

The 40th Annual

# Florida Storytelling Festival



**January 25—28, 2024**

**Lakeside Inn, Mount Dora, Florida**



“Celebrating the art and  
craft of oral storytelling  
through community  
and connection.”



**[flstory.com](http://flstory.com)**

# Special Thanks to our Sponsors!

The Florida Storytelling Festival is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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### **Honoring Voices Lost in 2023...**

May your stories live on.

Jim Mittelstadt, Susie Mittelstadt

# WELCOME!

## *President's Message*



On behalf of the Florida Storytelling Association, welcome to the 40th annual Florida Storytelling Festival! Yes,

the FSA has been serving the state of Florida with quality storytelling events and the festival for 40 years! It is time to celebrate!

I have been performing as a Professional Storyteller for 44 years. Storytelling has always been my passion! It is an art which allows each teller an opportunity for creative expression. Listeners actively participate by visualizing the words and feeling the emotions that a storyteller expresses. This festival celebrates oral tradition storytelling as a communal experience to increase connection and to encourage listening, learning and telling.

We reach out to the youth in Florida by inviting them to participate in telling stories on the stage. FSA member storytellers perform in the schools. Storytelling guilds throughout the state are supported in their events.

You honor the storytelling community by attending this festival!

With gratitude,

Debra Weller

FSA Interim President

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Glossary .....	4
Storytelling Etiquette ....	5
Featured Tellers .....	6+
Member Showcase .....	8
Opportunities to Tell .....	9
Networking Events .....	9
Fringe .....	10
Youthful Voices .....	12
Front Porch Tellers.....	12
<b>Schedule of Events .....</b>	<b>14+</b>
Workshop Descriptions..	16+
Festival Outreach .....	20
Storytelling Groups .....	23
Places to Eat .....	25
Map .....	26

## Florida Storytelling Association

### **Board of Directors**

Debra Weller, President

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### **Coordinators**

Joel Ying, Festival Director

Louise O'Leary, Logistics

Robin Schulte, StoryStore

Kaye Byrnes, Tellers in Schools

# Glossary

**Storytelling.** We celebrate stories told in the oral tradition, person-to-person, as a live performance art and community art. A diversity of cultures, styles, and genres comes to our stages with folk tales, personal stories, historical stories, and more.

**Banquet.** Saturday dinner event with our annual award ceremony. (Additional Ticket.)

**Concert.** In the world of storytelling performance, we call our events “concerts.” Come listen to our storytellers perform in concerts.

**Featured Tellers.** Professional Storytellers invited to the Festival as our main tellers and workshop leaders. Each year, we feature new National Tellers and local Florida Tellers. (Page 6)

**Fringe Tellers.** Late-night Fringe Concerts offer our members a chance to tell a 45-minute set of stories. Members submit their application, and 3 lucky winners are chosen at random. (Page 10)

**Member Showcase.** Florida Storytelling Association Members submitted stories for their chance to share the stage with our Featured Tellers. (Page 8)

**Guild.** Storytelling Groups or “Circles” meet to swap stories and support the art of storytelling in their local areas. (Page 23)  
Visit the Guild Networking meeting Friday at 11am. (Page 9)

**StorySlam.** It’s a contest, Saturday night. Win prizes. This year’s theme is “**Are You Kidding?**” Tell a 5-minute story in any genre. Put your name in the hat for a chance to tell. Cash Prizes! Saturday at 10:15pm.

**StorySwap.** This is your opportunity to share a 5 to 7 minute story. Names are drawn at random. Show up to get on the list.

**Youthful Voices.** We partner with schools every year. Students are chosen for our Saturday evening performance. Join us to listen to the future voices of storytelling. (Page 12)



# Storytelling Etiquette

**Phones OFF or SILENCED.** Please turn OFF or SILENCE phones and devices during storytelling programs. Please do not text or make phone calls or other activity that would distract the storyteller.

**Avoid Entry and Exit During Stories.** Unless there is an emergency, please do not leave or enter while a story is in progress.

**No Photography or Video.** No flash photography or any activity that will distract the teller. We encourage pictures on social media, but please do not record or post video without express permission of tellers and FSA.

**Obtain Permission.** While the sharing of stories is encouraged, respect for the storytellers and their work is expected.

**Respect Copyright.** A storyteller's original stories are often copyrighted property. It is unethical and illegal to perform another person's original stories without permission of the storyteller/author. This includes personal and family stories as well as original versions of folklore.

