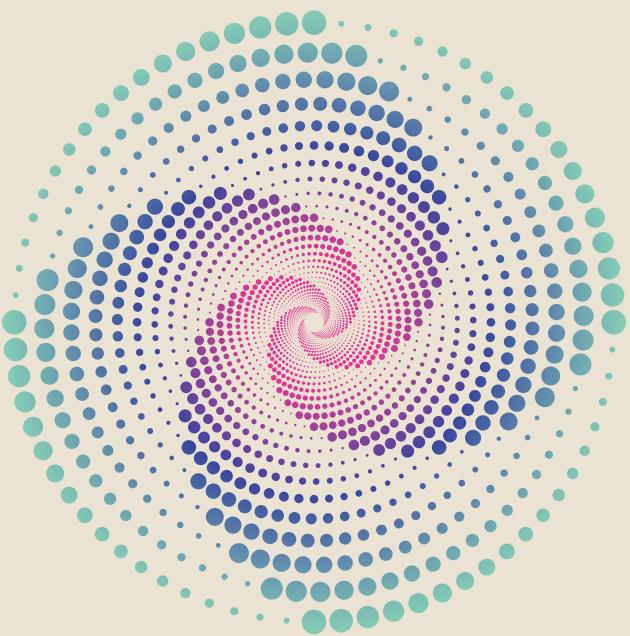


# 2022 Toronto International Storytelling Festival



# May 6–15, 2022

www.storytellingtoronto.org





May 6, 2022

Welcome to the 2022 Toronto Storytelling Festival!

In this moment of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and in the midst of international instability and uncertainty, the importance of sharing our perspectives and identities with others is all too clear. This endeavour, indeed, is at the heart of storytelling. By actively listening to stories, we are able to better understand one another and, in turn, create communities in which we can thrive and take pride.

I applaud all the artists gathered for this festival who will take us on journeys of the imagination. Engaging audiences of all ages through words is a skill that must always be nurtured and cherished.

As The Queen's representative in Ontario, my thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to make this event a success, including all the hardworking staff and volunteers. You all have my good wishes for an enjoyable and memorable festival.

6 Soudesurll

Elizabeth Dowdeswell





# Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone participating in the 2022 Toronto International Storytelling Festival hosted by Storytelling Toronto.

Best wishes to the participants from around the world who are gathering during this international festival to hear a series of virtual and live performances, workshops and meetings featuring Toronto storytellers and guests from around the world. I am pleased that this event will be accessible to listeners of all ages.

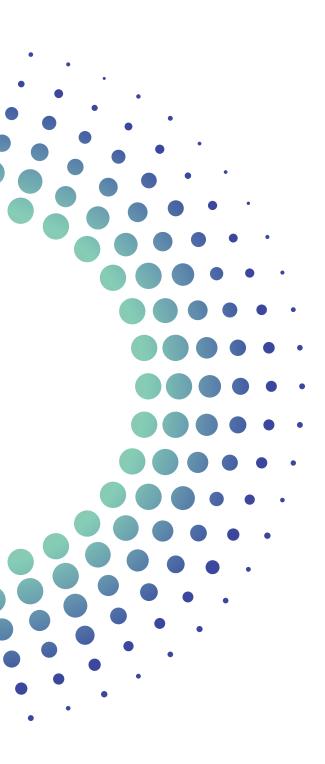
Events like these promote and encourage residents to participate in their community and connect with each other. I am delighted that wonderful events like yours are taking place in Toronto.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I thank the organizers and wish everyone an informative and enjoyable event.

Yours truly,

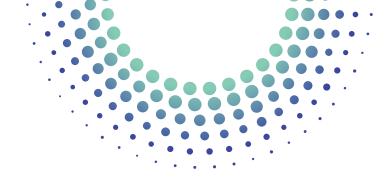
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John Tory Mayor of Toronto



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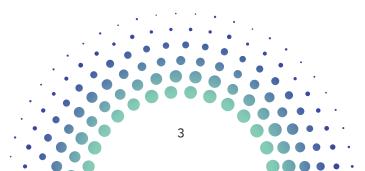


# Land Acknowledgement

Storytelling Toronto and the 2022 Toronto International Storytelling Festival operate on the ancestral and traditional territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabe, and the Huron-Wendat Nations; the original caretakers of this land. Toronto is covered by Treaty 13. We give thanks to the Nations who live, and have lived, and protected their territory against colonization, historically and today. Tkaronto, the meeting place, exists within the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant. The Dish with One Spoon is an agreement that describes how the land can be shared to the mutual benefit of all. Storytelling Toronto is committed to upholding this agreement, and to breaking down the structures that contribute to the erasure of Indigenous culture, by creating spaces for Indigenous voices, and other marginalized voices, to be heard and celebrated.



Photo: Joe Tamko



# Words from the Festival Producer



Storytelling Toronto co-founder Dan Yashinsky often calls Toronto the greatest crossroads city in the world. It is fitting since the name, Toronto, comes from the Mohawk word Tkaronto: the gathering place, where the trees meet the water. It is in this place where, historically, many

Nations, Native and non-Native, came together to trade goods and services, and to trade stories.

It is interesting how language evolves and words develop weight and meaning beyond their literal definitions, based on the cultural climate. "Gathering," for one, is a word we did not so often think about as having any moral or political connotations until recently. In this time of increased isolation and divide, it is gathering that we have been yearning for, and it is storytelling that we have needed more than ever. Telling stories gives us a reason to come together, to connect with one another, and to connect with ourselves. My vision for this year's festival is to create our own gathering place, both in person and online, whose literal and figurative walls we can fill with stories for Everyone. It is in this spirit that I brought on a diverse team of Curators, each responsible for a distinct element of the festival: Donna Dudinsky, Mariella Bertelli, Janet Marie Rogers, Paul Aflalo, Dwayne Morgan. Collectively, we have woven together a rich tapestry of form, style, and genres. I have been working with Outreach Coordinator Mandy MacLean on storytelling projects that will address the predicted learning loss for disproportionately impacted youth in our community. Inspired by the level of access achieved by the festival last year, I brought on Accessibility Coordinator Victoria Lacey to help us make strides in our efforts to create a welcoming space available to everyone. It is with this incredible team, and the passion and dedication of many more, that we bring to you the first fully hybrid festival: tellers appearing in person, digitally, streamed to your home, or projected into our venue; and events that you can attend in whichever way suits you - in person, online, or on demand.

So let us come together, in whatever capacity we are able to show up, for each other and for ourselves. Let us gather, and trade stories. In this way, we will give each other comfort, we will understand each other a little more, and, together, we can heal.

Michelle Urbano Festival Producer

# A Letter from the Executive Director





The 43rd Annual Toronto International Storytelling Festival promises to inspire and enthrall story-lovers everywhere, by showcasing the world's finest storytellers at our first ever hybrid Festival! In the spirit of collaboration and exceptional accessibility and outreach, I look forward to seeing

Michelle Urbano and her team's vision come to fruition over an incredible ten days. My sincerest gratitude goes to our funders at the Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage, the Toronto Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, and our generous audiences for making this event possible.

The Toronto International Storytelling Festival is Storytelling Toronto's biggest celebration of our beloved craft annually. I enthusiastically join the Storytelling Toronto Board of Directors and Michelle in welcoming all of Toronto and beyond to experience the wonder, intrigue, and meaning of the most immersive art form around. See you at the festival!

#### **Debra Baptiste**

**Executive Director** 

# A Note From the Board



The Toronto International Storytelling Festival has a long history of bringing together tellers and listeners from far and wide to celebrate the art of storytelling and to have a good time. Now in our 43rd year, we are not getting older, we are getting better.

This year's festival hosts

a kaleidoscope of stories and tellers from different places, traditions, and styles to entertain and inspire. Premiering a hybrid format, we are thrilled about the possibilities of showcasing the best in storytelling from around the world and from our hometown Toronto to a diverse and widespread audience. The board is confident in the leadership of Executive Director Debra Baptiste, and is excited to see Michelle Urbano and her team's vision come to life in May for 10 days of stories and wonder.

Storytelling Toronto is grateful to our funders at the Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage, the Toronto Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, and to our generous audiences for making this event possible. On behalf of all of us at Storytelling Toronto: Welcome to Toronto and to the joy, connection, and inspiration of oral storytelling.

See you at the festival!

**Rensia Melles** Board President

# Festival Team

**Executive Director** Debra Baptiste

**Festival Producer** Michelle Urbano

**Producer of Digital Projects** Paul Aflalo

Outreach & Sponsorship Mandy E. MacLean

Accessibility Coordinator Victoria Lacey Indigenous Advisor Janet Marie Rogers

#### Curators

Donna Dudinsky Dwayne Morgan Janet Marie Rogers Mariella Bertelli Paul Aflalo

**Social Media** Nina Spadafora **Content Creator** Natalia Tsygankova

**Graphic Designer** Kostis Petridis

Public Relations Damien Nelson

**Volunteer Coordinator** Zita Nyarady

Set Design & Space Animation Red Pepper Spectacle Arts

# Curators' Notes

## **DONNA DUDINSKY**



When the pandemic began, storytellers and artists everywhere wondered when and how they would ever get to share their work, their passion. Then, little by little, storytellers began to tell stories online and a whole world came together. It has been a privilege to see and hear storytellers I had hither-

to only read about. And it is a privilege to have been asked to bring some of these tellers to the Festival this year. With such a world to draw from, the choices were informed by the range, the heart, the versatility, and talent that comes shining through each of them. Master storytellers Sheila Arnold and Raphael Rodan will be here in person. Alton Chung, Shonaleigh Cumbers and Mara Menzies join us online. Five tellers from three continents share their message of connection through stories of the past and the present.

An award-winning documentary film producer, Donna Dudinsky gave up the world of film and television for the world of storytelling. She's been telling stories professionally, in English and in French, for more than 20 years. Telling old tales to the young at heart, she specializes in folk tales from around the world, often blending music into her performances with a variety of French-Canadian folk songs and traditional ballads. Donna has told at storytelling festivals, schools, libraries, and concerts across Canada and was selected for Canadian Children's Book Week. A frequent host and teller at 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling, an organizer of concerts live and online (including Toronto Tells and Dream in High Park), Donna works tirelessly to promote the art. Since the pandemic began, Donna has been invited to perform at concerts in England, the U.S. and India. She currently runs Storytelling Toronto's StoryTent, a weekly open mic story session where everyone is welcome to share a story.

