

2024 TORONTO
INTERNATIONAL
STORYTELLING
FESTIVAL



**MANY
VOICES
TELL
A STORY**



June 9 – 17, 2024

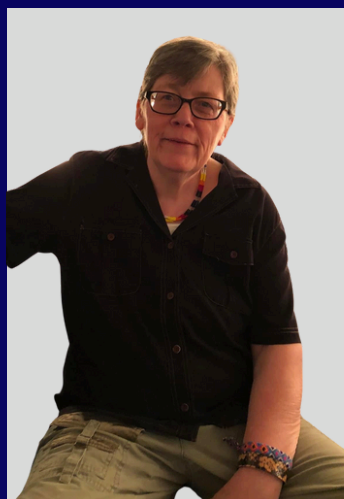
WWW.STORYTELLINGTORONTO.ORG

**The process of decolonization and
liberation of knowledge must be a
collective action based on respect and
solidarity**

- From the No Borders project's mission statement

**May our stories and storytelling reflect
and support this principle, working
together on Reconciliation**

- Carmel Whittle, Indigenous Advocate



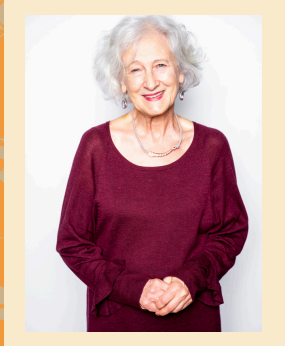
Land Acknowledgement

Storytelling Toronto and the 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. 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.



Festival Team



Festival Director

**MARIELLA
BERTELLI**



Festival Director

**LAURIE
MALABAR**



Festival Director

**DINNY
BIGGS**



Festival Director

**HEATHER
WALSH**



Festival Administrator

**SHIRA
LEUCHTER**



Social Media Coordinator

**VICTORIA
LABERGE**



Office Administrator

**REBECCA
MARQUEZ**



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone participating in the 45th annual Toronto International Storytelling Festival.

This year's event is a unique opportunity to hear stories from emerging and expert storytellers from across Toronto, as well as visiting artists Jan Blake and Tuup from England. It is wonderful to know that this festival will also offer free programming for local families to enjoy. Best wishes to everyone taking part in this year's event.

A big thank you to the organizers of this festival for encouraging the art of oral story telling and for providing programming that reflects Toronto's rich diversity.

I am pleased that such wonderful events celebrating arts and culture are taking place in Toronto. Arts and culture make our city so unique, and are essential to a prosperous, vital, and livable city.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I wish everyone an enjoyable and memorable event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Yours truly,

Olivia Chow
Mayor of Toronto

City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2
416-397-CITY (2489) mayor_chow@toronto.ca

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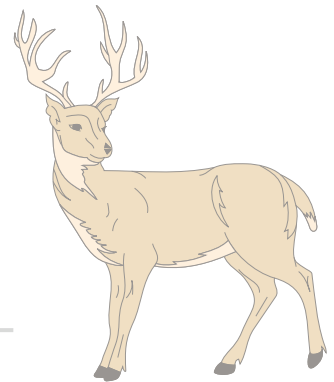
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A Note from the Festival Team

Many Voices Tell a Story. The 45th Toronto International Storytelling Festival, with a bit of mystery, some luck and a lot of collaborative work, has manifested itself, coming together, with many voices and the will of many people, as one. Of course, it could not have happened without the invaluable support of the funding agencies, the STT Board, STT members and the many volunteers that have followed the passion of storytelling tirelessly since 1979.

2024's Festival brings together phenomenal performers internationally and locally, Toronto based storytelling groups and creative initiatives, and storytellers performing in a variety of community supported venues to reach out to new and seasoned listeners. Our



Our many partners - The City of Toronto, The Toronto Public Library, The Friends of Regent Park, The Stories of Little Jamaica Project, Club Carib and Sassy Seniors from Oshawa, The Parkdale Intercultural Association, the Church of Epiphany and St. Mark, The Mississauga Art Gallery and the Sauga Poetry group stand together with Storytelling Toronto, to present old stories and new. We invite you all to come and hear many voices speaking words from olden times or the spoken words from today's rhythms and landscapes.

A Note from the Festival Elder

The Toronto International Storytelling Festival brings tellers and listeners together to tell stories, listen to stories and enjoy the many kinds of stories and many styles of storytelling the oral tradition has given to us. Every teller is also a listener who can grow by hearing other tellers. And listeners who never thought of telling

a story may go away thinking of a story waiting to be told. So, during this Festival, let many stories be heard and many traditions honoured. We will all go home enriched.



Festival Elder, Celia Lottridge

A Note from the Board

Welcome to the 45th annual Toronto International Storytelling Festival: Many Voices Tell a Story.

It is an incredible accomplishment and a milestone for Storytelling Toronto to continue to be here after 45 years with our Festival, a celebration of oral literature. It will be a Festival with stories for everyone!

The Storytelling Toronto Board Members are Aalya Suteria, Alfredo Tinajero, Brandon Lista, Laxmi Balaji, Muhammad Asifi, Stella Partheniou and me, Susan Ida Boucaud.

On behalf of myself and the Board of Directors we extend our heartfelt thanks to our creative and resourceful volunteer Festival Directors, Festival Administrator, Executive Director, office staff Rebecca Marquez, Victoria Laberge and Michelle Wagner, and our Festival volunteers for their dedicated efforts.

To our storytellers and listeners, you are the heart of this Festival, and we are deeply grateful for your participation.

Wishing you all an amazing festival experience!

*Susan Ida Boucaud
Chair of Storytelling
Toronto Board of
Directors*



PHOTO: JOE TAMKO

Accessibility

Complimentary Tickets for Personal Support Workers: Personal Support Workers will be admitted free of charge when supporting a person with a disability at the Toronto International Storytelling Festival. Please contact festivaladministration@storytellingtoronto.org for more information, or ask about this offer at the door.

Physical Accessibility at Our Venues: Almost all of our programming takes place in spaces that are accessible, and all venues will have staff and volunteers on hand to assist patrons with any questions about accessible spaces. Please note that the Anglican Church of the Epiphany & St. Mark (201 Cowan Avenue) does not have an accessible washroom. Arrangements have been made for patrons to use the barrier-free washrooms directly across from the venue at the Masaryk-Cowan Community Recreation Centre (220 Cowan Avenue). Volunteers will be available for any patrons that require assistance getting to the Community Centre.

Priority Seating: We will be offering priority seating close to the stage for patrons who will benefit from it. Feel free to let staff or volunteers know if you would like to access priority seating.



