

Kentucky Storytelling Association Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 3.1 – Summer Issue Supplement

August, 2016



Inside this issue

- VSA Kentucky Arts Inclusion Program 1
- Kentucky Storytelling Conference Update 2
- Meet Your 2016 Torchbearers 6
- KSA in Kentucky Humanities Catalog 7
- Cave Run Storytelling Festival 8
- Your KSA Board Members 8

VSA Kentucky Arts Inclusion Program Ed Bryson

VSA Kentucky, in partnership with the Kentucky Dept. of Education and VSA, a Program of the Kennedy Center, is offering twenty-five to thirty funding awards of \$1,300.00 to schools throughout Kentucky in inclusionary, hands-on arts projects through their Arts Inclusion Residency Program. This program was designed by VSA Kentucky (in partnership with the Kentucky Dept. of Education) to provide opportunities and experiences in the arts for all children (with and without disabilities) that interface with Kentucky Arts Standards and the classroom curriculum in mainstream settings. This is an opportunity for classroom teachers (academic, special education, art teachers/specialists) and artists (in the arts disciplines of dance, drama, literary arts, music, storytelling, or visual arts) to work together to plan a fully inclusionary arts project for a group as small as 25 children to a larger group. Any project idea that provides **experiential**, enriching, **adaptive** experiences in an art form(s) for all students is worthy of VAS Kentucky consideration.

Four Kentucky Storytelling Association members are included on the VSA Teaching Artist Roster: Cynthia Changaris, Mary Hamilton, Thomas Freese, and Octavia Sexton. It is also possible for a school to apply with an artist who is not on the roster, and it is possible for artists to apply to join the roster too. Visit <http://vsartsy.org/programs/arts-inclusion/> for application forms and additional details. Arts Inclusion Residency Application must be postmarked by October 20, 2016.

Kentucky Storytelling Conference Update by Mary Hamilton

Your July KSA Newsletter included your Kentucky Storytelling Conference Registration and lodging information. Here is the promised update on Featured Teller and Workshop Presenter selections:

Featured Tellers – Jonatha & Harold Wright

Jonatha and Harold Wright are sought-after performers and teachers of storytelling. The Wrights have told stories professionally both solo and in tandem for over two decades. They specialize in Japanese, Ohio and Ohio Appalachian stories of all genres. Their performances are personable and lively. They carry their audience through the full range of emotions with sensitivity and taste. Ohio is their home and Japan their home away from home. Jonatha edited a book on tandem telling, *Team Up! Tell in Tandem*, published in 2010. Harold is Professor Emeritus of Japanese Language and Literature at Antioch College. The Wrights tell stories to all ages and in a wide variety of venues ranging from college campuses and homes for challenged individuals to art museums and historical societies. Learn more at www.jonathaandharold.com. Jonatha and Harold are also long-time KSA members!



2016 Conference Workshops

1. Twisting the Tale

The art of the storyteller lies in the unique telling of a tale. Explore different ways to approach a story to discover your special voice in this fun-filled workshop where each participant will put an individual spin on a well-known folktale to see how it changes while remaining the same. Results are always amusing and sometimes amazing! Participants will leave with methods which can be applied to every storytelling situation. They will:

- Learn to see and sense the characters, animate and inanimate, in a story.
 - Be coached to connect with their feelings about the material.
 - Rewrite part of a story using the approaches we have practiced.
- Finally, we will tell our versions of the same story to each other.

Intended Participants: All age levels, beginning and intermediate telling experience levels will benefit most, but all are welcome.

Length: 140 Minutes. Location: Room 308.

Presenter: Laura J. Bobrow

An enthusiastic and inventive teacher Laura J. Bobrow calls upon her expertise to enable each participant in her workshop to find a personal creative niche. In addition to her career as a storyteller, Laura is a prize-winning poet and author whose published work extends internationally. Laura has contributed to a variety of periodicals on the subject of storytelling. Learn more at www.laurajbobrow.com.



2. Pathways to Adding a Second Language to Your Tales

Celebrate and connect our diverse communities by incorporating another language into your stories. Learn strategies and techniques for blending an additional language into your stories increasing cross-cultural understanding and communication. Fluency in second language is NOT required.