#### **DWAYNE MORGAN**



As spoken word artists, we don't always get the opportunity to stretch the definition of what a spoken word performance can be. Through this showcase, the hope is to ignite a new imagining of the diversity that is the spoken word.

Dwayne Morgan began his career in the spoken word in 1993.

Affectionally called the Godfather of Canadian spoken word by his peers, Morgan is the author of 13 published and 9 audio collections of his work. Morgan is a 2021 finalist for the Toronto Arts Foundation Margo Bindhardt and Rita Davies Award, 2016 finalist for the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts and a 2013 inductee into the Scarborough Walk of Fame. To date Morgan has shared his work in 18 countries internationally.

#### **JANET MARIE ROGERS**



I could make many statements, all profound and significantly reflective, about the importance of storytelling and the major part it plays in cultivating and perpetuating Indigenous cultural identity. But I trust that as an evolved society, we know parts, if not all, of this history because we continue to celebrate the

practice and the storytellers today, from all heritages. So I think what I can add to our collective narrative is that, given the opportunity to hear a good story, we will listen. And it is in the act of listening where the alchemy of compassion, unification, empathy, and authentic exchange is born, where we allow ourselves to be affected and sometimes changed forever. To value the role of the storyteller is to value the role of the listener too. It is a powerful ecosystem. And I am proud to have played a part in bringing Indigenous storytelling programming to you. Janet Marie Rogers is a Mohawk/Tuscarora writer, media producer, and performance poet living on Six Nations of the Grand River territory where she operated Ojistoh Publishing and Productions. She helped produce and host the first Indigenous Ongwehoweh Storytellers Festival with Six Nations Polytechnic in August 2021. The Festival brought together all Indigenous artists who tell stories in song, film, spoken word, as well as traditional Indigenous stories for children and adults. Janet has 7 published poetry books and several video poems which have screened widely in festivals throughout the world. In 2020 Janet's media poem, Ego of a Nation, won Best Music Video with the American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco and in 2021 Janet won the Best Experimental Sound prize at the imagineNATIVE Film and Media Festival in Toronto.

#### MARIELLA BERTELLI



Stories...I love stories. Story-making and storytelling have been with us since the beginning of time. Curating this event has been for me a way to honour this human tradition, this human need. On Sunday, May 8, "words take flight." We will dive deep into the world of stories by listening to words — stories — told

and printed and then told again. We will listen to storytellers who are also authors, making their books come alive; or authors/storytellers, their stories told by other storytellers. We will listen to stories saved in books centuries ago, and others newly created. As we listen together, our minds will clear, our hearts will open like a child. This is the power of stories.

Mariella believes in the power of stories to transform and inspire, for stories are like links in a chain that connect us together now but also to the past. A versatile teller with a wide repertoire of folk, fairy, literary and family tales, Mariella adapts her craft to suit young and older audiences. A storytelling teacher, workshop leader and a speaker on storytelling, Mariella is active in the international storytelling community. An advocate for children and young people's rights to stories, literacy and information, Mariella has participated through IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People), on a variety of projects to achieve this equality. Mariella continues to be fascinated by the world of stories, both written and told. She loves to bring different voices together, weaving threads of stories from a variety of cultures.

#### **PAUL AFLALO**



It was over a decade ago that I was first introduced to true personal storytelling... on stage. Before that I had already been telling stories through the fiction and documentary films I had produced. But when I was sitting in the audience listening to people sharing their own lived experience on

stage in front of all of us, a connection that was felt throughout the room. I was hooked ever since, and began telling stories on stage and also producing connecting with people from around the world with every story I told. Building those connections between storytellers and audiences, which in turn inspires more people (just like me) to then share their own stories is what motivates the show I curated for the 43rd Toronto International Storytelling Festival. Take a moment, listen and connect.

Paul Aflalo is a storyteller and documentary producer who creates narrative-driven pieces for film, radio, and the stage. He is the artistic director of Replay Storytelling, an all-true storytelling series based in Toronto, and is also the founder of the 24-hour True Storytelling Festival. Paul has performed on stages across Canada, United States, and Europe. His radio and film work have been featured on CBC, BBC, and film festivals around the world.

# Accessibility

Storytelling Toronto is committed to creating a safe, welcoming, and accessible space during all of our festival programming.

# **PHYSICAL ACCESS**

All of our programming this year will be taking place at the Tranzac, located at Bloor and Brunswick. This venue is wheelchair accessible — you can find out more information by checking out the Tranzac's visual venue guide.

# PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKERS

Personal Support Workers will be admitted free of charge when supporting a person with a disability. Please contact our box office if you need to add a support person to your ticket order, or simply let us know when you purchase your tickets at the door.

# **AUDITORY ACCESS**

Storytelling Toronto recognizes the power of gathering to share stories, myths, and folktales in their many forms. However, we also recognize that the oral delivery of these tales can be inaccessible to those in our community that are d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing. We are committed to providing the following measures to make each event as accessible as possible:

- All storytellers will be utilizing a microphone to amplify their voice as much as possible.
- Priority first-row seating will be made available to audience members that need to be close to our tellers for hearing or lip-reading purposes.
- ASL Interpretation, where possible, will be available on a request basis during many of our shows and workshops. As such, if you require an ASL interpreter to ensure your full inclusion during any of our programming, please contact our Accessibility Coordinator, Victoria Lacey, at access@storytellingtoronto. org. While we strive to meet every request, please note that time constraints, availability of interpreters, and the nature of some performances may not make all bookings possible. Please get in touch with us as soon as possible to allow for time to arrange qualified interpreters for your desired event.

# **SENSORY ACCESS**

All of our free family programming events will be sensory friendly for those who prefer to experience storytelling in a more relaxed environment. At these events,

- House lights will remain on at all times.
- Movement, noise, and exit/re-entry are welcome at any point.
- Stories will be family friendly in nature and free of abrupt sounds / visual effects.

# **FINANCIAL ACCESS**

Storytelling Toronto is a registered charity that relies on ticket sales to keep our programming alive year-round. We have carefully priced our tickets to keep costs as low as possible for our patrons, while still supporting our dedicated storytellers and staff.

With that being said, we do not want cost to be a barrier to anyone experiencing the power of storytelling. We have a pay-what-you-can system in place that allows everyone to pay what they can afford. We invite you to purchase a ticket at whatever price is accessible for you.

If you have any questions or concerns about the accessibility at Storytelling Toronto, please contact our Accessibility Coordinator, Victoria Lacey, at access@ storytellingtoronto.org



Photo: Joe Tamko

# SHEILA ARNOLD (USA)



Master Storyteller Sheila Arnold has been gifted by God with performance skills and has been using this talent since she was eight years old. She has been a full-time Storyteller since 2003 sharing a variety of stories -"whatever fits in her mouth". She

travels throughout the country providing Stories, Historic Character Presentations, Christian Monologues and Professional Development for Educators to schools, churches, libraries, organizations and Storytelling Festivals. Sheila is often interactive, and many times intersperses stories with song.

### **Appearing:**

- Sat May 7 10:30am EDT Animal Tales
- Sat May 7 5:30pm EDT The Cost of a Dream
- Mon May 9 3:00pm EDT Dressing Up the Story
- Mon May 9 8:00pm EDT African-American: Keeping Heritage Alive
- Fri May 13 8:00pm EDT Gala Concert: Stories for Everyone
- Sat May 14 7:30pm EDT Two Tellers from Away
- Sat May 14 10:00pm EDT Dirty X Filthy X Stories X
- Sun May 15 12:00pm EDT Masterclass: Folktales, Fairy Tales, & Social Justice

# **RAPHAEL RODAN (THE NETHERLANDS)**



Raphael Rodan is an

award-winning theatre maker and storyteller. His training as an artist lasted over ten years. Together with Sahand Sahebdivani, he created hit storytelling shows like the winner of the Amsterdam Fringe 2017: "My

Father Held a Gun", about the nature of war. His work has received international recognition, playing in theatres and festivals all over Europe. Apart from writing and performing, Raphael also teaches. He is the co-founder of the Mezrab Storytelling School, working both with ancient and personal stories and examining the connection between them.

## **Appearing:**

- Tues May 10 8:00pm EDT We Are the Stories We Tell
- Wed May 11 5:30pm EDT The Donkey's Jaw
- Fri May 12 12:00pm EDT Masterclass: Personalizing a Folk Tale
- Fri May 13 8:00pm EDT Gala Concert: Stories for Everyone
- Sat May 14 7:30pm EDT Two Tellers from Away

# **ISAAC MURDOCH (CUTLER, ON)**



Isaac Murdoch, whose Ojibway name is Manzinapkinegego'anaabe / Bombgiizhik is from the fish clan and is from Serpent River First Nation. He currently lives in the forest at Nimkii Aazhibikong, an Indigenous community that focuses on

Indigenous language, art, and land based activities. Isaac is well respected as a storyteller and traditional knowledge holder. For many years he has led various workshops and cultural camps that focus on the transfer of knowledge to youth. Other areas of expertise include: traditional Ojibway paint, imagery/symbolism, harvesting, medicine walks and ceremonial knowledge, cultural camps, Anishinaabeg oral history, birch bark canoe making, birch bark scrolls, Youth & Elders workshops, etc. He has committed his life to the preservation of Anishinaabe cultural practices and has spent years learning directly from Elders.

#### Appearing:

- Thurs May 12 5:30pm EDT Bomgiizhik, Indigenous Storytelling
- Fri May 13 8:00pm EDT Gala Concert: Stories for Everyone
- Sat May 14 5:00pm EDT Indigenous Storytellers Super-Group

Photo Credit: Karl Romedius Giesriegl

### **DEVAN SANDIFORD (USA)**



Devan Sandiford was born and raised in a small city in Southern California and spent his childhood and young adult years keeping his personal stories hidden from almost everyone. Then feeling a voice within him longing to be heard, he moved to Brooklyn, NY

with his wife and their two sons, hoping to push himself out of his comfort zone and find the power in his voice. Devan is now a published writer, an award-winning storyteller, and the program manager of community engagement at The Moth. Devan's stories have been featured in the Washington Post, The Moth Radio Hour and Podcast, Speak Up Storytelling, Writing Class Radio, and elsewhere. Devan has contributed his opinions on parenting, race, and identity for The New York Times and Washington Post.