**Public Domain and Fair Use.** Published stories and poetry are often copyrighted, but those published before 1928 are now in Public Domain and may be told by anyone. In certain settings (schools, libraries), copyrighted works may be shared under Fair Use. Ensure that you have proper permissions to tell a story that is not your original work.

## We need board members!

**Membership Meeting & Elections: Sat, Jan 27th, 11am Alexander Room**

Four of seven Board of Director positions open! If you care about storytelling and want to continue to see it thrive across the state of Florida, **please consider stepping up to our board!** We are a member organization that relies on volunteers to create this festival and to identify ways to expand the celebration of this wonderful art and craft of oral storytelling. This is your opportunity to contribute and make a difference in the future of storytelling.

# Featured Tellers



**Connie Regan-Blake** is one of America's most celebrated storytellers. She has captivated the hearts and imaginations of people around the globe with her powerful performances and workshops. Entertaining audiences in 47 states, 18 countries, and 6 continents she brings the wisdom, humor, and drama of stories to main stage concert halls, libraries, and into the corporate world. Both as a solo artist and a member of the acclaimed duo, *Folktellers*, Connie has been featured on seven award-winning recordings – five audio and two videos produced by PBS. *New Age Magazine*, *School Library Journal*, and *Southern Living* have praised her work. She has been a guest on NPR's *All Things Considered*, ABC *Good Morning America* and CNN. When Connie takes the stage she generates a brightness and warmth, drawing in listeners with her engaging humor and Southern charm. Her stories range from hilarious traditional Appalachian Mountain tales to poignant true-life drama. Connie is a frequent host and featured performer at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee. [www.StoryWindow.com](http://www.StoryWindow.com)



**Tim Tingle** is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and the author of twenty books, novels and children's illustrated books. "How I Became a Ghost" is based on his Choctaw Trail of Tears story. Though filled with tragedy, Tingle says "humor is a key to Choctaw culture—the light in the darkness." He has performed at festivals and schools and universities across the USA and Europe, recently returning from ten days of storytelling in Ireland. Choctaws sent a monetary gift to the Irish during the Famine of the 1840s, and the Irish recently dedicated a monument celebrating this deep friendship. Tingle has appeared many times as a featured teller at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee, and often includes native flute music and drumming in his stories. He enjoys selecting his stories for the audience before him, from adults to children of all ages. [www.timtingle.com](http://www.timtingle.com)





**Eva Abram** is a storyteller, public speaker and award-winning actress. Her storytelling grew out of an appreciation for the valuable lessons of history and the desire to share lesser-known American history with a larger audience. In solo performances, she embodies historical characters, bringing history to life. Among others, her characters include: Shirley Chisholm – 1972 Presidential Candidate; Bessie Coleman – Aviation Pioneer; and Rosa Parks – Civil Rights Activist. Her engaging traditional tales and literary stories are told with masterful use of gesture and physical expression. She has delighted audiences from elementary age to adult, leaving them with a laugh, a gem of wisdom or something to ponder. Performance venues include schools, universities, business diversity programs, community organizations, and storytelling festivals. She was selected by the National Storytelling Network as the recipient of the 2022 J.J. Reneaux Emerging Artist Award. [www.rainwaterstorytelling.com](http://www.rainwaterstorytelling.com)



**Chris Kastle** is an award winning storyteller, songsmith, and author. She is a seasoned traveler who offers insight into a lifetime of adventure with original works that possess great imagery and have the occasional flavor of Celtic and Maritime traditions. *Nonets in Nine Courses: Recipes in Verse*, her most recent release and first book of poetry, adds to many other published resources. Using her background in storytelling and education, she has presented for Stories in Schools and, as a teaching artist with Arts4All, has created a myriad of multidisciplinary programs for students with disabilities. Chris was the 2015 recipient of the Annette J. Bruce Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Storytelling Association and is a member of the Tale Tellers of St. Augustine. She has served on the boards of both organizations. [www.chraskastle.com](http://www.chraskastle.com)



**Mary Lou Williams** is a retired teacher and a professional storyteller. She holds a masters degree in education from Columbia University and spent 35 years as an educator of English and mathematics on the secondary level. She has served on the board of the Florida Storytellers Association and received their Distinguished Service Award for 2014. Mary Lou has told at the Stone Soup Festival in South Carolina, the Cracker Festival in Florida, and the Florida Storytelling Festival, where she won first place at their story slam in 2018 and second place in 2022. She won Toastmasters 2022 District 48 Humorous Speech Contest. Mary Lou wrote a book of her stories called *Ten Fractured Fairy Tales*, modernized versions of classic fairy tales. She is a member of The Tamiami Tale Tellers of Fort Myers. [story-theatre.com](http://story-theatre.com)

# FSA Member Showcase Tellers

Each year our talented members apply to represent us on stage.