Auditory Accessibility: Storytelling Toronto recognizes that the oral delivery of stories can be inaccessible to those in our community who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. We are providing the following measures to make each event more accessible:

- Storytellers will be using microphones to amplify their voices as much as possible
- Priority seating will be made available to audience members that need to be close to our tellers for hearing or lip-reading purposes
- We are hosting two online concerts (Student Showcase and StoryTent) where auto-generated captioning will be available

Sensory Accommodations: All of our free family programming on Sunday June 16th 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

Financial Accessibility: 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 supporting our artists and staff. Many of our events this year are either free or Pay-What-You-Can.

Visiting Artists



Jan Blake (UK)

With a mesmerizing presence and a gift for bringing traditional tales to life, Jan Blake has enthralled audiences across the globe. Drawing from her extensive repertoire of folktales, myths, and legends from Africa and the Caribbean, Jan's performances transport listeners to distant lands and ancient times, leaving them spellbound by the power of her storytelling.

Appearing:

- **June 12th** – The Stories of Little Jamaica: REPLAY!
- **June 13th** – Many Voices Tell A Story: A Fusion: Stories. Beats. Words. Poems.
- **June 14th** – Storytelling with Jan Blake
- **June 14th** – A pre-Club Carib 50th Anniversary Fiesta Week Concert
- **June 15th** – Storytelling with Jan Blake
- **June 15th** – All Tongues Are Red. Stories without Borders.
- **June 15th** – Masterclass with Jan Blake: The Art of Immersive Storytelling
- **June 16th** – Jan Blake's Children's Stories
- **June 17th** – In Conversation with Jan Blake

TuuP (UK)

Hailing from the UK, TuuP is a master of rhythm and rhyme, blending spoken word, beatboxing, and vocal percussion to create dynamic and engaging performances. With his unique blend of storytelling and music, TuuP takes audiences on a journey through the realms of imagination, where every word is a note and every tale a symphony of sound.

Appearing:

- **June 13th** – Tales from the Calabash Bowl
- **June 13th** – Many Voices Tell A Story: A Fusion: Stories. Beats. Words. Poems.
- **June 14th** – A pre-Club Carib 50th Anniversary Fiesta Week Concert
- **June 15th** – All Tongues Are Red. Stories without Borders.
- **June 16th** – Stories for Children with Jan and TuuP



● Concert ● Workshop ● Talk

All times are in **Eastern Daylight Time**

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOC	FEE
Sun Jun 9	2:30pm	● I Didn't See That Coming!	STD	19.56
Tues Jun 11	8:00pm	● Student Showcase	Z	FREE
Wed Jun 12	6:30pm	● Stories of Little Jamaica REPLAY	MAS	FREE
Thurs Jun 13	6:00pm	● Tales from the Calabash Bowl	NYC	FREE
Thurs Jun 13	7:00pm	● Many Voices Tell A Story	AGM	FREE
Thurs Jun 13	7:30pm	● Opening Ceremony	AQ	FREE
Thurs Jun 13	8:00pm	● Queers in Your Ears	AQ	25.57
Fri Jun 14	10:00am	● Storytelling with Jan Blake	SM	FREE
Fri Jun 14	12:00pm	● The Power of Story	BHC	13.54
Fri Jun 14	4:00pm	● Many Voices: Club Carib	CC	PWYC
Fri Jun 14	7:30pm	● The Talking Stick: 1001	STD	5.00
Sat Jun 15	10:00am	● Storytelling with Jan Blake	PIC	FREE
Sat Jun 15	1:00pm	● StoryTent	Z	FREE
Sat Jun 15	2:30pm	● Jan Blake: Masterclass	SMP	121.85
Sat Jun 15	8:00pm	● All Tongues Are Red.	SMP	31.39
Sun Jun 16	10:30am	● Teddy Bears' Picnic	RPCC	FREE
Sun Jun 16	11:30am	● Stories from Many Lands	RPCC	FREE
Sun Jun 16	1:00pm	● Musical Story Studio	RPCC	FREE
Sun Jun 16	2:00pm	● Jan + TuuP: Stories for Children	RPCC	FREE
Sun Jun 16	3:00pm	● Emerging Tellers + Open Mic	RPCC	FREE
Sun Jun 16	4:30pm	● Closing Ceremony	RPCC	FREE
Mon Jun 17	10:00am	● In Conversation with Jan Blake	TS	13.54

STD: St. David's, **Z:** Zoom, **MAS:** Maria A. Shchuka Library, **NYC:** North York Central Library, **AGM:** Art Gallery of Mississauga, **AQ:** ArQuives, **SM:** Anglican Church of the Epiphany & St. Mark, **BHC:** Blackhurst Cultural Centre, **CC:** Club Carib, **STD:** St. David's Parish Hall, **PIC:** Parkdale Intercultural Centre, **SMP:** St. Michael and All Angels Church, **RPCC:** Regent Park Community Centre, **TS:** The Stop Wychwood Barns

Concerts

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2024

2:30pm

I Didn't See That Coming

Hosted by Brian Walsh

Featuring June Brown, Anna Kerz, Goldie Spencer, Brian Walsh, Lynn Torrie, Natasha Charles, Laurie Malabar and special guest Brenda Byers

St. David's Parish Hall, 49 Donlands Ave.

Tickets: 15

A group of eight professional tellers, each member having a different telling style and different interests. They have been a guild for over 12 years and their stories include personal and literary tales, folk and fairy tales, myths, legends and historical tales.

*A partnership with the York Storytelling Guild

Ticket Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/i-didnt-see-that-coming-tickets-907104242207?aff=oddtcreator>

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

8:00pm

Storytelling Toronto Student Showcase

Curated and hosted by Jeffrey Canton and Marylyn Peringer

Featuring Jasper Bryan, Dawne McFarlane, Maxine Palomino, Laxmi Balaji, Julia Ferguson, Mary Samuels, Itzel Sanchez Alonso and Lynda Howes

Online: Register for link

Tickets: By donation/PWYC

Ticket link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/storytelling-toronto-student-showcase-tickets-907140590927>

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024

6:30pm

The Stories of Little Jamaica: REPLAY!

Featuring Jan Blake, Rita Cox and Kesha Christie

Maria A. Shchuka Library, 1745 Eglinton Avenue West

Tickets: Free

Step into the vibrant world of "The Stories of Little Jamaica" REPLAY! Rediscover Miss Lou's legacy with Kesha Christie and Rita Cox, joined by Jan Blake from England. Celebrate 45 years of storytelling at the Toronto International Storytelling Festival. Join us to listen, share, and embrace the power of stories.

*A partnership with the Toronto Public Library

Ticket link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-stories-of-little-jamaica-replay-tickets-907182426057?aff=oddtcreator>

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024

6:00pm

Tales from the Calabash Bowl

Featuring TuuP

North York Central Library, Room 101, 5120 Yonge Street

Tickets: Free

*A partnership with the Toronto Public Library

Hailing from the UK, TuuP is a master of rhythm and rhyme, blending spoken word, beatboxing, and vocal percussion to create dynamic and engaging performances.