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants will:

- Retell at least one short story using a second language.
- Be able to add in words and phrases of a second language to their stories.
- Learn multiple strategies and techniques for adding a second language into a story.

Intended Participants: Appropriate for all age and telling experience levels. Especially appropriate for teachers, student tellers, and professional storytellers.
Length: 140 Minutes. Location: Room 307.
Presenter: Carrie Sue Ayvar

Carrie Sue Ayvar is an award-winning, bilingual storyteller, speaker, Kennedy Center and Wolfrap trained Teaching Artist and Chautauqua Scholar who loves to connect people, languages and cultures via shared stories. Believing, as her grandfather taught her, that “If you don’t know the trees you may be lost in the forest, but if you don’t know the stories you may be lost in life”, she performs at venues large and small throughout the US and Mexico. Learn more at www.carriesueayvar.com.



3. Mining Your Personal Narratives: Developing 5 Minute Slam Stories

Learn strategies and techniques that will help you develop stories from your life based on your interpretation of a prearranged theme. This workshop will begin with a short discussion of Moth style Story Slam rules and expectations, including tips and tricks. Participants will then break off into small groups to develop ideas for a 5-minute story. Then, names of everyone who wants a chance to tell their story will be placed in the hat and 5 -- 10 names will be drawn. Those whose names are not chosen will act as judges. The rest of the time will be spent in Moth Story Slam mode, with a small prize for the winner. Each participant will leave with a 5-minute story and a Moth-style experience.

Intended Participants: Ages 18 and older; all telling experience levels.
Length: 140 Minutes. Location: Room 306.
Presenters: Amanda Hay & Mick Parsons



Mick Parsons is a storyteller, a published poet, as well as an experienced teacher and performer.

Amanda Hay is a multiple Moth Story Slam winner.



4. Enhance Your Storytelling Through Toastmasters

Need stage time to practice your stories? Or feedback on a new tale? Learn how Toastmasters can provide these benefits and more.

Participants will

- Learn the tenets of good feedback.
- Have the opportunity to tell short stories (5 minutes or less) and receive/give feedback.
- Learn how to write effective introductions for emcees who will be introducing them.
- Explore other benefits of participating in Toastmasters.

Intended Participants: Ages 18 and older; all telling experience levels; any profession.
Length: 70 Minutes. Location: Room 308.

Presenter: Steve Lanham

KSA President Steve Lanham credits his success as a storyteller and speaker to his involvement in Toastmasters over the last dozen years. He describes Toastmasters meetings as “a life-long learning laboratory” where he and other members regularly conduct experiments called stories and speeches. Steve also firmly believes in the value of feedback – both oral and written – given to speakers/tellers at every Toastmasters meeting. He has conducted numerous workshops on giving feedback and various other topics at Toastmasters conferences and training events. He has also participated in Toastmasters speech contests at the club, area, division, and district levels.



5. Team Up! Tell in Tandem

From our 'Lucky Thirteen Essentials of Tandem Telling,' as explained in Jonatha's book, *Team Up! Tell In Tandem* to exciting full-blown examples of style, and execution, this workshop will give you the necessary tools to tell stories with a partner. Participants will observe and practice a variety of techniques for telling, teaming with a partner(s). Also each person will be able to add a story to their repertoire perfect for tandem telling.

Intended Participants: All age and telling experience levels.

Length: 70 Minutes. Location: Room 307.

Presenters: Jonatha and Harold Wright (See Featured Teller information about them on page 2.)

6. Playful Creativity: Breaking Blocks, Deepening Telling, Fooling Your Insecurities Away

Even storytellers get stuck. Through play we learn new things about character, plot, technique and ourselves. Come play with improv, language etc and get unstuck!

At the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Use a variety of play techniques to develop new stories and explore old material
- Understand their own creative process more deeply
- Have a deeper sense of the non-verbal story and character information they can access through their bodies and through drawing

Intended Participants: Appropriate for all age and telling experience levels.