## Thursday, January 25th, 7pm



**Janel Behm** calls the Gulf Coast of Florida home. She can often be found creating community around a campfire with her gift of storytelling.



**Lou Novak** started telling stories with kids in the neighborhood, then around campfires. He shipped out and listened to sea stories, leading to night watch entertainment.



**Joanna Demarest** has been telling stories to children and adults for over 30 years. After reading every book on her daughter's bookshelf, she started creating new stories.



**Carrie Sue Ayvar**, Cuentista/Storyteller, has been connecting curriculum, people, languages, and cultures in both English and Spanish for over forty years.

## Sunday, January 28th, 9am—“Stories from the Heart”



**Kay Pricher**. From the cotton fields of Tennessee to the orange groves of Florida, she is defined by both where she grew up and where she chose to live.



**Fred Clinton**. I've been a chimney sweep, a stay-at-home Dad, a teacher and a church volunteer.  
Can I tell you a story?



**Rose van der Berg** tells stories that explore the heart and humor of the human condition. Her focus is on storytelling that heals division.



# Opportunities to Tell—Swaps & More

(Look for § symbol on schedule)

**Thu, 10pm. Ghost Stories Swap.** 10 min limit.

**Fri, 3pm—4pm. Liars' Contest / Tall Tales,** 5—7 min tale tales.  
The stories might not be true, but the prizes are real.

**Fri, 4pm—5:30pm. Swapping Grounds.** 5—7 min stories.

**Fri, 10:15pm. Late Night Swap (Adults Only).** 5—7 min stories.

**Sat, 3pm—4:30pm. Swapping Grounds.** 5—7 min stories.

**Sat, 10:15pm—11:30pm. StorySlam,** Theme “Are You Kidding?”  
5 min stories. Win \$\$\$ cash prizes!

## Networking Events

**Thu, 4pm—6pm. Welcome Reception**

“Meet the Tellers”

Alexander Room.

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and  
shmooze with featured tellers.

**Fri, 11am—noon. Guild Networking**

**Event,** Alexander Room.

Share ideas. Learn about starting  
your own storytelling group.

**Sat, 7am-8:30am. Breakfast Social.**

Beauclaire Dining Room.

All welcome. Pay on your own.

**Sat, 11am—noon.**

**FSA Membership Meeting,**

Alexander Room.

President's report, Board  
Member election,  
tell us what you think...

*Mount Dora Historic  
Experience Tour*  
Featuring the Narration  
by Storyteller,  
*Louise O'Leary!*

OLDE MOUNT DORA  
Carriage Company

Book online or call  
352-888-7744  
[MountDoraCarriageCo.com](http://MountDoraCarriageCo.com)

The advertisement features a circular portrait of Louise O'Leary, a woman with glasses and a friendly expression. Below the text is a photograph of a white, ornate horse-drawn carriage with a canopy, parked on a street in front of a building with a porch. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the advertisement.

# Florida Fringe Tellers

Friday, January 26th, 9:15pm - 10pm



## Alexander Room

**Katie Green — “A Voice for Peace: Jane Doe 27 ”**

This is a true, personal story that I have been encouraged to develop. In 1983, I was one of 54 women arrested during a peace march in Romulus, NY.



## Grandview Room

**Kay Pricher — “Influencers”**

I grew up in a small town in the 1950's, before social media coined the word "influencer". I had three "influencers" in my life providing good times, encouragement, and wisdom.



## Donnelly Room (Above Gift Shop)

**Julie Bradshaw — “Call Back Your Spirit or Die ”**

A powerful, true story of a man who went to the depths of hell during World War II and emerged to find healing, hope, and forgiveness.

Find out more about our Fringe Tellers: [flstory.com/festival/fringe/](http://flstory.com/festival/fringe/)

In the Florida Fringe, members submit their applications for a 45-minute set of stories. Three lucky winners are chosen at random in a live drawing.

The original Fringe Festival started in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1947 on the “fringe” of the performing arts festival. The annual *Fringe* is now even bigger than the actual festival. From classical to avant-garde, anything goes! Fringe festivals are now all over the world to support up-and-coming artists.



