



TEJAS Teller

TEJAS STORYTELLING ASSOCIATION

www.tejasstorytelling.com Vol. 26, Issue November/December 2012

The 28th Annual



Maps, Music & Merriment

By Kim Lehman

The 28th Texas Storytelling Festival is gearing up to be an international ride full of stories and workshops you will not want to miss. Our workshop offerings will take you to Japan and Africa. You will have an opportunity to learn more about incorporating humor and history in your stories. Do you find working with a microphone terrifying? Paul Porter will help you negotiate this challenging terrain. Here is a complete list of the workshops that will be offered at the Festival. These unique learning experiences are just one of the many reasons to mark your calendar now for the Texas Storytelling Festival, March 7-10.

Workshops Offered

- Shaping Stories from History* with Willy Claflin
African and African-American Storytelling
with DeCee Cornish
- Humor for Storytelling* with Andy Offutt Irwin
- Cured by a Fairytale* with Flavia Everman
- Storytelling 101* with Rosie Cutrer
- Making a Story Sandwich: Stretchers Between Stories* with
Kim Lehman
- Cultural Authenticity and Accuracy: Issues and Challenges*
for Storytellers with Judi Moreillon
- Japanese Tales and Culture* with Motoko
- Microphone Basics* with Paul Porter
- Sing a Story, Tell a Song* with Fran Stallings
- Storytelling and Critical Thinking* with Charles Temple
- Details, Details. . . Descriptive Language Makes It Real*
with Darci Tucker

A Master Class will also be offered. Details soon.

Ticket Prices

Register by February 15 for Early Bird Rates

Registration (by Feb. 15)	\$60 TSA members \$95 non-members
Registration (after Feb. 15)	\$95 TSA members \$130 non-members
One Day Tickets	\$45 TSA members \$55 non-members
Individual Concerts	\$10
Individual Workshops	\$25
Master Class	\$50

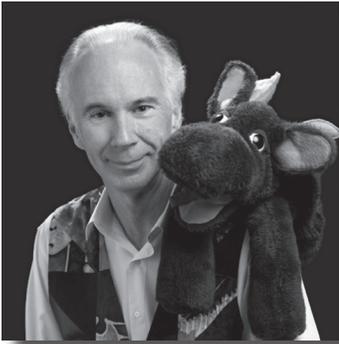
Children and an accompanying Adult-Free for Saturday Children's Activities

Ghost Story Concert and the Sacred Tales Concert are both free and open to the public.

Tejas Storytelling Festival

March 7-10, 2013 • Civic Center • Denton Texas

Featured Tellers



Back by popular demand, **Willy Clafin** will be accompanied by his sidekick Maynard Moose. (Or is it the other way around? It's hard to tell.) Master of the fractured fairytale, Willy has delighted children and adults across the nation. Maynard's picture book *The Uglified Ducky* won the Bluebonnet Award for the most popular children's book in Texas in 2011.



DeCee Cornish is best described as an "urban griot." He brings to life African and African-American history and folklore with compelling eloquence. Street smart and side splitting, his tall tales have taken top prizes at Liars Contests throughout the state. A Touring Artist for the Texas Commission on the Arts, DeCee works extensively with at risk youth.

Some people have "inner-kids." Featured teller **Andy Offutt Irwin** has an "outer-kid." With a manic Silly Putty voice, astonishing mouth noises and hilarious stories, he is equal parts mischievous schoolboy and all of the Marx Brothers, seasoned with a touch of the Southern balladeer. You'll laugh 'til your face hurts.



A native of Osaka, Japan, **Motoko** first came to the United States as an exchange student. She has shared the beauty and charm of her Japanese folktales at the National Storytelling Festival and on "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." Her personal stories of girlhood in Japan are evocative and deeply moving.

Accompanying Motoko will be our Special Guest **Eshu Bumpus**. Eshu is a renowned storyteller, an accomplished jazz vocalist and a master of physical characterization. His African tales are filled with music, humor and mystery that created 36 sold-out performances at the Smithsonian. Working with his partner Motoko, the sum is greater than the parts.



These featured tellers will join with Tejas storytellers for a lineup of concerts, Ghost Stories and Sacred Tales that are bound to fill up your heart and leave your body limp with laughter.

Hotel Rooms

Denton is a happening place. There will be another event the same weekend as the Festival. It is called 35Denton featuring music and attracting several thousand people. The good news is we have a block of rooms at the Hampton Inn and Suites. But you need to know that once those rooms are gone finding lodging may be challenging.

Hampton Inn and Suites
1513 Centre Place Drive, Denton, Texas, 76205
1-940-891-4900
Rooms are \$70 or \$80 for a queen suite



Box Lunches and Talespinner Dinner

Box lunches will be available on site for \$9 each day, and the cost of the on site Talespinner Dinner on Saturday remains \$25, the same as last year. These are not included as part of the full-festival tickets.