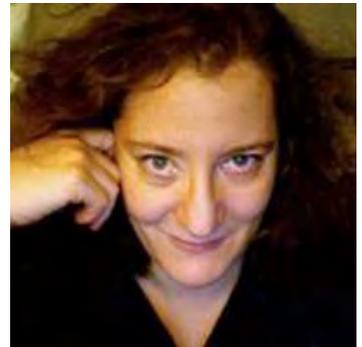
Length: 70 Minutes. Location: Room 306.

Presenter: Laura Packer

Laura Packer knows the best way to the truth is through a good story. She is the winner of a 2010 National Storytelling Network ORACLE Award and the 2012 League for the Advancement of New England Storytelling Brother Blue Award.

Laura has used the transformative power of writing and story to entertain, enlighten, coach, heal and consult. She has worked around the world. Learn more at

www.laurapacker.com.



7. Thinking Beyond the Festival: Building A Storytelling Series

Without decades of history, a Festival startup might not be wisest. Consider bringing a storytelling series to your community with these tips, considerations, and experiences.

Adam Booth will share the thoughts and trials experienced while creating, running, and revamping the Speak Story Series in Shepherdstown, WV. Participants will be presented with the obstacles this series faced and then challenged to solve the issues based on the needs and resources of their own communities. Booth will also share the choices and methodologies Speak Story Series used and the resulting successes and/or failures.

You will leave the workshop with a set of reasons for starting a story series as well as considerations and experiences to help guide you should you choose to do so. You'll see possibilities for financial and social viability (compared to a festival) and have ideas for generating local interest and community engagement. You'll also have practical advice about advertising, funding, and development from a person who has made a successful endeavor into such a series.

Intended Participants: Appropriate for librarians, community activists, school teachers and storytellers/story lovers who want to create a venue.

Length: 70 Minutes. Location: Room 308.

Presenter: Adam Booth

Adam Booth's storytelling blends traditional folklore, music, and an awareness of contemporary Appalachia. His past appearances include Teller-In-Residence at the International Storytelling Center, New Voice at the National Storytelling Festival, the National Storytelling Conference, and the Appalachian Studies Association Conference, Spoken Word Resident at the Banff Centre, a collaboration with the West Virginia Dance Company, and events in seventeen states. Awards for stories and recordings include two Parents' Choice Silver Honors, three Storytelling World Awards and Honors, and four West Virginia Liars' Contest wins. He is most at home sharing stories and music with the next



generation of listeners and tellers throughout Appalachia. Learn more at www.adam-booth.com.

Adam's photo by Katelyn Stoneberger

8. Thawing the Frozen Form: Telling (from) a Written Tale

Learn how to move a story from the written tradition into a performance in the oral tradition in this interactive workshop. Together, we will explore how the body, voice, and word choices can bring a story to life by identifying the purpose and audience, re-viewing the storyline, and stepping away from the page.

Participants will leave with:

- A handout of resources and background information
- Notes from group participation about how to get a frozen story to live anew,
- Story kernels to add to their repertoire of stories.

Intended Participants: Ages – young teens and up; all telling experience levels; also entertainers, motivational speakers, educators.

Length: 70 Minutes. Location: Room 307.

Presenter: Jo Ann Dadisman

Jo Ann Dadisman finds storytelling the perfect vehicle to preserve her regional heritage and celebrate the stories that bind people together. She considers herself an Appalachian storyteller who performed as a tandem teller with June Riffle as The Mountain Echoes for more than two decades. These days, now retired with more than 40 years in the classroom, she continues to tell the old tales and some new ones while hoping to inspire others to carry the torch of storytelling onward.



Session 8. Sponsored by **Steve Lanham**

9. Getting Into Character

Learn the essentials of unforgettable characterization in a hands-on, lots of fun, learning adventure workshop that will help you to bring your characters to life. By the end of the workshop, participants will be more aware of how emotions, facial expression, gestures, costume and props can define their characters and enhance their storytelling skills.

Intended Participants: Appropriate for all age and telling experience levels. Particularly beneficial for anyone wanting to present regional, historical or biblical storytelling.