**February 2-4, 2024**

A full weekend of exciting events  
for storytelling fans of all ages!

**Story & Song**

CENTER FOR ARTS & CULTURE

Fernandina Beach, Florida

[www.storyandsongarts.org/festival](http://www.storyandsongarts.org/festival)



# Youthful Voices

Our Youthful Voices program supports the next generation of storytellers. We reach out to the community and schools for video submissions. Winners share the main stage with our Featured Tellers. Students receive scholarships to attend the festival through generous donors like you. Thank you!

**Saturday, January 27, at 7pm**



**Amity De Castro**



**Maggie Hammond**



**Zola McCray**



**Kallie Page**



**Jake Richards**

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## Front Porch Tellers

### **FRIDAY, JAN 26**

10:00am Joanna Demarest  
10:30am Janel Behm  
11:00am Andy Russell  
11:30am Jim Kissane  
12:00pm Carol Longo  
12:30pm Cheryl Floyd

### **SATURDAY, JAN 27**

10:00am Debra Weller  
10:30am Katie Green  
11:00am Natalie Beltrami  
11:30am Judy Nichols  
12:00pm Carrie Sue Avyar  
12:30pm Pepper Ellis-Hagebak



The Tampa-Hillsborough  
County Storytelling Festival

*Congratulates*

Virginia Rivers Youthful Voices  
scholarship winner



**Zola McCray**


Visit our online festival  
Tuesday, May 7, 2024, 6pm to 7pm  
Featuring young storytellers, regional  
tellers and Grammy winning storyteller  
Bill Harley  
[www.HCPLC.org/storytellingfestival](http://www.HCPLC.org/storytellingfestival)

# 2024 Festival Schedule of Events

**Symbol Key:** § Tell Your Story, ± Additional Cost,  ASL Interpreters



Yellow Highlights = Free Admission	Green Highlights = Listener's Pass
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<b>THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024</b>	
4:00—5:00	Meet the Tellers — Alexander Room
5:00	Festival Registration & Story Store Open
7:00 - 7:45	 <b>Opening Welcome — Concert Tent</b> Emcee Tamara Green <b>Member Showcase</b> Janel Behm, Lou Novak, Joanna Demarest, Carrie Sue Ayvar
8:00 - 10:00	 <b>Featured Tellers Concert — Concert Tent</b> Connie Regan-Blake, Eva Abram, Chris Kastle, Mary Lou Williams, Tim Tingle
10:15	<b>§ Ghost Stories in Garden Terrace</b> Open Mic Story Swap 10-min limit — Emcee Mitchell O’Rear


<b>FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024</b>					
	Alexander Room	Grandview Room	Donnelly Room	Concert Tent	Front Porch
9:00 - 10:30	Workshop Tingle— Joy of Trouble	Tell & Talk Abram, Regan-Blake, Williams		10—11:30 Field Trip: Ayvar, Byram	10am - 1pm Front Porch Tellers
11:00-Noon	<b>Guild Networking Event</b> —Alexander Rm				
1:00 – 2:30	Workshop Regan-Blake— Cooking Up Stories	Workshop Williams— Fractured Fairy Tales		12—1:30 Field Trip: Abram, Tingle, Kastle	
3:00—4:00	<b>§ Tall Tales Liar’s Contest</b> —Concert Tent, Emcee Pat Nease				
4:00 – 5:30	<b>§ Swapping Grounds</b> — Concert Tent, Emcee Walt Belcher				
7:00 – 9:00	 <b>Featured Tellers Concert — Concert Tent</b> Emcee Mij Byram Chris Kastle, Tim Tingle, Mary Lou Williams, Connie Regan-Blake, Eva Abram				
9:15 - 10:00	<b>Florida Fringe Program</b>				
	<b>Alexander Room</b> Katie Green	<b>Grandview Room</b> Kay Pricher	<b>Donnelly Room</b> Julie Bradshaw		
10:15	<b>§ Late Night Swap</b> (Adults)— Alexander Rm, Emcee Bobby Wesley				



## SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024

	Alexander Room	Grandview Room	Donnelly Room	Concert Tent	Front Porch
7:00 – 8:30	<b>± On Your Own / Breakfast Social</b> — Beauclaire Dining Rm				
9:00 – 10:30	Workshop Regan-Blake— Stories to Stage	Workshop Abram— Braided Stories		9—10 <b>Showcase:</b> Tingle Williams Kastle	10am— 1pm Front Porch Tellers
11:00 - Noon	<b>Membership Meeting</b> — Alexander Rm				
1:00 – 2:30	Workshop Tingle— Standing in Shadow	Workshop Kastle— Stories in Verse	Workshop for Youthful Voices	1—2 <b>Showcase:</b> Regan-Blake (Legend: Ray Hicks)	
3:00 – 4:30	<b>§ Swapping Grounds</b> — Concert Tent Emcee Walt Belcher				
5:00 – 6:30	<b>± Banquet &amp; Awards</b> — Beauclaire Dining Rm				
7:00 – 7:45	<b>Youthful Voices Concert</b> — Concert Tent Emcee Jeremy Evans  Maggie Hammond, Zola McCray, Jake Richards, Amity De Castro, Kallie Page,				
8:00 – 10:00	<b>Family Night, Featured Tellers Concert</b> — Concert Tent  Emcee Windell Campbell Tim Tingle, Chris Kastle, Mary Lou Williams, Eva Abram, Connie Regan-Blake				
10:15 - 11:30	<b>§ Florida StorySlam</b> — Alexander Room Theme: “Are You Kidding?” - Emcee Wanda Violet				

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

9:00 – 11:30	<b>Stories from the Heart Concert</b> — Concert Tent Emcee Linda Chancey  <b>Member Showcase</b> Kay Pricher, Fred Clinton, Rose van der Berg <b>Featured Tellers</b> — Concert Tent Mary Lou Williams, Eva Abram, Chris Kastle, Tim Tingle, Connie Regan-Blake
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# FRIDAY WORKSHOP


## FRIDAY 9am

Tim Tingle (Alexander Room)

**The Joy of Trouble** – Any narrative, whether a novel, a play, or a short story, performed or written, must feature conflict. Your main character might win the conflict, but oftentimes the learning experience of a loss is even more valuable in the long run.

Connie Regan-Blake, Eva Abram, & Mary Lou Williams (Grandview Room)

**Tell & Talk** – Listen to a story and learn the art and craft of storytelling from these master storytellers. Meet the tellers. Bring your questions.



3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
6:00 – 8:00pm  
W.T. Bland Public Library  
1995 N. Donnelly St. Mount Dora

Experienced and novice storytellers gather monthly to share stories and practice their craft. Free and open to the public.

Questions? Contact Louise O'Leary at [lgoleary@yahoo.com](mailto:lgoleary@yahoo.com)  
407.715.8129



**Women's Storytelling Festival**  
March 14 - 17, 2024  
in Fairfax City, VA and online

Better Said *WITH DONE* Presents  
**The Women's Storytelling Festival**  
In-person at:  
The Old Town Hall  
3999 University Drive  
Fairfax City, VA 22030  
as well as *live-streaming* online.  
Ticket holders can watch the videos for one month after.

For information and tickets:   
[betersaidthandone.com/womens-festival](http://betersaidthandone.com/womens-festival)

# DESCRIPTIONS

## FRIDAY 1pm

Connie Regan-Blake (Alexander Room)

**Cooking up Stories** – Can you remember a time when someone close to you shared a story that moved you, made you laugh, changed your mind or blew open your heart? Telling stories is as natural and vital as taking a breath! This workshop welcomes everyone: writers curious about the oral word, those who want to explore their personal experiences and those who simply love stories. As we focus our attention, we are refreshed by a wellspring of stories that enriches our lives – personally, professionally, artistically, and spiritually.

Mary Lou Williams (Grandview Room)

**Fractured Fairy Tales: Making Classic Fairy Tales Relevant** – Fairy tales reflect the world in which they originated – the medieval world. They are patriarchal, hierarchical, and sexist. Males are resourceful, fearless, and strong (emotionally as well as physically). Females are passive, dependent, and helpless. Although the classic tales often reflect world views antithetical to those of modern societies, there are in fairy tales universal truths that speak to us across generations. One way to keep these universal themes while making fairy tales relevant to the modern age is to fracture them. A fractured fairy tale is a classic fairy tale that retains the basic plot and characters of the original story but changes it in unexpected ways, giving it a modern perspective and ironic twists. In this workshop, you will hear an original fractured tale and fracture one of your own.