Concerts, cont'd

Tickets: Call the Society and Recreation Department at (416) 395-5660 to register and guarantee your seat!

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024

7:00pm

Many Voices Tell A Story: A Fusion: Beats. Words. Poems.

Featuring Jan Blake and TuuP with featured poets India Brown and Tahira Rajwani

Hosted by Brandon Lista

The Art Gallery of Mississauga, 300 City Centre Drive

Tickets: Free

*A partnership with The Art Gallery of Mississauga and 'Sauga Poetry

Experience the magic of Jan Blake and TuuP live at Many Voices Tell A Story as they blend their voices, beats, and stories with words, beats, and rhythms of the 'Sauga Poets, India Brown, and Tahi Rajwani.

Ticket

link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/many-voices-tell-a-story-tickets-907198915377?aff=oddtcreator>

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024

7:30pm

Queers in Your Ears

Hosted by Jeffrey Canton

Featuring Clare Nobbs, Rico Rodriguez and Carmel Whittle

ArQuives, 34 Isabella Street

Tickets: \$20

Queers in Your Ears has delighted Festival Listeners for 25+ years with queertastic tales! Let us take you out into our Queer Toronto, out onto our queer streets, queer places and spaces with new stories by founders Rico Rodriguez, Clare Nobbs and Jeffrey Canton and joined for the first time by changemaker, Carmel Whittle.

Ticket

link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/queers-in-your-ears-are-out-and-about-tickets-907206748807?aff=oddtcreator>

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

10:00am

Storytelling with Jan Blake

Featuring Jan Blake, hosted by Rita Cox Anglican Church of the Epiphany & St. Mark, 201 Cowan Avenue

Tickets: Free

With a mesmerizing presence and a gift for bringing traditional tales to life, Jan Blake has enthralled audiences across the globe.

Concerts cont'd

Ticket link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/storytelling-with-jan-blake-tickets-907211172037?aff=oddttdcreator>

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

4:00pm, informal gathering at 3:30pm

Many Voices Tell A Story: A pre-Club Carib 50th Anniversary Fiesta Week Concert

Featuring Jan Blake, TuuP, Judith Shaw and Negus Medhin

Hosted by Kesha Christie

Artistic Direction by Heather Whaley
Caribbean Cultural Centre, 600 Wentworth Street East, Oshawa

Tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/many-voices-tell-a-story-tickets-902904550817>

*A partnership with Sassy Seniors and Club Carib Oshawa

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

7:30pm

1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Hosted by Marylyn Peringer

Featuring: Pat Bisset, June Brown, Judith Cohen, Donna Dudinsky, Asha Jalan, Howard Kaplan, Karen Kaplan, Celia Lottridge, Laurie Malabar, Nick Miceli, Eden Nameri, Briane Nasimok, Carol Ribner, Lynn Torrie

St. David's Parish Hall,
49 Donlands Avenue

Tickets: \$5:00 at the door

The evening will begin, as is our tradition, with Howard Kaplan

presenting an updated version of "We are Tellers, Not Singers", a story in song of the history of 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling. This will be followed by a program filled with talented 1001 regular tellers and singers sharing their favourite stories and songs.

Norm Perrin will be providing folk and fairytale books for sale starting at 7:00pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024

10:00am

Storytelling with Jan Blake

Featuring Jan Blake, hosted by Rita Cox
Parkdale Intercultural Association, 1365 Queen Street West

Tickets: Free

Drawing from her extensive repertoire of folktales, myths, and legends from Africa and the Caribbean, Jan's performances transport listeners to distant lands and ancient times, leaving them spellbound by the power of her storytelling.

Ticket link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/storytelling-with-jan-blake-tickets-907213288367?aff=oddttdcreator>

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024

1:00pm

StoryTent

Hosted by Donna Dudinsky

Featuring Sandra Whiting, Eden Nameri, Jean Bubba, Meryl Arbing, and Lynn Torrie

Concerts cont'd

Online: Register for link

Tickets: Free

Ticket

Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/907215113827?aff=oddtcreator>

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2024

8:00pm

All Tongues Are Red. Stories without Borders.

Featuring Jan Blake, TuuP and Dan Yashinsky

With special guest dancer/choreographer Annemarie Cabri

St. Michael and All Angels Church, Sanctuary, 611 St. Clair Avenue West

Tickets: \$25

Experience a blend of traditional tales and modern insights, woven together by these masterful storytellers as they celebrate the thread that unites all of humanity. With special guest dancer/choreographer Annemarie Cabri.

Ticket

link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/all-tongues-are-red-stories-without-borders-tickets-907216758747?aff=oddtcreator>

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

10:30am

The Teddy Bears' Picnic

Featuring Sally Jaeger, Mariella Bertelli and Laxmi Balaji

Regent Park Community Centre, 402 Shuter Street

Tickets: Free.

Ticket

Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/911747209447?aff=oddtcreator>

Children and their teddy bears and all stuffie friends are invited to a rollicking time with storytellers Sally Jaeger, Mariella Bertelli and Laxmi Balaji. For very young children and their families.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

11:30am

Stories from Many Lands: Celebrating Cultural Diversity with the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program

Featuring Maria del Carmen Ordonez, Lynda Margaret Howes, Guita Movallali, Vijaya Agrawal, and Seema Walia

Regent Park Community Centre, 402 Shuter Street

Tickets: Free

Ticket Link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/911753287627?aff=oddtcreator>

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

1:00pm

Musical Story Studio

Hosted by Sarah Abusarar and Cassie Norton

Regent Park Community Centre, 402 Shuter Street

Tickets: Free

Musical Story Studio aims to share our love of music and story creation with everyone, especially those who may not see themselves represented in mainstream art and music. They believe that it is important for diverse voices to be empowered to share their stories

Concerts cont'd

and to be heard. We need to create opportunities to listen to, and understand each-other's differences so that we can work together. In our modern society youth and seniors rarely have the opportunity to interact in meaningful ways. There are rare exceptions to this, but most extended families are separated by great distances, or at least by a lack of intersection of daily activities. Yet, in many traditional cultures, the bond and learning that happens between youth and seniors is integral. Youth learn meaningful lessons from the stories of seniors, and in turn, seniors derive a sense of purpose and engagement in life when given the opportunity to share their stories with youth.