Food Truck's a-Comin'

By Reagin Hults

You've seen them hanging about – you may even have sampled their wares. But you've not truly eaten at a Food Truck until you've eaten at Guy Romo's Moto Chef Moto Diner. Guy hails from Oklahoma (you may have met him at the OKC Festival in September) but he chooses to base his menus upon what is available locally and seasonally, creating unique original recipes. His rotating menus cater to most dietary requirements including Vegans, Vegetarians, Gluten Free AND Carnivorous!

Reports of Guy's Brioche and Vanilla Bean French Toast with Blueberry Compote and Real Maple Syrup, which won rave reviews in OKC, make this item a sure thing for the Texas Festival. And he's willing to work with special requests!

Other items that Guy's thinking about for next year's Texas Storytelling Festival are:

- » Smoked Salmon Corn Dogs with Pickled Onions, Pomegranate Molasses and Sweet Soy Mustard
- » Gruyere, Havarti and Pimiento Mini Grilled Cheese Sandwiches with Smoked Tomato Bisque
- » Puff Tacos with Spiced Beef and Black Bean Hummus or Smoked Chicken and Roasted Squash/Asadero Cheese/Sriracha Sour Cream and Field Greens
- » Chorizo Potstickers with Red Miso Broth and Sweet Soy
- » BBQ Duck Confit Quesadillas with Black Bean Relish and Pickled Onions
- » Pulled Pork Sliders with Apple Jalapeño Slaw
- » Fried Chicken and Aged Cheddar Waffles with Bing Cherry Molasses and Roasted Corn Pudding
- » Homemade Ice Creams
- » Ice Cream Sandwiches with Salted Caramel and Chocolate Chip Sour Cream Cookies
- » Fig Jam Brownies with Dulce De Leche

If all of these tasty items seem a tad too much for you, Guy assures us that he also makes a tasty burger!

Moto Chef will be on site at the Civic Center all day Friday and Saturday and most of Sunday. Friday and Saturday pre-ordered lunches will be provided by Guy. Come to the Festival early, get a good parking space and stay put. Whether you're looking for a small snack or a full meal, this year plan to stay on site and eat well at Guy Romo's Moto Chef Moto Diner.



2012-2013 TSA Governing Board

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Mission Statement:

Tejas Storytelling Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering the appreciation of storytelling as an oral tradition, a performing art, and an educational tool.

President's Letter

By Gary Patton

As I write this, the 28th Texas Storytelling Festival is only 105 days away. March 7th through the 10th will come sooner than most of us think. That may seem like a long time to you, but just ask the volunteers that have been gearing up for weeks to set the tellers, workshops and logistical details. The Festival brochure will be sent to you in the next few weeks. Am I advertising the Festival? Yes! With the holidays upon us and the New Year just five weeks away, each of us has the perfect opportunity to invite friends and family to the Festival. There is even enough advance notice to have the weekend be the first commitment on their calendar. But the question is "Will you invite them?"

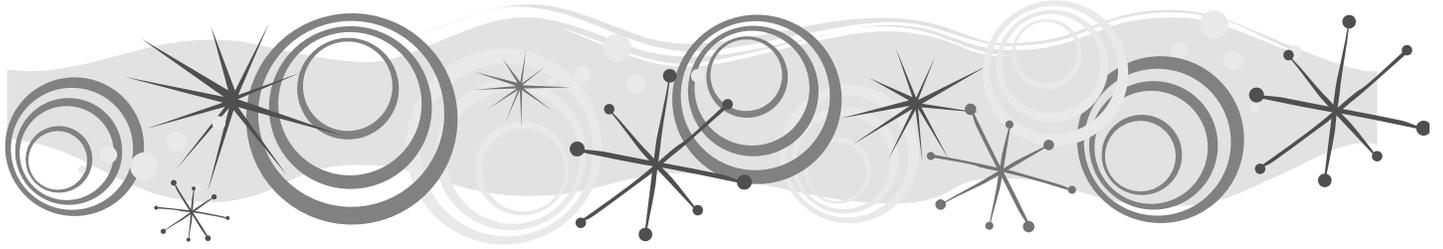
These coming days are more importantly a time to reflect on the soon to be finished year and to renew relationships with loved ones. In that time stories will emerge if you will let them.

My dictionary defines "story" as "an oral or written account of a real or imagined event or events" and also as "a rumor circulating." My challenge to you is that you search for and find the stories of your year and of the coming weeks as you finish 2012. Once found please share your stories with those around you, and bring those stories to the Festival.

Shortly you will receive not only the Festival brochure but also our annual fundraising letter. You may have received it first and still have it sitting in your "to do" pile of year end requests, accounting and holiday cards. Please give it your full attention for just the time it takes to read fully its contents. Then I urge you to see what dollar amount comes to mind for you that is generous but also appropriate. No, we are not in danger as in the past. No, there is no emergency. However, we continue to operate financially on a paycheck-to-paycheck basis, often moving money around to pay bills. My goal is to have the Tejas Storytelling Association enter the world of sufficiency. To do that financially your Board wants to double our Reserve Account from \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00. Our members have always been generous with time, effort, expertise and money. We know that will continue.