“GREAT STORIES HAPPEN TO THOSE  
WHO CAN TELL THEM.” — *Ira Glass*



# SATURDAY WORKSHOP &

## SATURDAY 9am

Connie Regan-Blake (Alexander Room)

**Taking Your Story to the Stage** – Come with a 10-12 minute story that is almost stage ready but has some room for growth and new perceptions. During our time together, we will cover aspects of bringing the telling to life, including polishing the story and getting ready to perform it on stage, awareness of what works as well as developing and improving the storyteller’s connection to the audience, the story and themselves. The goal is for the teller to take the stage with confidence and style. During the workshop, three tellers (you’ll have the option to put your name in the hat!) will tell their story and receive appreciations and feedback.

Eva Abram (Grandview Room)

**Braided Stories: Connections that Enhance the Telling and Listening Experience** – This workshop is for anyone who is interested in storytelling and learning how to create stories in new ways. Drawing from their experiences and imagination, participants will examine various types of stories, including folktales, history, literary, and family stories to discover connections that, braided together, will create new and interesting stories. Story sharing will be offered.

Tim Tingle, Mary Lou Williams, Chris Kastle (Concert Tent)

**Showcase Performance** – stories, stories, stories!

Join our featured tellers in the concert tent.

“STORIES CAN CONQUER FEAR...  
THEY CAN MAKE THE HEART BIGGER.” — *Ben Okri*

# SHOWCASE DESCRIPTIONS

## SATURDAY 1pm

Tim Tingle (Alexander Room)

**Standing in the Shadow** – Observing while unseen can add an element of mystery to a plot, and the star standing in the dark can be a hero or a villain. Let’s linger while the adventure unfolds.

Chris Kastle (Grandview Room)

**Using an Economy of Words: Writing Stories in Verse** - We tellers and writers LOVE words! But sometimes we use too many when one well-chosen appropriate word might do a better job. Writing stories in verse is a great way to discipline ourselves to use an economy of words. Each participant will need to come prepared with a favorite story that they have already written and/or performed so as to convert it into verse and share with the group; in song, if desired. Examples, techniques, and methodologies for writing in verse and overcoming writer’s block under deadline will be examined.

Connie Regan-Blake  
(Concert Tent)

### Showcase Performance

**“A Legend in Overalls: Storytelling in the Footsteps of Ray Hicks”**

This one hour performance holds the stories of Ray Hicks, a national treasure and a traditional mountain storyteller along with Connie Regan-Blake’s personal journey – and the birth and unfolding of the storytelling revival in America and beyond!



Oct 4 - 6, 2024

Jonesborough, Tennessee

### Enter the FSA Raffle!

Win a free festival ticket...

Thank you to the  
**National Storytelling Festival**  
for their donation to FSA.  
[www.storytellingcenter.net](http://www.storytellingcenter.net)

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Storytellers in Schools

During the week of the festival and in conjunction with Florida Literacy Week, we bring professional storytellers into 18 Lake County public schools through a generous grant from the local **Charles B and Mary M McLin Foundation**. Participating schools: Fruitland Park Elementary, Astatula Elementary, Umatilla Elementary, Eustis Heights Elementary, Cypress Ridge Elementary, Grassy Lake Elementary, Rimes Early Learning Center, Seminole Springs Elementary, Villages Elementary, Lost Lake Elementary, Lake Point Academy, Sorrento Elementary, Eustis Elementary, Sawgrass Bay Elementary, Cole Academy, Beverly Shores Elementary, Tavares Elementary.

## School Field Trip

On Friday of the festival, local schools bring their students on a field trip to our concert tent to experience the festival and our storytellers.

## Storytellers in Universities

This initiative of the Florida Storytelling Association is supported by the Florida Arts and Culture state grant. We bring professional storytellers as teaching artists to Florida universities to showcase the art and craft of oral storytelling for classroom visits and performance.

## Grants We Award

FSA awards grants to individual members and groups. Details and application online: [flstory.com/apply](http://flstory.com/apply)

39th Annual

# TEXAS StoryTelling FESTIVAL

## March 7-10, 2024

Denton Civic Center • Denton, Texas

[www.tejasstorytelling.com](http://www.tejasstorytelling.com)

Donald Davis



Nestor Gomez



Kathy Culmer



Fran Stallings



Personal Stories

Sacred Tales  
Folktales

Story Slams  
Poetry Slam

Kids Activities  
Music

Ghost Stories

Liars Contest

Story Swaps

Workshops



Tejas Storytelling Association • [tsa@tejasstorytelling.com](mailto:tsa@tejasstorytelling.com) • 940-380-9320

THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY AN AWARD FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS.