#### **Appearing:**

- Mon May 9 7:00pm EDT Words Matter: Discovering the Power in Your True Story
- Thurs May 12 8:00pm EDT As True as Possible
- Fri May 13 8:00pm EDT Gala Concert: Stories for Everyone
- Sat May 14 1:00pm EDT Words Matter: Discovering the Power in Your True Story
- Sun May 15 3:00pm EDT The Great Debate

#### NISHA COLEMAN (MONTREAL, QC)



Nisha Coleman is a writer, storyteller, musician and actor based in Montreal. Her work has been featured on the CBC, The Moth Radio Hour, Risk!, and Wiretap among others. Her latest solo show, Alright: Solving the Problem of Living, was filmed in

an oak tree and is available online. She is the co-founder of Strand Storytelling school. Nisha's memoir Busker: Stories from the Streets of Paris was published by Radiant Press in 2016. She is currently working on a novel, a screenplay, a children's book and a solo show in French.

#### **Appearing:**

• Thurs May 12 - 8:00pm EDT As True as Possible

#### **ALTON CHUNG (USA)**



Japanese-Korean storyteller Alton Takiyama-Chung, grew up with the superstitions and the magic of the Hawaiian Islands. He tells stories from Hawaii, Asian folktales, ghost stories, stories from the Japanese-American experience of WWII, the Plantation Days

in Hawaii, and the immigration of the Chinese into the US. He has performed at the Timpanogas and the National Storytelling Festivals, and at international storytelling festivals in the Cayman Islands, Singapore, Vietnam, India, and Thailand. He also is a former Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Storytelling Network, the national organization for storytellers in the US.

#### Appearing:

- Tues May 10 5:00pm EDT SHARKS, TIGERS, AND AN OGRE OR TWO! - Hawaiian Legends and Asian Folktales
- Thurs May 12 3:00pm EDT Come Together
- Fri May 13 8:00pm EDT Gala Concert: Stories for Everyone

### SHONALEIGH CUMBERS (ENGLAND)



A Drut'syla (storyteller) and tradition-bearer from the Yiddish oral tradition, Shonaleigh has been telling stories within the secular world for almost 30 years across Europe, North America and New Zealand. She was shortlisted for the Arts Founda-

tion Award in 2009 and was UK deputy National Storytelling Laureate 2010-12. She performs from the Barbican to Burngreave Village Hall, from the Albert Hall to Albert Park in Unstone, from the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough to the local Netherthorpe Library, and all the points in between.

#### Appearing:

- Mon May 9 12:30pm EDT Talk: Walking Through Story
- Tues May 10 8:00pm EDT We Are the Stories We Tell
- Thurs May 12 3:00pm EDT Come Together

# MARA MENZIES (KENYA)



Mara Menzies is an award-winning performance storyteller and narrative artist, drawing on her rich, dual Kenyan/Scottish cultural heritage to create worlds that explore contemporary issues through legend, myth, and fantasy. In her

inimitable style, she takes audiences on voyages of discovery across lands both familiar and new to the imagination. She fuses ancient and modern in an intoxicating experience where the audience takes centre stage leading to invitations to perform across the world and to create bespoke stories for those who dare to step into the world of fantasy.

### **Appearing:**

- Mon May 9 12:00pm EDT Workshop: Crafting the Story
- Wed May 11 12:00pm EDT Magical Stories
- Thurs May 12 3:00pm EDT Come Together

# **ALBERT DUMONT (OTTAWA, ON)**



Albert Dumont, "South Wind", is a Poet, Storyteller, Speaker, and an Algonquin Traditional Teacher. He was born in traditional Algonquin Territory (Kitigan Zibi). He has been walking the "Red Road" since commencing his sobriety in

1988. He was named Ottawa's Poet Laureate in April 2021.

#### **Appearing:**

- Sat May 14 11:00am EDT Workshop: Tales, Legends and Lore - part 1
- Sat May 14 1:30pm EDT Workshop: Tales, Legends and Lore - part 2

# **RICHARD VAN CAMP (EDMONTON, AB)**



Richard Van Camp is a proud Tłįchǫ Dene from Fort Smith, NWT. He is the author of 26 books in 26 years. He is a Dogrib Tłįchǫ writer of the Dene nation from Fort Smith, Northwest Territories. He is best known for his 1996 novel The

Lesser Blessed, which was adapted into a film by director Anita Doron in 2012. He is an internationally renowned storyteller and best-selling author who recently released a storytellers handbook called Gather. He is the author of five collections of short stories, six baby books, three children's books, five comics and much more.

#### **Appearing:**

• Sat May 14 - 3:30pm EDT - Talk: Richard Van Camp, the Basics of Indigenous Storytelling

Photo: Joe Tamko



Concert 
 Workshop 
 Talk

All times are in Eastern Daylight Time

Workshop Fees: Regular / Student & Seniors

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOC	FEE	PG
Fri Apr 29	8:00 PM	• Talking Stick: The Story is the Star	Z	FREE	19
Fri May 6	5:30 PM	<ul> <li>Opening Ceremony: Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	19
	7:00 PM	• Story & Song	MH & O	FREE	19
	8:00 PM	• The Talking Stick: The Story is the Star	Z	FREE	19
Sat May 7	See pg. 14	<ul> <li>Saturday StoryJam</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	19
	12:30 PM	<ul> <li>Danveer Karan - The Hero of Mahabharata</li> </ul>	0	\$10	20
	1:00 PM	• StoryTent	Z	FREE	20
	2:00 PM	• The Storyteller's Fire	MH & O	\$15	20
	2:00 PM	<ul> <li>Intro to Storytelling</li> </ul>	Z	PWYC (SUG. \$30)	17
	3:30 PM	Unforgettable Moments	MH & O	\$15	20
	5:30 PM	<ul> <li>Intro to Spoken Word</li> </ul>	LR	PWYC (SUG. \$30)	17
	5:30 PM	• The Cost of a Dream	MH & O	\$20	20
	7:30 PM	<ul> <li>Queering Toronto: Queers in Your Ears, New Stories, New Voices</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$25	21
	10:00 PM	<ul> <li>Comedy Night at the Festival</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$20	21
Sun May 8	Full day, see pg. 15	<ul> <li>Words Take Flight</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	21
	12:00 PM	<ul> <li>Masterclass – Developing Your Solo Show - with Ali Hassan</li> </ul>	LR	\$100 / \$75	17
	4:00 PM	• But it's so silly	MH & O	FREE	16
	6:00 PM	<ul> <li>Good Grief – The Heart of the Matter</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$15	22
	8:00 PM	<ul> <li>But That's Another Story</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$15	22
Mon May 9	12:00 PM	• Crafting the Story	Z	\$40 / \$25	17
	3:00 PM	<ul> <li>Dressing Up the Story</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$15	16
	5:30 PM	<ul> <li>Truth, Trust and Pixie Dust</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$20	22
	7:00 PM	• Words Matter: Discovering the Power in Your True Story	Z	\$60 / \$40	17
	8:00 PM	• African-American: Keeping Heritage Alive	MH & O	\$25	23
Tue May 10	11:00 AM	<ul> <li>Sparking Stories: Baycrest@Home Storytelling Club</li> </ul>	Z	FREE	23
	12:30 PM	Walking Through Story	0	\$15	16
	2:00 PM	<ul> <li>Developing Inner Monologue</li> </ul>	Z	\$35 / \$25	17

MH: Tranzac Main Hall, LR: Tranzac Living Room, O: Online, Z: Zoom, JCC: Prosserman Jewish Community Centre, G: The Garison

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOC	FEE	PG
Tue May 10 (cont.)	5:00 PM	<ul> <li>SHARKS, TIGERS, AND AN OGRE OR TWO! - Hawaiian Legends and Asian Folktales</li> </ul>	0	\$20	23
	6:30 PM	<ul> <li>Wondertales and Wild Encounters</li> </ul>	0	\$15	23
	7:00 PM	<ul> <li>Intro to Spoken Word</li> </ul>	Z	PWYC (SUG. \$30)	17
	8:00 PM	• We Are the Stories We Tell	JCC & O	\$20	23
Wed May 11	12:00 PM	Magical Stories	0	\$15	23
	2:00 PM	• Growing the Narrative	Z	\$35 / \$25	18
	4:00 PM	Ancient Melodies	MH & O	\$15	24
	5:30 PM	<ul> <li>The Donkey's Jaw</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$25	24
	8:00 PM	<ul> <li>Replay Storytelling presents Fast Forward</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$15	24
Thu May 12	3:00 PM	Come Together	0	\$20	24
	5:30 PM	<ul> <li>Bomgiizhik, Indigenous Storytelling</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$25	24
	8:00 PM	• As True as Possible	MH & O	\$25	24
Fri May 13	12:00 PM	<ul> <li>Masterclass: Personalizing a Folk Tale</li> </ul>	LR	\$100 / \$75	18
	5:30 PM	<ul> <li>Spoken Melodies</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$25	25
	6:30 PM	<ul> <li>1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling at the Festival</li> </ul>	LR	FREE	25
	8:00 PM	<ul> <li>Gala Concert: Stories for Everyone</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$35	25
Sat May 14	10:00 AM	<ul> <li>Share-a-Rhyme</li> </ul>	MH	FREE	25
	11:00 AM	<ul> <li>Tales, Legends and Lore - part 1</li> </ul>	Z	\$50 / \$35	18
	11:30 AM	<ul> <li>Stories from the Shadow of Mount Ararat</li> </ul>	Z	\$15	25
	1:00 PM	• The Best of StoryTent	Z	FREE	25
	1:00 PM	<ul> <li>Words Matter: Discovering the Power in Your True Story</li> </ul>	LR	\$60 / \$40	18
	1:30 PM	<ul> <li>Tales, Legends and Lore - part 2</li> </ul>	Z	\$50 / \$35	18
	2:00 PM	<ul> <li>I Won't Go. You Can't Make Me.</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$15	26
	3:30 PM	<ul> <li>Richard Van Camp, the Basics of Indigenous Storytelling</li> </ul>	Z	\$20	16
	5:00 PM	<ul> <li>Indigenous Storytellers Super-Group</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$25	26
	7:30 PM	<ul> <li>Two Tellers from Away</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$25	26
	10:00 PM	<ul> <li>Dirty X Filthy X Stories X</li> </ul>	MH & O	\$20	26