Ticket Link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/911756376867?aff=oddtcreator>

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

2:00pm

Children's Stories with Jan Blake and TuuP

Featuring Jan Blake and TuuP
Regent Park Community Centre, 402 Shuter Street

Tickets: Free
Ticket Link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/911757269537?aff=oddtcreator>

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

3:00pm

Emerging Tellers and Open Mic

Hosted by Dan Yashinsky
Featuring Festival Elder Celia Barker-Lottridge with Brandon Lista, Walquiria Reis and Adham Hussein

Regent Park Community Centre, 402 Shuter Street

Tickets: Free
Ticket Link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/911759064907?aff=oddtcreator>

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2024

4:30pm

Festival Closing

Featuring Carmel Whittle
Regent Park Community Centre, 402 Shuter Street
Tickets: Free

Talks

FRIDAY JUNE 14, 2024

12:00pm

The Power of Story

Featuring Itah Sadu
Blackhurst Cultural Centre, 777-779
Bathurst Street
Tickets: \$10
Ticket link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-power-of-story-tickets-906139937947?aff=oddtcreator>

MONDAY, JUNE 17, 2024

10:00am, doors open at 9:30am

In Conversation with Jan Blake

The Stop Wychwood Barns, 601
Christie Street
Tickets: \$10
Ticket link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/in-conversation-with-jan-blake-tickets-907013400497?aff=oddtcreator>

Workshop

FRIDAY JUNE 14, 2024

12:00pm

Masterclass with Jan Blake: The Art of Immersive Storytelling

Parish Hall, St. Michael and All Angels
Church
611 St. Clair Avenue West
Tickets: \$100 (limit: 16 ppl)
What does a storyteller see when they tell a story and how does their experience of being with and in a story make the listener's experience an immersive one? Join Jan using stories we have yet to tell, to delve deeper into the matter.
Ticket link:
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-art-of-immersive-storytelling-a-masterclass-with-jan-blake-tickets-907057863487?aff=oddtcreator>

Local Artists

Sarah Abusarar

Sarah Abusarar is a Storyteller and a social activist. She has told stories both nationally and internationally at festivals in Canada, Italy, Croatia, Bosnia, Tunisia, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates. Her favourite stories are ones that promote social transformation. Sarah has used stories in a therapeutic way with people of all ages. Sarah's childlike energy combined with her love for rhythm has led her to work with Musical Story Studio in improvising with stories and sound in a playful and meaningful way.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 1:00pm** – Musical Story Studio

Vijaya Agraval

Vijaya Agraval participated in the Mother Goose program as a parent with her two children, and decided to become a trained teacher with the Parent Child Mother Goose Program. She grew up in India and learned stories in her family.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 11:30am** – Stories from Many Lands

Itzel Alonso

Itzel Alonso is a Mexican Cultural Heritage Conservator. She has restored several cultural artifacts including archaeological ceramics and basketry, books, and clothing that belong to both museums and private collectors. Her purpose as a storyteller is to share the richness of Mexican intangible cultural heritage through stories, music, and dance, emphasizing the importance of honouring the ancient cultures' wisdom.

Nowadays Itzel is part of "The Mexicans' Folk Ballet," based in

Toronto. She has performed as a storyteller at Evergreen Brick Works during the Mourning Festival 2023 to celebrate the Day of the Dead.

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** – Student Showcase

Meryl Arbing

Meryl has been a fixture in the Toronto Storytelling community for the past 40 years. A regular at 1001 Friday Nights and the Festival, his name pops up in connection with storytelling events across the city.

Appearing:

- **June 15th, 1:00pm** – StoryTent

Asha

Asha is a story enthusiast and enjoys listening and telling stories in Toronto. The story she's telling is a true, personal story

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling

Laxmi Balaji

Laxmi, a vibrant storyteller from India now in Canada, shares tales with expression and voice modulation, captivating audiences. She specializes in Indian mythological stories and folktales in English and Tamil. Laxmi has performed at schools, libraries, and festivals, including the Toronto International Storytelling Festival. She's received the 2023 "Emerging Storyteller Award" and is an Apprentice Teacher in the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program. Laxmi weaves enchanting tales, enriching her community's cultural tapestry

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** – Student Showcase

Local Artists

June 16th, 11:30am – The Teddy Bears’ Picnic

Mariella Bertelli – Festival Director

Mariella Bertelli believes in the power of stories to transform and inspire and to build communities. A storytelling teacher, workshop leader and child advocate, Mariella has a versatile repertoire for all audiences. She loves to bring different voices together, weaving threads of stories from a variety of cultures. Mariella has directed and performed in storytelling ensemble shows. She finds great joy most especially when performing with her granddaughter.

- **June 16th, 10:30am** – The Teddy Bears’ Picnic

Dinny Biggs – Festival Director

Dinny Biggs volunteered nationally as president of the Storytellers of Canada-Conteurs du Canada and was co-host of SC-CC's annual national conference when held in Peterborough ON. She worked for Storytelling Toronto to facilitate the Village of Storytellers Projects working with the Regent Park community, was volunteer coordinator at past Toronto International Storytelling Festivals, and co-produced the Stories Into Memories symposium. Dinny takes greatest pleasure now telling stories to her five grandchildren who, at the moment, are loyal listeners.

Pat Bisset

Pat Bisset loves to tell stories from the smallest Nursery Rhyme to long sagas of lesser known Canadian heroes. In between are a large range of world folk and fairy tales.

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

India Brown (she/her)

India is a Mississauga-born multi-form creative writer specializing in short stories, stage plays, and spoken word poetry. She’s the 2nd place winner of the 2023 Mississauga Youth Poetry Slam, the 3rd place winner of the 2024 Hart House Literary Contest, and has mounted two original student plays. She’s currently finishing a BA in Dramaturgy, English, and Sociocultural Anthropology at UTM

Appearing:

- **June 13th, 7:00pm** – Many Voices Tell A Story: A Fusion: Beats. Words. Poems.

June Brown

June’s love of storytelling started in childhood when she heard her first ghost story around a campfire. The excitement she felt as the oral tale filled her imagination made her want to tell stories herself. Based in Toronto for the last forty years, she has told her tales to adults and children in libraries, schools, senior centers, museums, cafes, Rotary and Probus clubs, and Storytelling Festivals. June likes to use humor, music, props, and audience participation to keep her audience engaged. Her repertoire includes folktales, personal stories, legends, myths, and environmental stories. June is a member of the Storytellers of Canada-Conteurs du Canada, Storytelling Toronto, and the York Storytelling Guild. She is a regular teller at Toronto’s 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling.

Appearing:

- **June 9th, 2:30pm** – I Didn’t See The Coming
- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling

Local Artists

Jasper Bryan

Jasper Bryan (he/him/they) is an expressive arts therapist, facilitator, multimodal artist, and children's book author and illustrator. He is a leader in Toronto's 2SLGBTQIA+ community, exploring the intersections of art and mental health to empower everybody. You can find out more about Jasper on his website, www.queerarttherapy.com, or instagram @queerarttherapy.