**Artists Standing Strong Together** (ASST, "assist") is a nonprofit artist support organization whose mission is to connect artists with resources.

We believe that by serving our community of artists, we serve our art.

**Website: [asst.art](http://asst.art)**



**NSN Membership Benefits**

- ⇒ Storytelling Directory
- ⇒ Special Interest Groups
- ⇒ Access to Greenwood's World Folklore & Folklife Database
- ⇒ Storytelling Conferences
- ⇒ and more ...

**Florida Storytelling Association is a member of NSN. Get your FSA member discount. Join the national storytelling community at [storynet.org](http://storynet.org).**

Florida Gulf Coast University

**FGCU**  
Storytelling



"Spoken Stories  
Creating Community"

[fgcustorytelling.com](http://fgcustorytelling.com)



produced by  
**Dr. Joel Ying, MD**  
Physician-Educator-  
Storyteller  
**JoelYing.com**

# Florida Storytelling Groups

FSA Member Groups, Guilds, and Circles meet to support the art and craft of storytelling in their local areas by swapping stories and hosting events.

## FGCU Storytelling

Ft Myers, FL  
Joel Ying, 239-200-6796  
joel.ying@gmail.com  
fgcustorytelling.com

## Orlando Story Club

Orlando, FL  
Danielle Ziss, 321-247-1930  
danielleziss@gmail.com  
OrlandoStoryClub.com

## Sandcastle Storytellers

Lake Helen, FL  
Sherril/Peter Giachetti  
386-789-4259, gia184@aol.com

## Storytellers of Central Florida

Winter Park, FL  
Louise O'Leary, 407-715-8129  
lgoleary@yahoo.com

## Storytellers of Lake County

Mount Dora, FL  
Louise O'Leary, 407-715-8129  
lgoleary@yahoo.com

## Suncoast Storytellers

St. Petersburg, FL  
Ross Tarr, 727-418-5578  
rosstarr@aol.com

## Tale Tellers of St. Augustine

St. Augustine, FL  
Kathy Kniery, 386-385-3600  
kkniery@gmail.com  
www.taletellers.org

## Tamiami Tale Tellers

Fort Myers, FL  
Marilyn Graham  
Marilyn@tttellers.org  
tttellers.org

## Tampa Bay Storytellers Guild

Tampa, FL  
Maureen Belote, 727-736-6466  
genimo@verizon.net

## Tampa-Hillsborough County Storytelling Festival

Katie Adams, katesshow@aol.com  
(see event ad for Tue May 7, page 13)





Monthly Meetings  
1st Tuesday of the month 7 pm  
Winter Park Public Library  
lgoleary@yahoo.com

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# Places to EAT in Mt Dora

*Mention the Florida Storytelling Festival to restaurants!*

## Restaurant Sponsors—Thank you!

### **Scoops on 5th**

Specialty coffees, fresh baked cookies, decadent individual cakes, gluten-free & sugar-free Keto donuts, our famous one-pound éclair, and 40 flavors of delicious Hershey's ice cream.

130 E 5th Ave

### **Magical Meat Boutique**

British Pub, Restaurant, Live Music. Catch the Storytelling Performance every third Monday at 1pm.

322 N Alexander St

### **Beauclaire Dining Room & Verandah at Lakeside Inn**

Breakfast, lunch, and dinner right at the site of the festival events.

### **Tremain's Tavern**

**Lakeside Inn** (Hotel Lobby)

Grab a drink and a casual meal.

Tremain's Tavern has created a special drink for the festival with or without alcohol. Ask for

***"The Story Slammer."***

### **Other Local Restaurants**

#### **Cody's on 4th**

Coffee, baked goods, salads, sandwiches. Breakfast & lunch.

111 E 4th Ave

#### **Let's Do Lunch Restaurant**

Lobster rolls, chicken or egg salad sandwiches.