# Concert Workshop Talk

Workshop Fees: Regular / Student & Seniors

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOC	FEE	PG
Sun May 15	See below	<ul> <li>Sunday StoryJam</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	26
	12:00 PM	• Masterclass: Folktales, Fairy Tales, & Social Justice	LR	\$100 / \$75	18
	2:00 PM	• Rascal Bingo!	Z	\$10 PER BINGO CARD	27
	3:00 PM	• The Great Debate	MH & O	FREE	16
	5:00 PM	• Tales of Revolution	MH & O	\$25	27
	7:00 PM	Closing Ceremony	MH & O	FREE	27
Mon May 16	7:30 PM	• True Stories Told Live Toronto	G	FREE	27

# SATURDAY STORYJAM

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOC	FEE	PG
Sat May 7	10:00 AM	<ul> <li>"The Song of the Hermit Thrush"</li> <li>A Mohawk story &amp; games session for children</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	20
	10:30 AM	Animal Tales	MH & O	FREE	20
	11:00 AM	Breaking Free	MH & O	FREE	20

# SUNDAY STORYJAM

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOC	FEE	PG
Sun May 15	10:00 AM	• Teddy Bear Picnic	MH & O	FREE	26
	10:30 AM	<ul> <li>Reinventing Ourselves in a New Country</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	26
	11:00 AM	<ul> <li>"Onkwahétakon" In the Garden - Mohawk stories, songs &amp; games</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	26
	11:30 AM	<ul> <li>The Emperor's New Clothes: A Toy Theatre Delight</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	27
	12:00 PM	<ul> <li>Unlikely Heroes</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	27
	1:00 PM	• Tales of Enchantment	MH & O	FREE	27

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOC	FEE	PG
Sun May 8	10:00 AM	Welcome and Introduction	MH & O	FREE	21
	10:10 AM	• I Bring You a Story	MH & O	FREE	21
	10:30 AM	<ul> <li>Cake and Mice and Everything Nice</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	21
	10:50 AM	• Hojarasquin del Monte. A rabbit tale.	MH & O	FREE	21
	11:10 AM	Beaver Tales	MH & O	FREE	21
	11:30 AM	<ul> <li>Tales of Clever and Foolish Animals</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	22
	12:00 PM	<ul> <li>Bagels and Borscht: A Nosh of Aubrey Davis' Stories</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	22
	12:30 PM	• The Paper Boat. A Refugee Story	MH & O	FREE	22
	1:15 PM	Break			
	1:30 PM	<ul> <li>Likkle Miss Lou finds her Voice</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	22
	2:15 PM	<ul> <li>Jeremy and the Jello Boy</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	22
	2:45 PM	<ul> <li>ShhReaching Across</li> </ul>	MH & O	FREE	22

# WORDS TAKE FLIGHT

# ON DEMAND

<ul> <li>Good Gyn, Bad Gyn: Women's Health Stories</li> </ul>	0	PWYC (Sug. \$10)	28
<ul> <li>The 28th Katari Japanese Storytelling Show – "Heavenly Dancing"</li> </ul>	0	FREE	28



Photo: Joe Tamko

# Talks

# SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

# 4:00pm - 5:00pm

# But it's so silly...

JonArno Lawson will share his thoughts and reflections about his book "But it's so silly...A cross-cultural collage of nonsense, play and poetry", talking with Celia Barker Lottridge about the power of language, rhymes, imagination and creativity.

### Artists

JonArno Lawson Celia Lottridge

Curated by Mariella Bertelli

<b>Tickets</b>	<mark>Ages</mark>
Free	All Ages
Venue	

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022

3:00pm - 4:30pm

# **Dressing Up the Story**

Audiences will gain great insights into character-centered storytelling when Jenny Blackbird and Sheila Arnold come together in conversation to share their processes and inspirations in their storytelling work. Jenny Blackbird is very much a character performer who draws from her Cree (nêhiyaw) heritage and cultural knowledge. One of her signature storytelling characters is a Kokum woman (elder) who likes to share teachings and crafty lessons using voice, costume, and toughlove mannerisms. Sheila Arnold does historic presentations of eight different women. Today we meet Oney Judge, a personal maidservant of Martha Washington who shares her life at the Washington home and tells of her run for freedom.

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers, Donna Dudinsky

#### Artists

Sheila Arnold Jenny Blackbird

#### Tickets \$15

Ages All Ages

## Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022

12:30pm - 1:30pm

# Walking Through Story

Shonaleigh is a dedicated and committed storyteller actively working to expand and share the Drut'syla tradition. This tradition of telling thousands of traditional stories originated in the Netherlands and was passed on for centuries through generations of Jewish women. Shonaleigh, from the age of four, was taught the stories by her Bubbe (grandmother), Edith Marks. She now has a repertoire of over three thousand. "In the same way a silversmith must learn the nature of silver and a carpenter must learn the nature of wood, a storyteller must learn the nature of stories," says Shonaleigh. She shares a tale and talks with Eden Nameri about the tradition.

# Artists

Shonaleigh Cumbers Hosted by Eden Nameri

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

Tickets \$15 Ages All Ages

Venue Online

# **SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022**

3:30pm - 4:30pm

# Richard Van Camp, the Basics of Indigenous Storytelling

An expert storyteller shares his journey to becoming one of his Nation's most celebrated contemporary storytellers today. You will learn processes and protocols for collecting stories and how to gain permissions for sharing stories told by others. This storyteller will inform, educate and delight you with stories from his northern Indigenous community. You will be introduced to his recently released storytellers handbook, Gather, published by University of Regina Press.

# Artists

Richard Van Camp

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers

Tickets \$20 Ages All Ages

Venue Zoom

# SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

# 3:00pm - 4:00pm

# The Great Debate

Traditional stories or Personal True stories? Where does your passion and heart lie? These skillful tellers will entice you with their wit and skill as they take up the mantle of the opposing side. True Personal Tellers vs Traditional Tellers — each hoping the other team will win!

# Artists

Rensia Melles Briane Nasimok Devan Sandiford Dan Yashinsky

Hosted by Asaf Gerchak

Curated by Paul Aflalo

Tickets Free

#### <mark>Ages</mark> All Ages

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# Workshops

# **SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022**

# 2:00pm - 4:00pm

# Intro to Storytelling

With riddles, rhymes and partnered activities, Ruth Danziger and Marylyn Peringer will give participants a scaled-down version of First Steps Into the Art of Storytelling. Join the circle and see how much fun you can have when you become a storyteller!

### Artists

**Ruth Danziger** Marylyn Peringer

Ages PWYC (Sug. \$30) Adults Only

Venue Zoom

**Tickets** 

# 5:30pm - 6:45pm

# Intro to Spoken Word

Curious about the spoken word? Ever wanted to try your hand at it? This intro to the spoken word will get your creative juices going, as Dwayne Morgan brings you through the writing, editing, and performance phases of spoken word creation and performance.

#### Artists

Dwayne Morgan

**Tickets** PWYC (Sug. \$30) Ages Adults Only

Venue Tranzac Living Room

# **SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022**

12:00pm - 3:00pm

# Masterclass: **Developing Your Solo Show**

Comedian, actor, and radio & television personality Ali Hassan offers this hands-on 3 hour workshop, tackling a variety of comedy-related subjects - including Writing Techniques, Point of View, Performance, Channeling Creativity - all towards building a One-Person Show.

# Artists

Ali Hassan

**Tickets** \$100 Regular / \$75 Students & Seniors Aaes

Adults Only

Venue Tranzac Living Room

# **MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022**

# 12:00pm - 1:00pm

# **Crafting the Story**

Join Kenyan/Scottish performance storyteller Mara Menzies as she explores the way she fuses real-world events with the magic of myth and fantasy. Drawing from her show Blood and Gold, she shares some of her influences, including events portrayed in the media, traditional folktales that take on new symbolism, as well as memories passed down from her own personal history. Filled with humour, moments to contemplate and opportunities for you to tell a story, this interactive workshop is suitable for all who wish to know how to craft a story.

# Artists

Mara Menzies

Tickets \$40 Regular/ \$25 Students & Seniors Aaes Adults Only

Venue Zoom

# 7:00pm - 9:00pm

# Words Matter: Discovering the Power in Your True Story

There is power in sharing your personal stories—the power to spark meaningful connections, to deepen self-awareness, and even to inspire social change. Drawing from his experience of transforming from a shy adolescent who repressed all of his personal stories to a published writer, award-winning storyteller, and program manager of community engagement at The Moth, Devan Sandiford provides how to identify compelling stories, find the heart of what you're trying to say, and engage and maintain listeners' attention. Through this process participants will gain a better understanding of how leaning into the distinctiveness of their own voice can empower individual and collective change.

### Artists

Devan Sandiford

**Tickets** Ages \$60 Regular/ Adults Only \$40 Students & Seniors

Venue Zoom

# **TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022**

1:00pm - 2:30pm

# **Developing Inner Monologue**

How does trying to determine a character's inner experience add to our understanding of a story? In this workshop we will use our imagination to determine the essence of a character that might not be readily apparent from the story lines.

#### Artists

**Tickets** 

**Bob Barton** 

Ages \$35 Regular / Adults Only \$25 Students & Seniors

Venue 700m

# 7:00pm - 8:15pm

# Intro to Spoken Word

Curious about the spoken word? Ever wanted to try your hand at it? This intro to the spoken word will get your creative juices going, as Dwayne Morgan brings you through the writing, editing, and performance phases of spoken word creation and performance.

# Artists

Dwayne Morgan

**Tickets** PWYC (Sug. \$30)

Ages All Ages

Venue Zoom

#### 1:00pm - 2:30pm

#### Growing the Narrative

The purpose of this workshop is to explore ways to create new knowledge about a story lacking detail as it relates to plot, character and meaning.

#### Artists

Bob Barton

**Tickets** \$35 Regular / \$25 Students & Seniors **Ages** Adults Only

#### Venue

Zoom

### FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022

12:00pm - 3:00pm

#### Masterclass: Personalizing a Folk Tale

In this intense workshop, you will learn how to personalize a folk tale, by connecting it to an aspect from your life. We will find a personal memory which relates to the heart of the story. By doing that, a deeper understanding of the folk tale will emerge. An understanding which will change your telling of it from the inside out. Suitable for participants with previous experience in storytelling. Please bring a folktale which you have told before in front of an audience (Max 8 minutes long). Limited to 10 participants.