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** - Student Showcase

Jean Bubba

Jean is a Toronto-based storyteller and frequently tells in person at the 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling and on Zoom at StoryTent. She has written, compiled and produced several solo shows, notably: "Serendipity at Fifty" at the Toronto Fringe and "The Scorned Women's Tea Party" for the Toronto Storytelling Festival "Story Fire". An accomplished story artist who explores many genres, she was the requested Biblical Storyteller at the consecration of the current Anglican Bishop of Toronto, resident storyteller for Bach Vespers at Church of the Redeemer and a featured teller of personal stories at But That's Another Story, Dare Storytelling and High Stakes Storytelling events. In addition to storytelling, Jean was a cast reader in three Toronto productions of A Christmas Carol.

Appearing:

- **June 15th, 1:00pm** - StoryTent

Brenda Byers

Brenda Byers is Artistic Director of Storywyse and says, "There is great joy in bringing listening hearts together in tales true, tall, and faery." Her stories are eerie, beguiling, hilarious, and perchance, reveal magic inside ourselves.

Appearing:

- **June 9th, 2:30pm** - I Didn't See That Coming

Annemarie Cabri

Annemarie Cabri is an independent dancer, choreographer, community animator, and the Senior Teaching Artist at the National Ballet of Canada and Canadian Opera Company with extensive experience creating in unexpected and grassroots settings.

Appearing:

- **June 15th, 8:00pm** - All Tongues Are Red. Stories without Borders.

Jeffrey Canton

As an award-winning performer, educator and writer, Jeffrey Canton's love of stories has transfixed audiences, students, and readers for over three decades. He's particularly fascinated by transforming traditional stories and modes of telling into new forms driven by personal and collective histories, and popular culture. Toronto's LGBTQ2S+ history and his own queer past can unfold with a little soft-shoe and a show tune or two. As an educator and long-time member of Toronto's only LGBTQ2S+ storytelling collective, Queers in Your Ears, he has mentored performers of all ages. He has created innovative workshops for Storytelling

Local Artists cont'd

Toronto including “Transformations” and “Keeping Our Stories Alive”, created in collaboration with The ArQuives, the first storytelling workshop focusing on LGBTQ2S+ in Canada. In 2019 he was awarded the Alice Kane Award by Storytelling Toronto.

Appearing:

- **June 13th, 7:30pm** – Queers in Your Ears

Natasha Charles

Upon entering the Toronto storytelling realm in 2014, Natasha Charles has since told in various storytelling events including a few Toronto Storytelling Festivals. Her varied story cache includes fairytales and myths from both living and dead cultures, being especially drawn to dark twisted tales from the gloomy realms of our worst nightmares. Natasha is a member of the York Guild of Storytellers and the 10 Tellers. You can find her in the Storytelling Toronto Directory.

Appearing:

- **June 9th, 2:30pm** – I Didn't See that Coming!

Kesha Christie

Kesha is a captivating storyteller with a passion for preserving and celebrating African and Caribbean cultural traditions. Through her engaging performances and insightful commentary, Kesha bridges cultural divides, fostering connections and understanding among diverse audiences. As the founder of "Talkin' Tales," Kesha continues to inspire and empower individuals of all ages to engage with the oral tradition and share their own stories.

Appearing:

June 14th, 4:00pm – A pre-Club Carib 50th Anniversary Fiesta Week Concert

Judith Cohen

Judith is an ethnomusicologist, medievalist and singer who balances and combines her academic work with her life as a folk-based performer. Known internationally for her work with Sephardic and Crypto-Jewish music she is also at home with Balkan, regional Spanish and Portuguese, Franco-Canadian, Medieval Iberian and Yiddish traditions, as well as pan-European balladry. In 2023 she extended her research and performance work to music in the Moroccan Jewish communities of the Brazilian Amazon.

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Rita Cox

Rita Cox is an award-winning, master storyteller who has performed across North America, in Europe, Brazil and the Caribbean, on stage, radio and television. She teaches courses, leads workshops and seminars, and performs for adults and children. She has been on the Board of Storytelling Toronto and has served as chairperson. Her stories have appeared in many anthologies and school readers. She tells stories from the Caribbean, Africa and around the world. Rita was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 1997 and is a recipient of honorary degrees from York and Wilfred Laurier Universities and of the 1995 Black Achievement Award. On

Local Artists cont'd

Oct 22, 2008 the City of Toronto dedicated a new park in honour of Dr. Rita Cox, community activist, librarian and renowned storyteller.

Appearing:

June 12th, 6:30pm – Stories of Little Jamaica

June 14th, 10:00am – Storytelling with Jan Blake

June 15th, 10:00am – Storytelling with Jan Blake

Maria del Carmen Ordonez

Maria is a community based storyteller that has been part of the Parent Child Mother Goose Program since 2007. She loves to tell stories in Spanish and English for families and seniors.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 11:30am** – Stories from the Land

Donna Dudinsky

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 French, for more than 25 years. Specializing in folk tales from around the world, she often blends music into performances with a variety of folk songs and traditional ballads. She currently runs Storytelling Toronto's StoryTent, a weekly open mic story session where everyone is welcome to share a story.

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick
- **June 15th, 1:00pm** – StoryTent

Julia Ferguson

Julia has been telling stories on and off for about 20 years. Taking workshops through Storytelling Toronto has reignited her love of storytelling and has been a wonderful addition to her work in motivational speaking and theatre. She loves sharing everything from traditional folk and modern day tales, as well as some of her own personal and creative stories. Julia enjoys being in front of any group from young children to seniors and delivers topics geared to specific ages and themes.

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** – Storytelling Toronto Student Showcase

Lynda Howes

Lynda has been a co-teacher in the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program for many years. She provides parents with the tools to transform parenting activities into pure pleasure.

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** – Storytelling Toronto Student Showcase
- **June 16th, 11:30am** – Stories from the Land

Adham Hussein (he/him)

Adham is an up-and-coming Palestinian story teller and aspiring comedian. He gravitates towards snappier whimsical folk tales the likes of which you would hear around a fire or at the coffee house, but also has a love of sharing personal stories and lived experience.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 3:00pm** – Emerging Tellers and Open Mic

Local Artists cont'd

Sally Jaeger

Sally Jaeger has been sharing traditional and original lap rhymes, finger plays, songs and stories for over 40 years and two generations of listeners in her parent-baby/toddler programs. Sally has a knack for knowing just the right rhyme for every occasion – something every parent and caregiver can learn to do, too! www.sallyjaeger.ca

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 10:30am** – The Teddy Bears' Picnic

Howard Kaplan

Howard has been a songwriter for nearly half a century, specializing in highly unpopular topics that carry no risk of popular success. Given his advancing age, he has decided to transition from obscure to semi-retired without ever passing through famous.

Appearing:

June 14th, 7:30pm – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Karen Kaplan

Karen's stories come with a tune, which is to say: Karen is a singer who is particularly drawn to story songs old and new. A small part of her repertoire is of her own making.