May peace and goodwill find you both in the end days of 2012 and in the upcoming days of 2013, and as Kinky Friedman said at the end of the concert at which I heard him last, "May the God of your choice bless you." 🙏

TSA New Phone Number: 940-380-9320



Naughty or Nice?

by Elizabeth Ellis

I don't know which you've been this year. I suspect you have been nicer than you needed to be in some situations, and naughtier than you'd want to admit to in others. I know that's true for me. But, whether you've been naughty or nice, it is time to start making your Christmas list.

Why not think about the storyteller in you this holiday season? I bet there are several things that you as a teller would appreciate receiving. Why not put them on your list? You'll increase the chances of getting them if you don't expect your loved ones to read your mind.

Be specific. Those who are doing the buying may not know nearly as much about storytelling as you do. And, even if they do, they will probably be happy for your suggestions.

Here are some ideas--

Memberships to organizations to which you'd like to belong. TSA of course. But what about the National Storytelling Network or Territory Tellers? National Association of Black Storytellers or the Association of Biblical Storytellers? Or membership in a writers organization? Or clown alley? Or puppeteering group?

Subscriptions to humor magazines or to thought-provoking ones like Parabola.

Tickets to storytelling concerts in your area or to the Texas Festival or the National Storytelling Festival. How about tickets for workshops or master classes?

Would tuition for acting lessons excite you? How about improv or mime or voice lessons?

Of course you could always ask for that gorgeous puppet that you thought was too expensive to buy with your own money.

Musical instruments like drums, flutes, or kalimbas might expand your telling and enliven it.

What about costumes? Have you always wanted a fairy godmother outfit? Does your Mrs. Santa suit need refurbishing? A derby or a cowboy hat? You'd look spectacular in Renaissance or Steampunk garb, now wouldn't you?

Or maybe you feel the need for equipment. A small portable sound system would be great! Or an audio or video recorder.

No Christmas wish list would be complete without books, now would it? Ask for collections of stories, both those in and out of print. How about some basic storytelling reference books? Or books about becoming a better teller? I could fill my whole list with those alone.

Has anything you've read here given you ideas for things you'd really like to have? Great! And of course you may want to think through the list again when deciding what to buy for your storytelling friends. They're sure to love you for it.

Whatever you decide to ask for, I wish you the most Joyous of Holidays, no matter which ones you celebrate! 🐣

Guild News

What's Happening Around Texas?

Compiled by Sheila Phillips

Guild News editor for the Tejas Teller is Sheila Phillips (zoolady@airmail.net). Please submit announcements of upcoming events, reviews of past events, and other articles to her by or before the published deadline.

San Antonio Storytellers Association

» When you have to haul in more chairs ten minutes before showtime, you have to call it a great evening, and that's what can be said about TELLABRATION SAN ANTONIO! Storytellers were Judy Dockrey Young, Veronica Gard, Elder Stone, J.R. Westerfield, Jane McDaniel, Larry Thompson, Richard Young and Mary Grace Ketner, all of us held in line by emcee Ryan McPherson. San Antonio Storytellers presented its Founders Award to Ruth Murphy for two decades of support, leadership, and endless

optimism. In addition we greatly appreciate our house manager, Barbara Brisco. Not a storyteller nor a member of SASA (nor kin to one!), Barbara believes in what we do and has offered her special skills to make this event happen for two years in a row.

- » SASA is entering into conversations with Dr.s Theodore Suh and David Spelber to provide story programs and storytelling activities at San Antonio's "Grace Place," a care center for alzheimers patients during 2013.
- » Also in 2013, on Thursday, April 18, in San Antonio, SASA will host an evening workshop with Kevin Cordi to help us become better storytelling coaches for each other. Workshop fee will be \$20, and all are welcome. To receive developing information on the location and room-sharing or home housing, let Mary Grace Ketner know at mgk@talesandlegends.net.

Networking with NSN



Next year's National Storytelling Conference will be the first weekend in August in Richmond Virginia.

The new, later date is intended to fit between library summer reading programs and school starting. Look for excellent early bird specials to be

announced in the fall.

Thanks again to the many of you who have renewed your National Storytelling Network membership recently! Not a member? Well, why not!! Join us now at www.Storynet.org, and start laying plans for attending the national conference next year.

Mary Grace Ketner, NSN Liaison for Texas

Newsletter deadlines

The *Tejas Teller* is published and distributed to TSA members on a bi-monthly basis.

Dec. 31 for the January/February issue

Feb. 28 for the March/April issue

Apr. 30 for the May/June issue

General news items or inquiries can be sent to Donna at tell.write@gmail.com; Guild News items should be sent to Sheila Phillips at zoolady@airmail.net.

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