#### Artists

Raphael Rodan

#### **Tickets**

\$100 Regular/ \$75 Students & Seniors Adults Only

Ages

**Venue** Tranzac Living Room

# **SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022**

### 11:00am - 12:30pm

Tales, Legends and Lore - part 1 In this workshop, participants will discover how memories experienced long ago can bring purpose and excitement into the stories they create today. With much delight, attendees will recognize how the messages of the tales, of the legends, and of the lore of their Nations have profound similarities to the stories brought forth from the teaching bundle of today's storyteller. The workshop will promote the ability human beings have to see the beauty of their traditional lands through the power of a participant's mind's eye, urged on by the facilitator. The teaching of stories from thousands of years ago are still as meaningful in their purpose today as they were when the original storyteller shared them in the story circle at a time before technology existed. Learn in the workshop why it is so!

Ages

Adults Only

#### Artists

Albert Dumont

**Tickets** \$50 Regular / \$35 Students & Seniors

**Venue** Zoom

#### 1:00pm - 3:00pm

### Words Matter: Discovering the Power in Your True Story

There is power in sharing your personal stories—the power to spark meaningful connections, to deepen self-awareness, and even to inspire social change. Drawing from his experience of transforming from a shy adolescent who repressed all of his personal stories to a published writer, award-winning storyteller, and program manager of community enaggement at The Moth, Devan Sandiford provides how to identify compelling stories, find the heart of what you're trying to say, and engage and maintain listeners' attention. Through this process participants will gain a better understanding of how leaning into the distinctiveness of their own voice can empower individual and collective change.

#### Artists

Devan Sandiford

TicketsAges\$60 Regular /Adults Only\$40 Students & Seniors

#### Venue

Tranzac Living Room

#### 1:30pm - 3:00pm

### Tales, Legends and Lore - part 2

This workshop offers a condensed version of the first workshop but also adds how the spirit of the land is present in stories generated to make the world we live in safer, and more humane. Spirituality is very much part of our storytelling tradition. Discover the connection!

#### Artists

Albert Dumont

**Tickets** \$50 Regular / \$35 Students & Seniors **Ages** Adults Only

**Venue** Zoom

# SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

12:00pm - 3:00pm

#### Masterclass: Folktales, Fairy Tales, & Social Justice

Fairytales can engage us in the imaginary and hopeful. Folktales give us glimpses into cultural thoughts and norms. This session will combine hopes and cultural thoughts to address social justice issues, like suicide, PTSD, poverty, immigration, race reconciliation, etc. Hear a story combining a fairy tale and a current issue, and then join a group discussion and brainstorm how we can use the oldest stories as vehicles for awareness and change. Dilemma tales will also be discussed.

#### Artists

Sheila Arnold

#### Tickets

\$100 Regular / \$75 Students & Seniors **Ages** Adults Only

#### Venue

Tranzac Living Room

# Concerts

# FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022

8:00pm - 10:00pm

# The Talking Stick: The Story is the Star (Partner Event)

The Toronto International Storytelling Festival happens once a year, but tales are told every Friday night at 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling. These past two years we have been meeting on Zoom and have expanded our reach to listeners and tellers from across Canada, into the US, and from elsewhere around the world. This year our theme is "The Story is the Star." Come hear our best-loved stories, told by tellers who have joined us on Zoom and who have honed their skills as listeners and tellers, week by week, all year long. Find us online at www.1001fridays.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/countlesstales

#### **Produced by**

1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling

#### Artists

June Brown Elinor Benjamin Donna Dudinsky Eden Nameri Nick Miceli Mike Funergy Margaret McCaffrey

Hosted by Susan Ida Boucaud, Meryl Arbing and Goldie Spencer

Tickets Free **Ages** Adult

Venue Zoom

# FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2022

5:30pm - 6:30pm

# Opening Ceremony: Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen

Ohén:ton Karihwatéhkwen (Thanks Giving Address) pronounced 'Oh hon don Gar ee wah day kwon,' which translates to "Words said before all else." In English, it is commonly known as the Opening Prayer, and an invitation to those attending any gathering to bring our minds (and hearts) together as one. Otsistohkwi:yo Eliott will present a shorter version of the original Thanks Giving Address in Kanien'keha (Mohawk) language and English. The Ceremony is followed by a bannock bar where those attending in person are welcome to taste and share in traditional bannock and jams. Music by Dave Mowat and Clayton Yates.

#### Artists

Otsistohkwi:yo Eliott Dave Mowat Clayton Yates

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers

**Tickets** Free Ages All Ages

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 7:00pm - 8:00pm

# Story and Song - with Dave Mowat and Clayton Yates

Stick around after the opening Thanks Giving Address protocol for a musical set by Dave Mowat and Clayton Yates. This musical duo weaves together foot-tapping Blues beats accented by soulful harmonica and beautiful vocals. Their set includes lots of historical information about the local territories offered in a storytelling style, in between songs.

#### Artists

Dave Mowat Clayton Yates

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers

**Tickets** Free Ages All Ages

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 8:00pm - 10:00pm

# The Talking Stick: The Story is the Star (Partner Event)

The Toronto International Storytelling Festival happens once a year, but tales are told every Friday night at 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling. These past two years we have been meeting on Zoom and have expanded our reach to listeners and tellers from across Canada, into the US, and from elsewhere around the world. This year our theme is "The Story is the Star." Come hear our best-loved stories, told by tellers who have joined us on Zoom and who have honed their skills as listeners and tellers, week by week, all year long. Find us online at www.1001fridays.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/countlesstales

#### Produced by

1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling

### Artists

Lipika Mahanty Sya VanGeest Raymond Pierce Gaurav Madan Vicki Juditz Jean Bubba Laurie Malabar Joe Conrad

Hosted by Susan Ida Boucaud, Meryl Arbing and Goldie Spencer

Tickets Free Ages Adult

Venue Zoom

# SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2022

10:00am - 12:30pm

#### Saturday StoryJam

Saturday StoryJam is a morning of FREE family programming featuring stories and games by local and visiting storytellers.

**Tickets** 

Free

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# Saturday, May 7, 2022 (cont.)

#### 10:00 - 10:30

# "The Song of the Hermit Thrush" A Mohawk story & games session for children

In this session, Otsistohkwí:yo will tell the traditional story of how the birds got their songs from the Creator. This story is adapted for young children (3-12 years) to be a puppet play - where the Creator challenges the birds to race to see who can fly the highest in the sky. the highest flying bird receiving the most beautiful song from the Creator. We will be sharing this story in English, with some Mohawk words integrated for the children's learning. Otsistohkwí:yo will end this session by leading some group circle games & songs with the children about Otsiten'okón:'a (the Birds) teaching some Mohawk words and phrases. We invite children and families of all ages to share in this learning and exploration of birds and the gifts they provide us in the Spring.

#### Artists

Otsistohkwi:yo Eliott

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers

#### Ages

For the Very Young

### 10:30 - 11:00

#### **Animal Tales**

Join Ms. Sheila for folktales and other stories about animals, both humorous and inspiring.

Artists

Sheila Arnold

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

Ages For the Very Young

### 11:00 - 12:30

#### **Breaking Free**

Why not live dangerously? Step out of your COVID isolation and allow us to captivate you with tales of characters who were daring, wise and lucky enough to break free. During this time of COVID, when so many of us are feeling a little trapped, we offer you a set of folktales and legends from around the world featuring characters who are daring, wise and lucky enough to break free from the ties of fortune, class, superstition and magic that threaten to keep them bound for life.

# Artists

York Storytelling Guild June Brown Natasha Charles Anna Kerz Laurie Malabar Rensia Melles Lynn Torrie Brian Walsh

# Ages

All Ages

#### 12:30pm - 1:00pm

# Danveer Karan -The Hero of Mahabharata

'Danveer Karan' is a retelling of an excerpt from the epic of Mahabharata, set in India in 3000 BC, told from Karan's perspective. This solo show will be performed with the Tanpura (a drone instrument) played in the background.

#### **Artists**

Gaurav Madan

**Tickets** \$10

Ages All Ages

#### Venue

Online

### 1:00pm - 2:00pm

#### **StoryTent**

Storytelling Toronto presents free storytelling for the whole family at the StoryTent.

**Artists** Hosted by Donna Dudinsky **Tickets** 

Aaes All Ages

Venue Zoom

Free

#### 2:00pm - 3:00pm

#### The Storyteller's Fire

Even a distant, dim fire has the power to keep hope, and life, alive. Find community, humour, and healing in this worldly collection of traditional tales.

#### Artists

Eden Nameri Norman Perrin Elinor Benjamin

**Tickets** 

Ages All Ages

#### Venue

\$15

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### 3:30pm - 4:30pm

#### **Unforgettable Moments**

Five tellers share personal stories of connection, transformation, and enlightenment. This hybrid event features local tellers alongside international tellers from the USA and Brazil.

#### **Artists**

Briane Nasimok Fabio Lisboa Madeleine Holden Johanne Pelletier Ronna Levy

**Tickets** Ages \$15 All Ages

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 5:30pm - 6:30pm

#### The Cost of a Dream

Two real accounts of women in the 1870s who stood strong in the face of their circumstances and were transformed by events out of their control. Who was the woman found dead, in a box, near Bloor and Dufferin? Lynn Torrie shares this true story from 1875, which explores immigration, coming of age and the secret of an unwanted pregnancy. Sheila Arnold shares stories about women who used local waterways that were part of the Underground Railroad. Most of the stories are from an 1870s book written by William Still, a Conductor for the Underground Railroad and Secretary of the Philadelphia Abolitionist Society. His book shares the stories of over 500 people who ran from slavery, including some who used the locks, canals and waterways to escape.

#### Artists

Lynn Torrie, Sheila Arnold

Tickets \$20 **Ages** Adult Only

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### 7:30pm - 9:00pm

# Queering Toronto: Queers in Your Ears, New Stories, New Voices

Queers in Your Ears has been delighting Festival listeners for over 25 years with magical stories let us show you our Queer Toronto in this new edition with founding members Rico Rodriguez, Clare Nobbs and Jeffrey Canton as well as some exciting new voices including storytellers Theresa Cutknife and TJ Banate and musician Robbie Ahmed.

#### Artists

Rico Rodriguez Clare Nobbs Jeffrey Canton Theresa Cutknife TJ Banate Robbie Ahmed

Tickets	
\$25	

Ages Adult Only

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 10:00pm - 11:30pm

### Comedy Night at the Festival

Enjoy this star-studded evening of stand-up by Juno-nominated (Comedy Album of the Year) Hisham Kelati, Denise McLeod (Manifest Destiny's Child), and Tamara Shevon (JFL42), all hosted by CBC's own Ali Hassan.

