



1850 N. 53 St.  
Seattle WA 98103

March, 1981

Dear Friends,

The Seattle Storytellers' Guild invites you to attend our first series of storytelling events: "Stories from Another Time". We begin March 11 with special guest storyteller, Floating Eagle Feather. Eagle Feather is a Mayan Indian from Honduras who has spent many years "awakening the child in us all" through his stories. He is currently the 'resident storyteller' for Charleston, N.C.. We continue the series on April 8, May 13, and June 10, when guild members will join a guest artist in an evening of storytelling. If you would like to hear some good stories, and find out more about the Seattle Storytellers' Guild, join us on these days at 7:30pm at the Good Shepherd Center (Sunnyside Av. N at 50th). All ages welcome. A contribution for guest artists appreciated.

The Seattle Storytellers' Guild joins a growing network of storytellers and storytelling organizations throughout the country. Storytelling is experiencing a Renaissance and we have organized to keep this ancient folk art alive in the Pacific Northwest. To date we are a group of 50 storytellers, apprentices, and listeners with a directing committee of five professional storytellers. The 'guild' in our name was carefully chosen to reflect ties with the tradition of medieval guilds where masters and apprentices worked together learning and perfecting their craft, upholding the standards of their art, and sharing their repertoire wherever audiences requested it. The Seattle Storytellers' Guild is dedicated to furthering these efforts through training sessions and seminars for old and new storytellers, and offering diverse, high quality storytelling programs for Seattle area audiences.

Our Spring schedule includes the story nights mentioned above, a series (in April) of classes and workshops for aspiring storytellers, regular story exchanges and discussions for members (May), and a volunteer program for local hospitals (May). Other future plans include:

- being a clearing house for organizations who would like to hire storytellers
- offering regular story programs for children
- developing a tape library of local and national storytellers



(future plans continued)

- collecting folklore indigenous to the Pacific Northwest
- sponsoring, with other folk arts organizations, 'International Nights', where the stories, songs, dances of a particular culture are performed
- sponsoring an annual storytelling festival

An ambitious list! The accomplishment of which depends on a steadily increasing membership. To encourage this, we have established membership categories that offer varying degrees of participation in Guild activities. They are as follows:

1. Active Membership. An active member must demonstrate professional expertise as a storyteller, meeting performance standards determined by Guild members. They may be hired through Guild recommendations but in turn, will give 15% of these bookings to Guild coffers. To remain an active member, one must give at least 5 (paid or unpaid) performances a year as a representative of the Guild; 1 skills workshop to fellow Guild members, and contribute 1 30 minute tape of their storytelling to the library. \$5.00 dues include voting (officers&policy) privileges, subscription to the newsletter, and use of the library.
2. Professional Associate. This category is for those people who through their work or avocation are interested in storytelling and Guild activities, but cannot devote the time to tell stories as a Guild representative. (Involvement in other projects is welcomed!) \$5.00 dues entitle member to vote, receive 10% discount on classes and workshops, receive newsletter, and have access to library.
3. Apprentice. The \$10.00 dues for this membership include a series of 3 training workshops given by Guild members, 10% discount on subsequent classes, voting privileges, newsletter, and access to library.
4. Institutional. This category applies to libraries, schools, museums, businesses, etc. whose many employees may benefit from reading newsletters, attending storytelling events, and utilizing the Guild's referral service. The \$25.00 dues do not include a vote, however, individual employees of that institution may purchase voting memberships at a reduced rate of \$3.00.

Interested storytellers, listeners, writers can join by attending one of the storytelling evenings listed above, or the business meeting on March 31 (also at the Good Shepherd Center, 7:30pm), or by sending your check and the enclosed form to :

Seattle Storytellers' Guild  
1850 N. 53<sup>rd</sup> St  
Seattle, WA 98103

For more information call Clare Cuddy at 634-1634



Upcoming Events which will be detailed in future newsletters  
( first edition due in April ) include:

- apprentice classes
- story exchanges and discussions
- storytelling in hospitals
- a visit from a very excellent and well known storyteller: Cynthia Orr.  
(Cynthia has generously offered to share some of her original stories  
as our guest artist at the May 8th storytelling evening. She has also  
sent a tape of her Stories Mother Never Told You for the library.)
- a 4 week intensive workshop entitled "The Art of Story: Writing and  
Telling" to be given this summer by storyteller and writer Margaret  
Scarborough from Whitman College.

So, you can see there is much to do, much to share, much to be  
gained! Please join the Seattle Storytellers' Guild for a story, a class,  
and for a year!

Hope to be hearing from you soon!

Sincerely,



Clare Cuddy  
Founder/Director

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Membership Form

Please fill out and mail with membership dues check (payable to Seattle  
Storytellers' Guild) to: Seattle Storytellers' Guild  
1850 N. 53St  
Seattle, WA 98103

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

OCCUPATION:

Under which membership category are you joining?

\_\_\_\_\_ Active (\$5.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Associate Professional (\$5.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Apprentice (\$10.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Institutional (\$25.)