Appearing:

June 14th, 7:30pm – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Anna Kerz

Anna Kerz is a storyteller and author known for her personal stories, as well as her wide repertoire of tales that touch the heart and tickle the funny bone.

Appearing:

June 9th, 2:30pm – I Didn't See That Coming

June 14th, 7:30pm – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Celia Lottridge

Celia came to Toronto in 1975. In the US she had told stories as a children's librarian. In Toronto she went to the University of Toronto to qualify as an Ontario teacher, but the Toronto School Board was not hiring. Fortunately someone suggested she talk to Judy Sarick of the Children's Book Store and that is where she worked for several years.

Celia told a set of Hodja Stories at the First Toronto Festival of Storytelling and has gone on to take part in every Festival since.

In the following years Celia has taught many storytelling courses, and has gone to many parts of Canada to tell stories in schools and communities. She worked on a pilot project that led to the Parent Child Mother Goose Program.

Celia continues to tell stories and teach courses for Storytelling Toronto, on line. Storytelling continues to weave itself into her life. And it always will.

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick
- **June 16th, 3:00pm** – Emerging Tellers and Open Mic

Local Artists cont'd

Brandon Lista (he/him)

Brandon is a storyteller, educator, and community animator. He has a passion for telling folktales from around the world, and dabbles in the odd personal tale. With a background in engineering and education, he believes that storytelling is the key to helping professionals become better communicators and problem solvers. He is currently serving as secretary for the Board of Storytelling Toronto.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 3:00pm** - Emerging Tellers and Open Mic

Laurie Malabar - Festival Director

Laurie enjoys telling fairy tales, folk tales and personal stories told with a sprinkle of humour. A long standing member of Storytelling Toronto and the York Storytelling Guild, Laurie can be found most Friday nights telling stories to adults at 1001 Friday Nights Of Storytelling in Toronto or in Collingwood telling stories to children outdoors at the Forest Schools.

Appearing:

- **June 9th, 2:30pm** - I Didn't See That Coming
- **June 14th, 7:30pm** - 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Dawne McFarlane

My Scottish Grandfather was a storyteller, and my Celtic Ancestors spoke Gaelic. I'm actively engaged with global storytelling communities and

deeply committed to honouring tradition bearers. I've been a performing artist for more than 30 years. I perform and teach storytelling across Canada and internationally, in person and online. Artistic Director of Toronto Storytelling Festivals 2019, 2020, 2021, longtime member of the Storytelling Toronto community, I'm a member of Storytellers of Canada-Conteurs du Canada. I work in partnership with Earth Story Tellers. www.dawnemcfarlane.ca <https://www.hawthornpress.com/books/storytelling/fairytales-families-forests/>

Appearing:

June 11th, 8:00pm - Storytelling Toronto Student Show

Negus Medhin

Negus is a Holistic Health Therapist. He is also a professional Master African-Caribbean drummer, singer and performer who conducts workshops, classes and tutorials.

Appearing:

June 14th, 4:00pm - Many Voices Tell A Story: A pre-Club Carib 50th Anniversary Fiesta Week Concert

Nick Miceli

Nick has been involved for many years with 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling and The Ten Tellers ensemble. He has been part of an annual World Storytelling Day concert with The Ten Tellers, the Toronto International Storytelling Festival and the Storytellers of Canada/Conteurs du Canada conference. He has self published Dragon on the Mountain, a storytelling CD.

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** - 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling

Local Artists cont'd

Musical Story Studio (Sarah Abusarar and Cassie Norton)

Musical Story Studio uses interdisciplinary story and music-making practices to allow for a diverse range of learners to organically engage into the process of creation. In their workshops, the thematic material evolves throughout the process, shaped and informed through the various participants' interests and values. They believe that it is important for diverse voices to be empowered to share their stories and to be heard. The Musical Story Studio workshops and performances encourage participants to explore their unique place in the world, and especially their relationship to the natural world, both through creative expression and hands-on learning.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 1:00pm**

Briane Nasimok

Briane believes he has been living and telling stories since age six, when he shared a tale with his parents so his older brother would be blamed for the mess. Since then he has created three one person Fringe shows, performed in various parts of Canada, been a guest teller at previous Festivals and created the monthly series "But That's Another Story", he co-hosts with Cristel Bartelse

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Eden Nameri

In 1988, Eden Nameri accidentally walked into a storytelling class and has been telling stories on purpose ever since. Whether telling Bible stories, myths, epics, or folktales, she uncovers hidden aspects and incorporates plenty of personal perspective as a queer Jewish woman. A longtime member of Storytelling Toronto, Eden often tells at the Toronto Storytelling Festival, 1001 Friday Nights, Queers in Your Ears, and community events.

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 7:30pm** – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling

Cassie Norton

Cassie is Toronto based a violinist/singer songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, improviser and climate activist. She has travelled widely, and performed with musicians from all over the world, including Jung Mina (South Korea) and Ashutosh Adikary (Bangladesh). In fall of 2020 Cassie co-founded Musical Story Studio with Storyteller Sarah Abusarar and pianist/singer-songwriter Chris Taeyoung-Kim.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 1:00pm** – Musical Story Studio

Clare Nobbs

Clare Nobbs has told stories for as long as she can remember. Her greatest storytelling influence was the mesmerizing, late Helen Porter. A member of Queers In Your Ears since 1997, Clare has told in libraries, at schools, conferences, and festivals

Local Artists cont'd

across Ontario and as far away as Newfoundland. Clare is grateful for all the opportunities to explore and share tales of emerging into, living and breathing queerness with such a creative bunch of tellers. She is equally grateful to the family, friends, and allies who have supported QIYE since their very first performances.

Appearing:

- **June 13th, 7:30pm** - Queers in Your Ears

Maxine Palomino

Maxine's performances resonate with the sounds, language, and rhythms of her Jamaican roots and heritage; and celebrate the rich and diverse cultural legacy of the Caribbean, including its inextricable link to Africa. Instagram: @caribbean.tallahawh

Her storytelling illuminates lesser-known cultural and personal stories, often giving voice to the forgotten; inspires joy and belonging; ignites memories and traditions; and pays respect to all voices, thereby bridging generations. Performing nationally and internationally for all ages, she is co-founder of Ancestral Voices We Belong, hosting events for Black, Indigenous, Caribbean & African authors and creatives. Jraa lang bench kom lisen* as Maxine tells. *draw long bench come listen

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** - Student Showcase

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program

The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program (P-CMGP) fosters strong parent-child bonds through the magic of storytelling, songs, and rhymes

Since 1984, we have empowered families with diverse backgrounds, providing free programs that promote early childhood development. Our team creates inclusive and engaging experiences for parents and their children. Our program stands out for its comprehensive approach, dedicated support, and long-standing history of success. Together, we celebrate cultural diversity, language, and the joy of shared moments, building stronger communities one story at a time.