#### Artists

Hisham Kelati Denise McLeod Tamara Shevon Hosted by Ali Hassan

#### Tickets \$20

Ages Adult Only

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### **SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022**

#### 10:00am - 4:00pm

### Words Take Flight

We will dive deep into the world of stories by listening to words — stories — that were told, and then printed, and then told again.

Curated by Mariella Bertelli

#### Tickets Free

ree

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 10:00-10:10

#### Welcome & Introduction by Michelle Urbano & Mariella Bertelli

#### 10:10-10:30

#### I Bring you a Story

Gangaba. A story from the \*Parent Child Mother Goose I Bring you a Story. Folktales that have traveled. Collected and edited by Ruth Danziger.

#### Artists

Ruth Danziger

#### Ages

For all ages of young children and their families

### 10:30-10:50

#### Cake and Mice and Everything Nice

This retelling is inspired by a tale from *Ten Small Tales* by Celia Barker Lottridge

#### Artists

Sally Jaeger

#### Ages

For all ages of young children and their families

#### 10:50-11:10

### Hojarasquin del Monte. A rabbit tale.

A folktale from Ecuador, published in The Parent Child Mother Goose Collection *I Bring You a Story* 

Artists Maria Del Carmen Ordonez

#### Ages

For all ages of young children and their families

# 11:10-11:30

#### **Beaver Tales**

All about beavers! A re-telling from Stella's book, *Five Busy Beavers* 

Artists Stella Partheniou-Grasso

# Ages

3+ and their families

\*We gratefully thank Celia Barker Lottridge, Ruth Danziger and The Parent Child Mother Goose Program, Aubrey Davis, and Thao Lam for granting the storytellers permission to tell the stories from their books.

# Sunday, May 8, 2022 (cont.)

#### 11:30-12:00

### Tales of Clever and Foolish Animals

Kalila wa Dimna. Long ago stories that have traveled. Listeners will recognize some of these stories from classic Indian, Persian, Arab literature, now part of World literature.

#### Artists

Sarah Abusarar

Ages 5+ and their families

#### 12:00-12:30

# Bagels and Borscht: A Nosh of Aubrey Davis' Stories

Two well-versed storytellers tell freely from \*Davis' books A Bagel for Benny and Bone Button Borscht.

#### Artists

Eden Nameri & Jeffrey Canton

Ages 5+ and their families

#### 12:30-1:15

#### The Paper Boat. A Refugee Story

A unique presentation with Thao Lam, author and illustrator of the wordless picture book, *The Paper Boat*. A *Refugee Story*, and with Diana Tso, writer and storyteller of the story "*Drifting under the same moon*" an interpretation of the story from the book *The Paper Boat*. A *Refugee* Story by Thao Lam

#### Artists

Thao Lam & Diana Tso

#### Ages

5+ and their families

#### 1:30-2:15

#### Likkle Miss Lou Finds her Voice

A dual presentation with Nadia Hohn, author of *Likkle Miss Lou. How Jamaican Poet Louise Bennet Coverley Found her Voice* and Sandra Whiting's stories inspired by Miss Lou.

#### Artists

Nadia Hohn & Sandra Whiting

#### Ages

5+ and their families

### 2:15-2:45

#### Jeremy and the Jello Boy

From Book to Story - A weaving and retelling of the lives of two boys, thrust into an uneasy partnership. By the author of *The Mealworm Diaries* and *Better than Weird* 

### Artists

Anna Kerz

Ages 7+ and their families

#### 2:45-3:45

## Shh... Reaching Across

Dan and Rita share ghost stories also from Dan's collection *Ghostwise* 

#### Artists

Dan Yashinsky & Rita Cox

#### Ages

7+ and their families

# 6:00pm - 7:00pm

#### Good Grief – The Heart of the Matter

An inspiring medley of folktale, personal story, and song invite listeners through the wilderness of grief into fair pastures. Embracing pain encourages the bereaved to rediscover life, laughter and love.

#### Artists

Heather Whaley Janet LeRoy

**Tickets** \$15 Ages All Ages

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

### 8:00pm - 9:30pm

#### But That's Another Story -Festival Edition (Partner event)

The heralded monthly series, now in its third year, will be honouring those important women in our lives, featuring stories by mothers and about them. Join co-hosts and co-producers Christel Bartelse and Briane Nasimok and four of their favourite contributors for ninety minutes of touching, funny and inspiring tales.

#### Artists

Rico Rodriguez Vicki Juditz Johanne Pelletier Joanne O'Sullivan

Hosted by Christel Bartelse & Briane Nasimok

Ticket	S
\$12	

#### Ages Adult Only

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### **MONDAY, MAY 9, 2022**

#### 5:30pm - 6:45pm

#### Truth, Trust and Pixie Dust

There are two competing adages: "Birds of a feather flock together" and "Opposites attract". This set offers a tandem telling of two stories that probe what attracts and what repels the human heart.

#### Artists

Jean Bubba Meryl Arbing

Tickets	Ages
\$20	Adult Only

# Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

### 8:00pm - 9:30pm

## African-American: **Keeping Heritage Alive**

Stories written, told or passed down through the African-American culture, with an emphasis on reading and writing. The stories cover a wide spectrum of time and include original pieces as well as time-tested ones. Songs and some history are also a part of the concert.

# Artists

Sheila Arnold

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

**Tickets** \$25

Ages All Ages

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# **TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022**

11:00am - 11:45am

## **Sparking Stories:** Baycrest@Home **Storytelling Club** (Partner event)

"One story welcomes another." -Dan Yashinsky

In this dementia-inclusive virtual program, everyone can be a listener and a teller. Tales told by storytellers spark the memory and imagination of participants, who then share their own stories. Hop online and join the Club!

#### **Artists**

Hosted by Eden Nameri and Katrina Lee-Kim

**Tickets** Free

Ages All Ages

Venue Zoom

#### 5:00pm - 6:00pm

## SHARKS, TIGERS, AND AN **OGRE OR TWO! - Hawaiian** Legends and Asian Folktales

Join Alton Chung in concert as he tells Legends of Hawaiian Goddesses and sharks interwoven with Asian folktales of tigers and ogres from Korea, China, and Japan.

#### Artists Alton Chung

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

**Tickets** \$20

Aaes All Ages

Venue Online

#### 6:30pm - 7:15pm

# Wondertales and Wild Encounters

The North can be wild and wonderful! Settle in for this collection of remarkable tales born from the world's coldest cultures.

#### Artists

Johanna Kuyvenhoven Faye Mogensen Karen Gummo

**Tickets** \$15

Ages All Ages

Venue Online

# 8:00pm - 9:30pm

#### We are the Stories We Tell

Jews have been telling stories since... well, forever. And that's because storytelling has always been at the centre of Jewish traditions. The late Elie Wiesel once said. "God created man because God loves stories." The 2022 Toronto International Storytelling Festival is excited to present an evening of traditional and contemporary Jewish tales, featuring the phenomenal Dan Yashinsky, who will be joined by some of

the most accomplished storytellers in the city, and perhaps even some from abroad. The presentation is co-sponsored by the Forest Hill Lions Club, which will be hosting a post event meet-and-greet for the cast and audience. In association with the Prosserman Jewish Community Centre

#### **Artists**

Dan Yashinsky Brian Katz Michael Wex Raphael Rodan Shonaleigh Cumbers Vicki Juditz

Curated by Briane Nasimok

**Tickets** Aaes All Ages

#### Venue

\$20

Prosserman Jewish Community Centre, Online

### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2022**

12:00pm - 1:00pm

#### **Magical Stories**

Join award-winning storyteller Mara Menzies as she shares stories from her rich dual Kenyan/Scottish heritage. Be prepared for an exhilarating journey of wonder, magic and mystery as she draws you into stories that enthrall and intrigue. From the worlds of the orisha to talking animals and stolen children, this performance perfectly captures the essence of both Celtic and African storytelling from a storyteller who navigates these two worlds.

#### Artists

Mara Menzies

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

Tickets	Ages
\$15	All Ages

Venue Online

# Wednesday, May 11, 2022 (cont.)

#### 4:00pm - 5:00pm

# Ancient Melodies

A collection of stories from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, Boccaccio's Decameron, and the Jewish folktale tradition enhanced by the beautiful sounds of ancient instruments. Goldie Spencer tells stories of tragedy in love, lust, and death by decapitation, with music by Kim Michele on the harp. Ruth Danziger tells the story of Miriam's tambourine, with music by Judith Cohen on the traditional frame drum - the "Tof Miriam."

#### Artists

Ruth Danziger Judith Cohen Goldie Spencer Kim Michele

Tickets \$15 Ages All Ages

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

## 5:30pm - 7:00pm

#### The Donkey's Jaw

"What kind of stories did you grow up with?" Raphael Rodan asks the audience and casually adds "For me, these were the stories where God is the bad guy and women have no place but as a rib covering a man's lungs; the notorious stories of the Old Testament." In "The Donkey's Jaw", Rodan strips ancient myths like Cain and Abel, Samson and Delilah and King Saul of their religious connotations and revives them with the light of his own personal life experiences. He tells about growing up in modern Israel, falling in love with his first girlfriend, feeling jealousy towards his brother and getting rejected by his father. While gracefully shifting from salty humour to moments of great depth, he uses the stories to reflect together with the audience on the universal topics that are as relevant today as they were thousands of years ago.

#### Artists

Raphael Rodan

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

**Tickets** \$25 Ages Adult Only

# Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 8:00pm - 9:30pm

# Replay Storytelling presents Fast Forward

(Partner event)

For the fifth year running, Replay Storytelling is excited to bring you a night of bite-sized true stories told in two minutes or less. This night of tiny tales features over 25 storytellers from Toronto and around the world. All profits from the show will be donated to a charity in Toronto!

#### Artists

**Replay Storytelling** 

Tickets \$15 Ages Adult Only

Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# **THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022**

### 3:00pm - 4:30pm

#### **Come Together**

Three continents, three storytellers. North America, Europe, Africa. Alton Chung, Shonaleigh Cumbers, and Mara Menzies come together to take us on a journey of story.