Length: 70 Minutes. Location: Room 306.

Presenter: Judy "Butterfly" Farlow

Judy "Butterfly" Farlow "What a Character! Is always a surprise" A National Award Winning Storyteller and presenter, she has over 30 years experience, performing for schools, universities and libraries in North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia as a presenter and storyteller. Learn more at <http://jbutterflyfarlow.com/>



The Kentucky Storytelling Newsletter is published quarterly and is a member benefit of your Kentucky Storytelling Association,

Mailing Address: PO Box 4148, Frankfort, KY 40604-4148.

Kentucky Storytelling Association – Developing on-going support and appreciation for storytelling in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Meet Your 2016 Torchbearers by Mary Hamilton

Five fantastic storytellers, from a college freshman to a 7th grader, are the newly selected Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearers. Who are they? Logan Scott Burris from Letcher County; Alan Layne Stacy from Perry County, Cole Vaughan from Warren County, Darby Tassell also from Warren County, and Riley Gossage from Fayette County. Read on to learn more about each of them.

Logan Burris, son of Scott and Chrissy Burris of Partridge, and a graduate of Harlan County High School, will enter Eastern Kentucky University this fall where he plans to pursue a career in sign language interpretation. For his KYS entry, Logan retold the classic urban legend *High Beams* because “It’s a suspenseful story that, if told right, will leave the room gasping at the end.” Logan says, “What I like best about storytelling is that anyone can do it, and everyone loves a good story no matter if you are 3 or 93.” Through his studies at EKU Logan hopes to branch out his storytelling to the Deaf community. This is the second time Logan has been selected as a Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearer.



Layne Stacy, son of Michelle and Alan Stacy of Ary, will be a senior at Knott County Central High School. Layne has participated on his school’s speech team ever since 4th grade and has strived to be an excellent performer for a long time. He entered the KYS program with his retelling of the Appalachian folktale *Fat Man* which he selected because “there are a lot of really fun characters in that story that children love. Also, it’s a humorous story, and comedy is one of my favorite forms of entertainment.” When asked what he likes best about storytelling, Layne replied, “I love that storytelling allows you to become different people in order to entertain others. It allows me to step out of my shoes and into the shoes of someone else. I feel as if one of the key features to storytelling is to feel and think like the characters you’re portraying, which makes them more believable.”

Cole Vaughan, son of Nick and Amy Vaughan, will be a sophomore at Bowling Green High School. Cole enjoys telling stories “with characters that are very different from me because it forces me to see things from a different point of view when I imagine how those characters might react to a situation.” For his KYS entry he chose *A Triune Tale of Diminutive Swine* by John Branyan published by Rockshow Comedy in 2012, a comedic Shakespearian retelling of the classic *Three Little Pigs* folktale to which he added sound effects and pantomime. Cole chose this story because it made him laugh and because “I also like using accents and interesting language in my storytelling. Shakespeare is fun to perform but can be difficult to understand. This is a familiar story, so the more complex language adds to the humor rather than confusing the audience.” This is Cole’s second time to be a Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearer.



Darby Tassell, daughter of Brad and Janet Tassell will be a freshman at Bowling Green High School. For her KYS entry Darby created an adaptation of “The Registry of Middle School Crushes,” written by Joseph Fink and Jeffrey Cranor for the podcast *Welcome to Night Vale*. She chose this story because she enjoys surrealist stories and liked the humor and the surprise ending. What she likes best about storytelling is “the challenge of bringing non-traditional stories to life!” During the past year Darby placed 2nd at KESDA (Kentucky Educational Speech and Drama Association), 3rd at KHSSL (Kentucky High School Speech League) state, and was a quarterfinalist for the second year in a row at Nationals – all in Storytelling. She also enjoys flute, piano, and Academic Team Quick Recall.