Our team of passionate storytellers includes Maria del Carmen Ordonez, Lynda Margaret Howes, Guita Movallali, Vijaya Agrawal, and Seema Walia. More information can be found on our website: <https://parentchildmothergoose.org/>

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 11:30am** - Stories from Many Lands

Marylyn Peringer

Since 1979, Marylyn has shared stories with listeners of all ages in the Toronto area, across Canada and abroad. Her special interest is the folktales and legends of French-speaking Canada. She has been a Storytelling Toronto instructor for over 25 years, a good part of that time as Resident Teacher.

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** - Student Showcase
- **June 14th, 7:30pm** - 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Local Artists cont'd

Tahira Rajwani (she/her)

Tahira is a South Asian spoken word artist based in Mississauga, Ontario and Promotions Lead with the local open mic series, Sauga Poetry. She is the winner of the 2022 Mississauga Poetry Slam and runner-up in Button Poetry's 2022 Poem Cover Contest. Tahira is a recipient of a 2023 Didihood grant and a 2024 Mississauga Arts Council Microgrant.

Appearing:

- **June 13th, 7:00pm** – Many Voices Tell A Story: A Fusion: Beats. Words. Poems.

Walquiria Ribeiro Reis

Walquiria is crazy about stories. As a kindergarten teacher, telling stories for kids, my connection with stories grew strong. However, only when I moved to Canada, with the support of the Torontonians storytellers, I decided to take my first steps towards the stage.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 3:00pm** – Emerging Tellers and Open Mic

Carol Ribner

Carol started attending 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling in 2016 after retiring from her job as a psychotherapist. Soon she was regularly telling personal stories at 1001 and went on to tell at the Toronto Storytelling Festival and as a feature teller at Storyspace out of Boston. In 2021, along with Susan Ida Boucaud, she started co-producing the on-line storytelling project "Her Voice Returns" which features stories about women's experiences and the Feminine Principle.

Appearing:

June 14th, 7:30pm – 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling: The Talking Stick

Rico Rodriguez

Rico Rodriguez is an award-winning storyteller, semi-retired drag queen, percussionist and teacher with Toronto District School Board. Drawing from his Latinx and queer backgrounds he creates and performs personal stories and also tells folktales that are infused with equity and social change themes. Story listeners say that his easy telling style and masterful use of humour, even when telling about the most painful of situations, enables him to draw them in, in a challenging exploration of these issues. He tells in schools, theatres, libraries, festivals, pubs, and conferences across Canada and the U.S. He founded "Queers in Your Ears", the only 2SLGBTQI storytelling collective in Toronto in 1997. Many of his storytelling projects have been funded by the Canada Council, Toronto Arts Council, and the Ontario Arts Council. Rico believes that stories convey the culture, history, and values that unite the diversity of the LGBTQ2S+ community.

Appearing:

June 13th, 7:30pm – Queers in Your Ears

Mary Samuels

Mary is a retired Registered Nurse in Toronto. She has attended 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling on and off over the past five years, and has recently renewed her interest in storytelling this year through the course Storytelling 1: First Steps with Marylyn Peringer.

Appearing:

- **June 11th, 8:00pm** – Storytelling Toronto Student Showcase

Local Artists cont'd

Goldie Spencer

Goldie Spencer's been weaving her tales for close to 30 years. She has performed in storytelling festivals across Canada and in Australia. Goldie writes many of her stories, two of them being Canadian historical stories, Les Filles de Rot and Women of the Yukon. She also taught The Art of Storytelling for 18 years at Ryerson University (now Toronto Metropolitan University).

Appearing:

- **June 9th, 2:30pm** - I Didn't See That Coming

Lynn Torrie

Lynn Torrie is a Toronto storyteller with a passion for traditional folk tales and Canadian history. Her original adaptations have been told at festivals, schools, museums and online. When not telling stories herself, she teaches workshops in storytelling and coaches emerging tellers. She is a member of the York storytelling Guild and a regular host at Storytelling Toronto's StoryTent, 1001 Friday Nights of Storytelling and StorySwap Canada.

Appearing:

June 9th, 2:30pm - I Didn't See That Coming

June 14th, 7:30pm - 1001 Friday Nights

June 15th, 1:00pm - StoryTent

Seema Walia

Seema joined the Parent Child Mother Goose Program with her youngest son. She loved the rhymes and stories, and became part of the Mother Goose Program as a trained teacher. She likes to tell stories and rhymes from India.

Appearing:

- **June 16th, 11:30am** - Stories from the Land

Brian Walsh

Brian Walsh is a professional storyteller specializing in Celtic Mythology as a source of wisdom and humour, discomfort and delight. Brian's background is in Psychotherapy, World Religions, and Celtic Studies. He has told at diverse venues including festivals, schools/universities, and around the campfire under the stars. brianwalsh.ca

Appearing:

- **June 9th, 2:30pm** - I Didn't See That Coming

Heather Walsh - Festival Director

Heather has been a storytelling supporter for many years. A retired CPA in the not-for-profit and investment industries, she continues to actively volunteer with CPA Canada's Financial Literacy program. Heather is happy to offer her expertise to Storytelling Toronto and the Toronto International Storytelling Festival.

Heather Whaley

Heather is best known as a musical storyteller and singer-songwriter. She is a consummate performer and initiator of community events, Heather had a six-year stint as Artistic Director of Storytelling Toronto's StoryFusion Cabaret concert series and is the recipient of several grant awards.

Appearing:

- **June 14th, 4:00pm** - A pre-Club Carib 50th Anniversary Fiesta Week Concert

Local Artists cont'd

Carmel Whittle

Carmel Whittle is a Mi'kmaw-Irish 2SQI artist, musician, song writer, educator, independent filmmaker and storyteller hailing from Newfoundland—a province whose harsh beauty and strong people have moulded her into an artist with a deep understanding of the struggle that Indigenous people in this country are going through. She wears many hats as a cultural community artist and sees her role as a change maker, dedicated to justice and decolonizing the arts—animating specific to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls for Action in diverse groups and circles including the Elders Circle and student discussions with the University of Ottawa OPIRG group, the Western University Wisdom Circle, and the McMaster University Echoes From the Land arts project. She is also founder and director-curator of the Ottawa No Borders Arts Festival.

Appearing:

- **June 13th, 7:00pm** - Opening Ceremony
- **June 13th, 7:30pm** - Queers in Your Ears
- **June 16th, 4:30pm** - Closing Ceremony

Dan Yashinsky

Dan is a storyteller, writer, and community animator. His books include *I Am Full - Stories for Jacob*, *The Golden Apples*, and *Suddenly They Heard Footsteps - Storytelling for the Twenty-first Century*.