#### Artists

Alton Chung Shonaleigh Cumbers Mara Menzies

Hosted by Donna Dudinsky

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

**Tickets** \$20 Ages All Ages

#### Venue Online

### 5:30pm - 7:00pm

# Bomgiizhik, Indigenous Storytelling

Bomgiizhik/Isaac Murdoch is a consummate Indigenous storyteller drawing from his Ojibwe history, experiences and truths. Bomgiizhik/Isaac enjoys sharing stories featuring animals, cultural characters, the environment, and in his storytelling will emphasize all the Indigenous and natural relationships he holds dear. This storyteller holds many more stories than his presentation time can spare and he will leave you wanting to hear more. A Q&A period will follow.

#### Artists

Bomgiizhik/Isaac Murdoch

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers

Tickets \$25 Ages All Ages

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 8:00pm - 9:30pm

# As True as Possible

Stories from our own lived experiences help us build stronger and deeper connections with the people around us. And that's exactly what will happen tonight as these tellers share their personal true stories from the experiences they inhabit.

#### Artists

Nisha Coleman Graham Isador Hisham Kelati Devan Sandiford Jillian Welsh Sameena Zehra

Curated by Paul Aflalo

**Tickets** \$25

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

Ages

All Ages

# FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022

### 5:30pm - 7:00pm

#### **Spoken Melodies**

Spoken Melodies presents the spoken word against the backdrop of live music, creating a unique experience for the listener. In this showcase, each artist has worked with a musician to find the musical nuances of their stories, and create a captivating performance.

#### Artists

Charlie Petch Hannah Flores David Delisca Mehul Martin Veronika Wilde

With music by Stretch Cameron Tinklenberg Andrew Chan Miles Finlayson

Curated by Dwayne Morgan

**Tickets** \$25

**Venue** Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 6:30pm - 7:00pm

#### 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling at the Festival (Partner event)

Ages

Adult Only

For over forty years in Toronto, one of our favorite events on Friday nights has been sharing stories at 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling. This year, we are running a shorter version of our weekly open stage for an hour before the main Festival event. We expect to fit in six or maybe seven stories, each one in the five to eight minute range. If you want to tell, arrive before 6:20 to toss your name into the hat. We'll still be around every Friday after the Festival -- check for details online at www.1001fridays. ora. Please note, there are limited tickets available for this event pre-registration is required.

#### Artists Hosted by Howard Kaplan

Hosted by Howard Rapid

**Tickets** Free Ages Adult Only

Venue Tranzac Living Room

#### 8:00pm - 10:30pm

#### **Gala Concert: Stories for Everyone**

The 43rd Toronto International Storytelling Festival presents stories for everyone at the Gala Concert. Sheila Arnold, Raphael Rodan, Isaac Murdoch, Alton Chung, Devan Sandiford, and Andrea Thompson weave together a rich tapestry of stories and storytelling styles. Hosted by the effervescent Itah Sadu. There will be a 15 minute intermission. This event will have ASL interpretation.

#### Artists

Sheila Arnold Raphael Rodan Isaac Murdoch Alton Chung Devan Sandiford Andrea Thompson

Hosted by Itah Sadu

Curated by Donna Dudinsky, Janet Marie Rogers, Dwayne Morgan, Paul Aflalo, Michelle Urbano

TicketsAges\$35Adult Only

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# **SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2022**

#### 10:00am - 11:00am

#### Share-a-Rhyme

How many piggies went to market? Who jumped over the moon? How many rhymes do you remember? In this interactive session we invite you to listen and tell as we all travel far and wide in the magical world of rhymes, poems and wee songs. For all ages and languages. Bring your favourites.

#### Facilitated by

Mariella Bertelli Mary Anne Cree Mary Beaty

TicketsAgesFreeFor all ages, babies to 99

Venue Tranzac Main Hall

# 11:30am - 12:30pm

# Stories from the Shadow of Mount Ararat

Mount Ararat, where tradition says Noah's Ark came to rest, overlooks the point at which Armenia, Turkey and Iran converge. This set will feature stories from these countries and from other peoples living in the neighboring Zagros Mountains, Assyrians and Kurds. Stories of mystery, adventure and humour. And a sense of place. A Q&A will follow.

#### Artists

Celia Lottridge

Tickets \$15 Ages All Ages

Venue Zoom

#### 1:00pm - 2:00pm

#### **Best of the StoryTent**

In June of 2020, Storytelling Toronto's StoryTent moved online. Every Saturday afternoon, people from around the world gather to share stories for an hour. We have invited some of our favourite StoryTent tellers from across Canada and across the pond to regale us with tales. Hosted by Lynn Torrie.

#### Artists

Meryl Arbing Elinor Benjamin Maria Credali Donna Dudinsky Mike Funergy Lynn Torrie

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

# Saturday, May 14, 2022 (cont.)

Tickets Free **Ages** All Ages

Venue Zoom

# 2:00pm - 2:50pm

### I Won't Go. You Can't Make Me

Two young girls; each compelled to make an unwanted journey; one by boat, one by train. Hear about their dramatic experiences and how life-changing those journeys were.

#### Artists

**Tickets** 

\$15

Anna Kerz June Brown

> Ages Adult Only

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### 5:00pm - 6:30pm

#### Indigenous Storytellers Super-Group

Join a superb program of all-Indigenous storytellers representing their Native Nations, storytelling practices and artistic voices. Featuring Ojibwe storyteller Bomgiizhik Isaac Murdoch, Nêhiyaw storyteller Jenny Blackbird, Kanien'keha poet Janet Marie Rogers, and Kanien'keha traditional storyteller Tehakanere Henhawk. This program reflects the diversity and cultural distinctions within Indigenous Nations as well as the variety of storytelling styles.

#### Artists

Bomgiizhik Isaac Murdoch Jenny Blackbird Tehakanere Henhawk

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers

Ages

All Ages

Tickets \$25

.3

Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### 7:30pm - 9:00pm

#### Two Tellers from Away

Storytelling Toronto brings Sheila Arnold from Hampton (Virginia) and Raphael Rodan from Amsterdam to the Festival. Two master storytellers share tales that inspire, connect, and unify communities.

#### Artists

Sheila Arnold Raphael Rodan

Curated by Donna Dudinsky

Tickets	Ag
\$25	Ad

Adult Only

es

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# 10:00pm - 11:30pm

## Dirty X Filthy X Stories X

Let loose at this late-night event with these lewd, lascivious, and lustful stories! Not for the prude, the puritan, or the uptight. Featuring true tales, poetry, burlesque, and more!

#### Artists

Denise McLeod Dwayne Morgan Sheila Arnold Sebastian Marziali

Hosted by La Taquita

Tickets	
\$20	

Ages Adult Only

#### Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

# SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

#### 10:00am - 1:50pm

# Sunday StoryJam

Sunday StoryJam is FREE family programming featuring storytelling performances, puppetry, and family-focused participatory events, and which launches with a Teddy Bear picnic for very young children.

#### Tickets Free

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

### 10:00am - 10:30am

#### **Teddy Bear Picnic**

Children and their teddy bears are invited to a rollicking time with storytellers Sally Jaeger, and Mariella Bertelli.

Artists Sally Jaeger

Sally Jaeger Mariella Bertelli

Ages For all ages of young children and their families

### 10:30am - 11:00am

# Reinventing Ourselves in a New Country

Stories of our childhoods in Latin America and how we reinvented ourselves in Canada are punctuated with Spanish songs and a clapping game for everyone to participate in!

#### Artists

Maria del Carmen Ordonez Cecilia Vizcaíno Emilia Boidoi

#### Ages

For the Very Young

#### 11:00am - 11:30am

# "Onkwahétakon" In the Garden -Mohawk stories, songs & games

In this session, we invite the entire family to come out to explore Onkwahéta - our Garden and what surprises and beauty lie within it. Since May is the time of preparing and planting our garden in the Mohawk tradition, we will share a puppet play with five different short, woven together nature/garden stories that are accessible for children of all ages. There will be Mohawk words and songs included to connect children to this language of the land. After the story we will have some interactive time for parents to participate with their children in traditional songs, games and movement.

#### Artists

Otsistohkwí:yo Eliott

Curated by Janet Marie Rogers

Ages For the Very Young

11:30am - 12:00pm

## The Emperor's New Clothes: A Toy Theatre Delight. Special Appearance by Hans Christian Andersen

One of the classic fairy tales by Hans Christian Andersen comes to life in a table-top theatre storytelling production that includes miniature puppets and sets. With a special appearance by the author himself.

#### Artists

Mariella Bertelli Mary Anne Cree

#### Ages

For all ages

#### 12:00pm - 12:50pm

#### **Unlikely Heroes**

Four tales of unlikely heroes from different cultures around the world! Find out why they're called Anansi stories in the Caribbean, hear about the antics of Jack Frost and Little Krishna, and find out who saves the Moon from captivity!

#### Artists

Laxmi Balaji Kesha Christie Natasha Charles Susan Ida Boucaud

#### Ages

All Ages

#### 1:00pm - 1:50pm

#### **Tales of Enchantment**

Journey with us into these folktales, where adventure and magic abound! Accompanied by the sounds of an enchanted fiddle.

#### Artists

Pat Bisset Quincy Burke Marylyn Peringer

#### Ages

All Ages

#### 2:00pm - 3:00pm

## **Rascal Bingo!**

Why should the adults have all the fun? Join us for a fairy-tale themed bingo event online where you can win PRIZES!

Artists

Trevor Burnett

**Tickets** \$10 per Bingo card Ages All Ages

Venue Zoom

#### 5:00pm - 6:30pm

### **Tales of Revolution**

Emma Goldman said: "If I can't dance to it, it's not my revolution." The Beatles sang: "You say you want a Revolution": Jill Scott Heron recited: "The Revolution will not be televised": FDR remarked: "Remember, remember always, that all of us, and you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists"; Audre I orde wrote: "Revolution is not a one time event."; Subcomandante Marcos announced: "We are sorry for the inconvenience, but this is a revolution."; MLK Jr. preached: "A social movement that only moves people is merely a revolt. A movement that changes both people and institutions is a revolution."; Fred Hampton asserted: "You can jail a Revolutionary, but you can't jail the Revolution."; and Ursula K. Le Guin asserted: "Revolution is our obligation: our hope of evolution." In Tales of Revolution, Sarah Abusarar, Rico Rodriguez, Itah Sadu, and Sandra Whiting, will share stories about

the struggles to achieve racial and economic equality and overall social change, accompanied by the talented offering of musician Jose Sanhueza.