Riley Gossage, daughter of Debbie and Brian Gossage of Lexington, will be a 7th grader at the Fayette County School for Creative and Performing Arts. For her KYS entry, she chose *Honestly, Red Riding Hood was Rotten!: The Story of Little Red Riding Hood as Told by the Wolf* by Trisha Speed Shaskan, published by Picture Window Books in 2012, a humorous retelling of the classic folktale. When asked why she chose this story, Riley said, “I chose this story because I adore fairy tales. Ever since I was really little, I have enjoyed reading and retelling them. I have also recently gotten into point of view stories. I find it very interesting hearing the other side of such a well known story.”

All of the Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearers have received a \$100 cash award and a one-year membership in KSA. As in the past the Torchbearers will receive a free family registration for Kentucky Storytelling Conference and a plaque. New this year, three storytelling festivals in Kentucky – Cave Run, Corn Island, and Cumberland Falls -- are providing free admission to the Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearers. Bravo to these events for increasing opportunities for our Kentucky Youth Storytelling Torchbearers to see a variety of storytellers and storytelling styles.

KSA in KY Humanities Council 2016-17 Catalog by Steve Lanham

Two KSA Members are featured speakers in the 2016-17 Kentucky Humanities Catalog from the Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc. www.kyhumanities.org

Eddie Price offers three talks on Kentucky History:

The Cane Ridge Revival: The Great Revival that Transformed Kentucky
The Battle of Blue Licks
1812: Remember the Raisin!

Mary Hamilton offers three talks on Storytelling:

The Storytelling Art
Liar, Liar, Storyteller
Ears to Pen

You can read descriptions of these talks and view details of the many other talks offered by other speakers here: <https://www.kyhumanities.org/speakersroster.html>

Through the KY Humanities Council Speakers Bureau, speakers are available to non-profit community groups anywhere in Kentucky (and for K – 12 schools if comfortable for the speaker) for a fee of \$125 as long as funding is available. College sponsors as part of course credit and for-profit organizations may book speakers for a fee of \$300. All featured speakers will travel statewide. Starting August 1st you can begin booking speakers listed in the 2016-17 catalog. Bookings fill early, so act quickly to secure speakers for your group or school. For additional details and booking instructions, visit <https://www.kyhumanities.org/speakersintroduction.html>.

Cave Run Storytelling Festival by Charles Wright

The Cave Run Storytelling Festival will be held September 23 and 24, 2016 at the Twin Knobs Recreation Area, on the shore of Cave Run Lake, in the Daniel Boone National Forest, eight miles west of Morehead, Kentucky.

The featured tellers will be: Geraldine Buckley, Diane Ferlatte, Josh Goforth, Kevin Kling, Baba Jamal Koram, Bil Lepp, and Kim Weitkamp.

The Kentucky Storytelling Association will be running a Story Slam on Saturday evening between 5:30 and 6:45 pm. Sign up for the slam will be in the resource tent. The time limit for stories will be five (5) minutes and the content can be any family-friendly topic. There will be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.

For information on tickets and other information: <http://www.caverunstoryfest.org/index.html>.

Your KSA Board Members are:

President, Steve Lanham, President@kystory.org, 502-319-0252
1064 Melody Lane, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342

President-elect, , President-Elect@kystory.org, this position is currently vacant

Secretary, Bob Thompson, Secretary@kystory.org, 502-553-3406
7712 Briarwood Drive, Crestwood, KY 40014

Treasurer, Maryann Zoll, Treasurer@kystory.org, 859-339-8009
386 Hurt Lane, Lancaster, KY 40444

Quadrant 1 Board Member, This position is currently vacant.

Quadrant 2 Board Member, Cynthia Lanham, Quad2@kystory.org, 502-600-1851
1064 Melody Lane, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342

Quadrant 3 Board Member, Ed Bryson, Quad3@kystory.org, 859-489-9417
205 Hillbrook Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356

Quadrant 4 Board Member, Amanda Hay, Quad4@kystory.org, 502-381-7957
119 E Tenny Avenue, Louisville, KY 40214

At-Large 1 Board Member, Charles Wright, At-large1@kystory.org, 502-223-4523
65 Springhill Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601

At-Large 2 Board Member, Betsy Fleischer, At-large2@kystory.org, 859-612-8275
305 Cole Lane, Harrodsburg, KY 40330-7715