Appearing:

- **June 15th, 8:00pm** - All Tongues Are Red. Stories without Borders.
- **June 16th, 3:00pm** - Emerging Tellers and Open Mic

Many Thanks

Storytelling Toronto is proud to run our 45th annual Toronto International Storytelling Festival. "Many Voices Tell a Story" is an exciting celebration of our local and international storytelling community, designed to showcase the incredible talents of these individuals and foster a sense of togetherness. It's more than just a storytelling event. It's an opportunity for listeners and tellers of all genres to come together, discover new stories, and enjoy live concerts.

We invite you to join us on this journey of discovery and community celebration as we aim to create a memorable and impactful festival highlighting our community's extraordinary talent. Your support is so appreciated in making this vision a reality, and together, we can celebrate "Many Voices Tell A Story" and our collective experience.

- York Storytelling Guild and Bruce Stoddart of St David's Anglican Church, Parish Hall
- Debra Baptiste, former Executive Director, and her Little Jamaica initiative in 2023
- Regent Park Community Centre, City of Toronto; Community Recreation Programmer, Victoria Jack and staff
- Sean and Ian of The Friends of Regent Park and their cookies provided at June 16th events
- Lisa Marie DiLiberto, Theatre Direct
- The Children's Book Bank; Kaushika Nayar, Manager of Programming & Volunteers; and staff, Jeffrey Wong and volunteers
- Art Gallery of Mississauga, Executive Director Anna Gulbinski and Community Activator, Jennifer Polo
- Raegan Swanson Executive Director and staff at ArQuives, Toronto
- Rita Cox, master storyteller and community leader in Parkdale, Toronto
- Maureen Copping, Dominic Barilla and staff of the Maria A. Shchuka Library, Toronto Public Library
- Lo Humeniuk and staff of the North York Central Library, Toronto Public Library
- Michael Nguyen Executive Director and staff of Parkdale Intercultural Association and Merek Kurek, Program Manager
- Rev Dr. Jason McKinney, Rev Canon Claudette Taylor, Deacon, of the Anglican Church of the Epiphany & St Marks; Scott Drakeford, Admin and Music Director; volunteer, Ian Jones
- Blackhurst Cultural Centre, Misha-Louise Gilchrist, staff and volunteers
- The Club Carib of Oshawa Inc., President, Lydia Francis; Vice President, Norma Chapman-Holder
- St Michael & All Angels Anglican Church, Arch Deacon A Paul Feheley, Pastor Jenni Feheley, staff; Alex, Reuben and volunteers
- Festival Volunteers; Jennifer Cayley, Anne Fleming, Samaneh Taghipour, Gary Kahut, Stephanie Lever, Walquiria Reis, Dolores Sirola, Andrea Petrut, Goldie Spencer, Rubena Sinha, Karen Blair, Lynn Torrie, Kesha Christie, Jim Noble, Camila Gracia, Boris Skrylnikov and Sedraina Rondrohasina.

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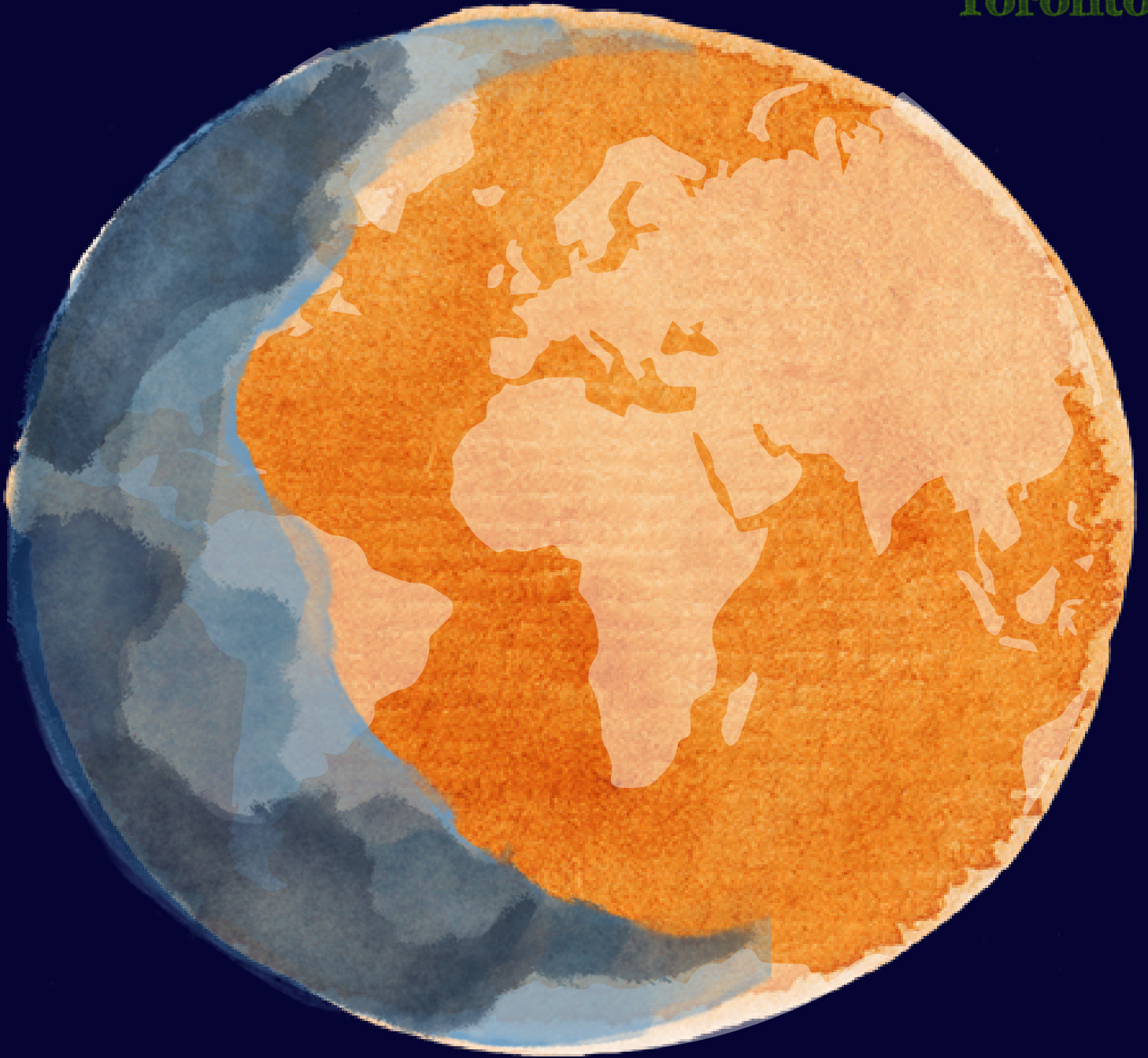
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45TH TORONTO INTERNATIONAL STORYTELLING FESTIVAL
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