#### Artists

Sarah Abusarar Rico Rodriguez Itah Sadu Sandra Whiting

Music by Jose Sanhueza Miguel Vasquez

Tickets \$25 Ages Adult Only

Venue Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### 7:00pm - 7:30pm

#### **Closing Ceremony**

Otsistohkwi:yo Eliott leads us in closing the 2022 Toronto International Storytelling Festival.

Artists

Otsistohkwí:yo Eliott

Tickets Free Ages All Ages

Venue

Tranzac Main Hall, Online

#### MONDAY, MAY 16, 2022

7:30pm - 10:00pm

# **True Stories Told Live Toronto** (Partner event)

Five storytellers each tell a true story about themselves. One is a musician who plays a song related to the story. Thrilled to announce that, after some refurbishments, The Garrison is now a fully wheelchair accessible venue! Hosted by Marsha from YesYesMarsha.com The show is a really lovely night, friendly and warm. There is a 20-minute interval, but quite a few people come on their own with a book or something, so if you fancy doing that, you won't be the only one. If you want to come early and grab some food, The Lakeview diner (est. 1932) is a few steps away, with the best shakes (I love banana-vanilla) and sweet potato fries in Toronto. Website: http://truestoriestoronto.com

#### Artists

Marsha Shandur

Tickets Free

Ages Adult Only

Venue The Garison

# **ON DEMAND**

### Good Gyn, Bad Gyn: Women's Health Stories (Partner event)

The best and worst gynecology experiences make for both funny and harrowing tales. Join us for the best take on hormones, cramps, childbirth, menopause and the laugh and cry emotions that come with all that grows inside us. These true stories bring levity and awareness to the complex and sometimes weird world of getting gynecological and women's health care. More than great stories, this showcase is about raising awareness of women's health care for you and the ones you love.

#### Artists

Johanne Pelletier Shweta Bhatt Ronna Levy Melissa Reeves Laura Kucenty Mary Jo Pollock

#### Tickets

PWYC (Sug. \$10)

Ages Adult Only

# The 28th Katari Japanese Storytelling Show – "Heavenly Dancing"

### (Partner event)

Since our inception in 1994, the Katari Japanese Storytellers based in Toronto have been telling the Japanese traditional and contemporary stories both in English and Japanese for Canadians at large. As the borderless age has arrived, we are more committed to exploring cross-cultural folklore under the theme of "Tracing back the silk road." Our annual event has been supported by the Toronto Storytelling Festival and the Japan Foundation and our digitized events will remain on YouTube for anyone anywhere in the world.

#### Artists

Aisha Masaoka with Sky and Sam Seiko Shirafuji Noriko Yamamoto Atsuko Abe Eiko Giese Yusuke Tanaka

**Tickets** Free Ages All Ages



# Festival Passes & Workshop Deals

Make the most of your Festival experience with one of our Festival Passes or Workshop Deals!

# **FESTIVAL PASS**

This pass gives you access to all Festival Concerts and Talks, in person or online – it's your choice! Simply register for all of the shows you'd like to see. This pass does not include Workshops or Partner Events.

Regular \$165 + HST Student/Seniors \$115 + HST

# **ONLINE FESTIVAL PASS**

This pass gives you access to all online Festival Concerts and Talks. Simply register for all of the shows you'd like to see. This pass does not include Workshops or Partner Events. Passholders are welcome to buy a ticket to any in person event if they wish.

Regular \$100 + HST Student/Seniors \$70 + HST

#### WORKSHOP DEALS

If you plan on attending more than one workshop, save with one of our workshop deals!

The Dabbler - 3 workshops - 10% off each The Scholar - 4 workshops - 15% off each The Academic - 5 or more workshops - 20% off each

### **MEMBERS' DISCOUNT**

Storytelling Toronto Members receive an additional 10% off of all ticket sales, passes, and workshop fees.

The Members' Discount does not apply to Partner Events.

For more information on how to register for tickets and passes, please visit our website.

Please note, all prices are subject to HST and there is a \$3.00 service charge for every ticket, workshop, and pass.



Photo: Joe Tamko

# Storytelling Toronto

Storytelling Toronto is a registered charity founded in 1979 to inspire, encourage, support, and celebrate the art of storytelling for listeners and storytellers. To learn more about our courses, shows, concerts, community projects, publications, and how to support the organization, visit us at www.storytellingtoronto.org

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Michelle Urbano - Festival Producer - 2022 Toronto International Storytelling Festival Marylyn Peringer & Ruth Danziger - Co-Resident Teachers Donna Dudinsky - StoryTent Briane Nasimok - Artistic Director - StoryFusion Cabaret! Paul Aflalo - Producer - Digital Projects Anne Fleming - Editor of Pippin

# COURSES

Storytelling Toronto offers a variety of courses yearround, from introductory classes to teach beginners the fundamentals of the art of storytelling, to master classes for the advanced, and everything in between.

# Core Courses:

- Storytelling I: First Steps into the Art of Storytelling (Fall)
- Storytelling II: Next Steps (Spring)
- Master Class (Winter)

# **Upcoming Courses**

- Storytelling in the World (June 2022)
- Finding and Telling Family Stories
- Transformations
- Anansi: Trickster or Hero?
- Improv for Storytellers

# **STORYTENT**

Join us every Saturday at 1pm for one hour of stories for the whole family. Everyone is welcome to tell a story. The event is FREE! Zoom link on our website.

# **STORYFUSION CABARET!**

Storyfusion Cabaret! fuses the art of oral storytelling in its traditional and non-traditional forms with blends of music, dance, and a variety of other unique art forms. The next show is coming up in June: *Les bons contes font les bons amis - Good stories make good friends.* An evening of tales curated by Donna Dudinsky. Check our website for more info!

# **MEMORIES INTO STORIES**

Develop a deeper understanding of the connection between storytelling and memory, and the mental health benefits that storytelling can stimulate. Visit our website for a guide that will help you to shape your memories into stories through the art of storytelling.

# **PIPPIN**

Pippin is the quarterly newsletter for Storytelling Toronto. Content includes profiles of storytellers, reviews of local and international storytelling festivals and events, reflections on STT courses, and essays about storytelling history, theory, innovations, techniques, and so on. Submissions are welcome from anyone in the community.



# Many Thanks

The 2022 Toronto International Storytelling Festival would not have been possible without the support, passion, and dedication of the staff, artists, volunteers, and sponsors. Many thanks to everyone who has put a part of themselves into making this Festival happen.

Endless gratitude goes out to Debra Baptiste, Dan Yashinsky, Janet Marie Rogers, Paul Aflalo, Celia Lottridge, Donna Dudinsky, Rico Rodriguez, and the Board of Directors for your advice and guidance through this project. Thank you to Karen Blair, Mandy MacLean, Mary Anne Cree, and Natalia Tsygankova for going above and beyond.

Our appreciation goes out to all of the Festival organizers who came before us and special thanks to Dawne McFarlane, Lorie Griesman, Anna-Lynn Filice, and Amanda Scriver.

Thank you to our community partners: Gabi Caruso and Red Pepper Spectacle Arts, But That's Another Story, Re-

play Storytelling, Marsha Shandur and True Stories Told Live, Yusuke Tanaka and Katari Japanese Storytellers, 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling, Baycrest@Home, the Parent-Child Mother-Goose program, the Prosserman Jewish Community Centre, the Tranzac, Johanne Pelletier, the Museum of Contemporary Art, and NOW Toronto. Thanks to our supporters: Anne Fleming, Marianne Brown, Adam Polsinelli, Rose Polsinelli, Rudolph and Louise van den Ende, Areli Ercolani, Nicki Burke, Raymond Pierce, Denice Lecce, Christine Urbano, and Diane Urbano.

A big thanks to the financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts, Canadian Heritage, the Toronto Arts Council, and the Ontario Arts Council; to our Accessibility Partners: Penguin Publishing, and Essential Accessibility; Party Partners: Scholastic, the Children's Book Bank, Craig's Cookies, Farm Boy, and Loblaws; and our Festival Friends: MetroDock, and Altwood Garage Doors.



Photo: Joe Tamka

# **FUNDERS**



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**True Stories** Told Live









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**STORYFUSION CABARET** 

CONTINUES THIS JUNE WITH AN EVENING OF TALES CURATED BY DONNA DUDINSKY

LES BON CONTES FONT LES BON AMIS - GOOD STORIES MAKE GOOD FRIENDS

<image>

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# Kim Kilpatrick Dangerous Touch:

The Adventures of Being Blind in a Social Distance World

THURSDAY, JUNE 2 7:30PM ET



Gail Anglin & Dawn Xavier-Franklin with The Barrow Gang Buskers

# Rockabilly Heartbreaker

THURSDAY, JUNE 30 7:30PM ET

# www.ottawastorytellers.ca



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# **BEING SCENE**

21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL EXHIBITION MARCH 31 - MAY 31, 2022



WEALTH TRANSITION SOLUTIONS

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Photo: Joe Tamko

# COVID-19 Policy

While public health policies regarding COVID-19 precautions are changing, Storytelling Toronto and the Toronto International Storytelling Festival remain committed to the safety of artists, staff, volunteers, and audiences who are coming together as a community for this year's Festival. We are committed to upholding the following safety measures:

- All staff, artists, volunteers, and audience members must wear a mask in the venues, except while eating, drinking, or performing.
- Microphones will not be shared unless sanitized between artists.
- All on-duty staff and artists will be self-monitoring and taking rapid antigen tests regularly.

We are working with our venue partners to uphold their house regulations as well as regularly reviewing our own policies to continue to do what we can, with the knowledge that we have available to us, to keep our community healthy and safe. We are happy to report that the Tranzac, our main festival venue, has made a lot of headway towards improving the cleanliness of their space, such as installing several high-powered HEPA Rx and carbon filters throughout the space, disinfecting surfaces regularly, and keeping sanitizer nearby for public use. You can read more about their policies on their website at www.tranzac.org

These measures help to reduce the transmission of COVID. We also encourage community members to self-monitor for COVID symptoms, and avoid attending activities at the Festival if they are not feeling well. If you miss an in-person event, you will be able to watch it online!

We will continue to review our procedures and will provide updates over time. Please continue to check in on our website for regular updates.

If you have any questions or feedback about the above, please get in touch with us by contacting Festival Producer Michelle Urbano at michelleurbano@storytellingtoronto.org.



# Notes




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