426 N Donnelly St

#### **Mount Dora Marketplace**

Multiple food vendors including BBQ, Beirut Bites, Shadrach's Pizza  
100 E 4th Ave & 334 N Donnelly

#### **One Flight Up Cafe**

Soups, salads, sandwiches

Coffee, tea, wine/beer

440 N Donnelly St

#### **The Salted Fry**

100% Gluten Free restaurant

Sandwiches, salads, fries

342 Dora Drawdy Way

#### **Village Coffee Pot**

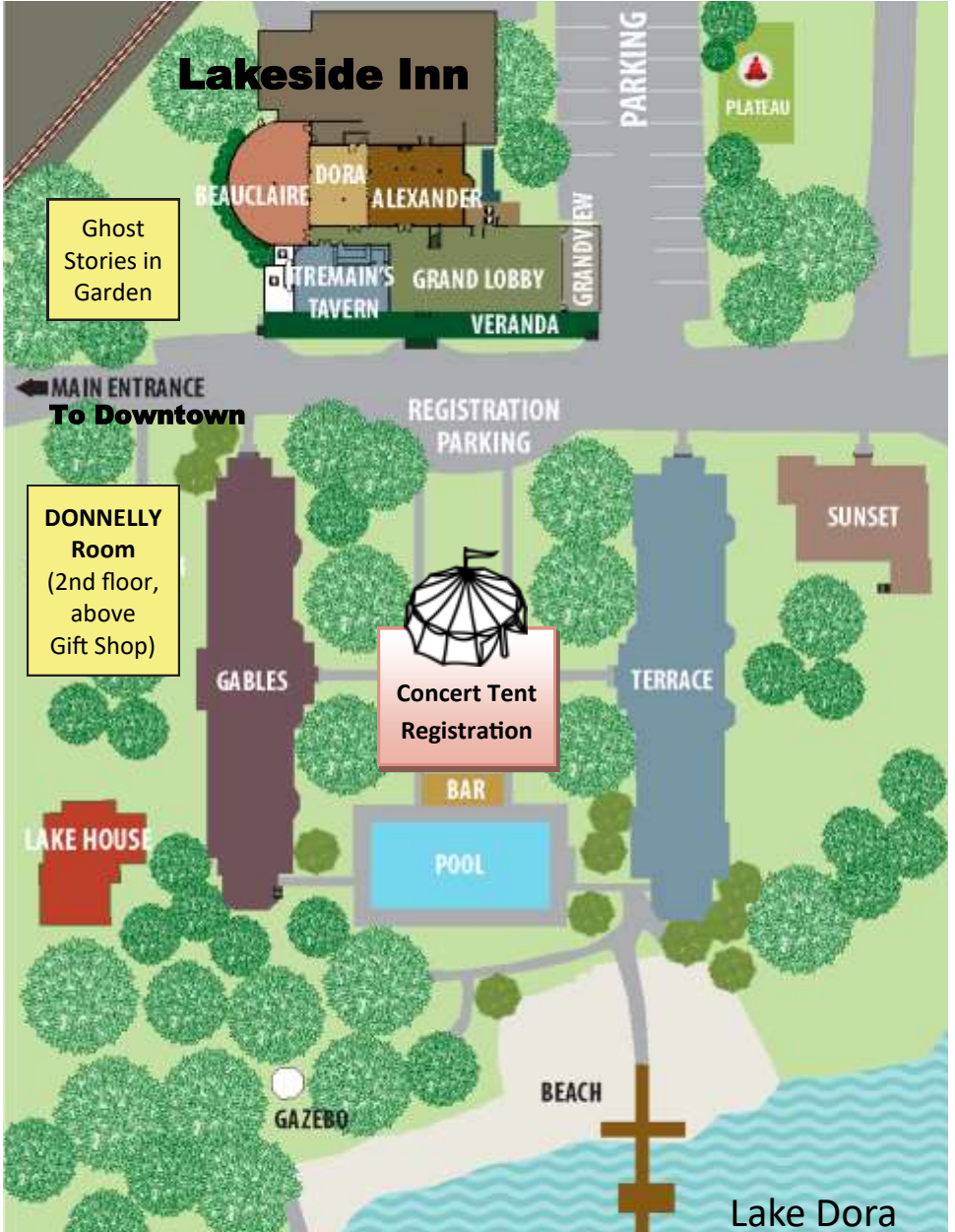
Coffee, sandwiches, sweet treats

425 N. Donnelly St



# THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS

It's all here, on the grounds of lovely Lakeside Inn. Please don't hesitate to contact the Front Desk if you encounter any issues with lodging. Mount Dora welcomes you! The downtown shops and establishments are within easy walking distance.... enjoy your stay.



**We're Back Next Year!**  
**Florida Storytelling Festival**  
**January 23-26, 2025**

**Featured Tellers**



Carol Birch



Johnny Thomas Fowler



Paul Strickland



Tamara Green



Linda Chancey Guice



Florida Storytelling Association  
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storytelling across Florida!  
[flstory.com](http://flstory.com)



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celebrates 40 years!



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