

In the Wind

FESTIVALS

StoryFest International
August 17th and 18th
Bellevue Regional Library
1111 110th Ave NE, Bellevue

Don't miss the second annual King County Library System StoryFest International!

On Friday tellers will be performing (three in each hour slot) in sessions for Seniors (inside), school-age children (large tent), and pre-schoolers (small tent, lawn seating). Sessions begin at 10 and end with the 2-3pm tellings. An evening olio for adults is held at the Bellevue site in the large tent (7-9:30pm) featuring Donald Davis; Rangimoana Taylor; Wajuppa Tossa & Prasong Saihong; Billy Seago and Michale Gabriel. A program of scary stories for teens and adults will be held at Kent Senior Center, 600 Smith Street (7-9pm) featuring Roberto Carlos Ramos; Gerald Fierst; Bill Harley; Anndreana Belcher and Doug Banner.

Saturday sessions begin at 10a.m. and end with the 3-4p.m. session. Two tellers are scheduled in each hour slot. A special one-hour session with Donald Davis is scheduled for 10a.m.

International tellers include:

- Roberto Carlos Ramos
- Livia de Almeida
- Rangimoana Taylor
- Dr. Wajuppa Tossa
- Prasong Saihong.

Roberto Carlos Ramos and **Livia de Almeida** delighted NW audiences a few years ago when they stopped by en route home from their presentations at the NSN conference in San Diego. Livia translates for Roberto Carlos, who tells in fast-paced Brazilian Portuguese but you will understand everything he projects. His energetic performances coupled with Livia's skilled translations leave no space for confusion. Roberto Carlos spent much of his youth on the streets of Bello Horizonte and has amazing personal stories to tell. But his forte is his stock of Afro-Brazilian "jump" tales. He promises to make his audiences JUMP in fright as he tells. And he delivers. Livia de Almeida is an amazing storytelling producer from Rio. She has produced festivals and citywide tellabration festivals there for several years. Livia is part of the storytelling group Mil e Umas. In addition to her work translating, Livia will be telling in a few sets.

Rangimoana Taylor is a Maori dancer, actor, and storyteller from Wellington, New Zealand. Rangimoana was featured in Jonesborough a few years ago. He has developed an amazing story style in which he literally dances the story as he tells. After he has performed the story once with word and movement, he lifts a finger to his lips for quiet and then repeats the dance without the words. Rangimoana draws on myth from his Maori heritage and interprets this with the aid of his modern dance training. Amazing and moving.

(continued page 2)

StoryFest International...continued

From the US we have:

- Anndreana Belcher,
- Donald Davis,
- Bill Harley,
- Gerald Fierst,
- Billy Seago.

Anndreana Belcher draws on her own Appalachian traditions, her love of dress-up, and a delightful sense of audience-participation. Don't miss her lively performance.

Donald Davis has elevated the family/personal story to a high art. He has an engaging telling style which draws the audience into his arms and just holds them tight for as long as an hour at a time without a lost moment. He will be doing a special one-hour set first thing Saturday morning.

Bill Harley is a much-recorded children's musician and storyteller. You may have heard his "tribulations of a parent" personal stories on All Things Considered (NPR). Bill is one of America's most popular and most skilled performers. You can learn a lot by watching his pacing.

New Jersey's **Gerald Fierst** specializes in Jewish stories and scary tales. He will share both during the festival. He spends each October on the road scaring the pants off of college kids at midnight cabarets.

And last but not least, our own **Billy Seago** will return with his energetic sign language tellings interpreted by **Jeff Williamson**.

In addition, the Festival will feature stories by local tellers, **Michale Gabriel**, **Avis Jobrack**, and Bellingham teller **Doug Banner**.

Food will be available on-site.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Ruth Bacharach at Bothell Regional Library, 425-496-7811. Or email her at Ruthbach@kcsls.org

Looking Ahead!

Forrest Storytelling Festival

The 7th Forrest Storytelling Festival in Port Angeles will be held Oct. 12th - 14th.

The festival begins with an All Tellers Concert on Friday Night featuring:

- ❖ Gay Ducey
- ❖ Rafe Martin
- ❖ Naomi Baltuck
- ❖ Garth Gilchrist
- ❖ Anne Glover
- ❖ Johnny Moses

Saturday morning is for workshops. Naomi Baltuck-"Crazy Gibberish", Garth Gilchrist-"How to Develop Environmental Stories", Rafe Martin for "Seasoned Tellers" and---Gay Ducey with a Coaching Session. This session is open to all but if you wish to be critiqued, get your registration in early...it is limited to the first lucky 7.

Stories fill Saturday afternoon with a special Story People Showcase featuring talented local tellers. There will be a Meet the Tellers Dinner Saturday night with a concert to follow.

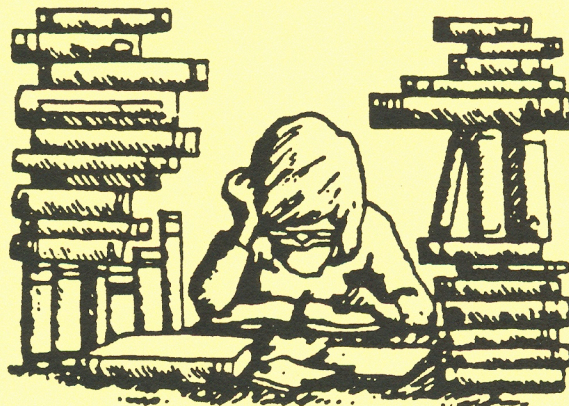
Sunday morning promises "Stories to Inspire" with more telling in the afternoon.

The Festival will be held at the Senior Center and lunch will be available both days. An open mike will be held during lunch.

All for Kids will provide wonderful resources.

The Uptown Motel has special rates for festivalgoers---1-800-858-3812. A festival brochure will be available in late July. Call Josephine Pedersen at 360-457-3169.

SOURCES: ABOUT STORIES AND THE FOLKS WHO TELL THEM



By **Margaret Read MacDonald**,
King County Library System

Time to get your reading and listening prepared for the upcoming **King County StoryFest International 2001**.

You will find plenty of **Donald Davis** material in the Seattle Public and King County libraries. For your own professional use I suggest his **TELLING YOUR OWN STORIES** (August House, 1993). This tiny ten-dollar paperback leads you easily through steps to create your own personal stories. Donald's new book, **WRITING AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: FROM EXPERIENCE TO STORY TO PROSE** is a useful guide for using stories to teach writing. Those who are working in the schools will find this an important source. And of course you can apply these techniques to your own writing too. Or just relax with a visit to Close Creek, North Carolina in 1910, via Donald's novel, **THIRTEEN MILES FROM SUNCREST** (August House, 1994). And if you want to listen to Donald before the festival, check out one of the thirteen tapes available! My own favorite is **AUNT LAURA AND THE CRACK OF DAWN** (August House, 1991), hands down the best personal story I've ever heard.

You can check out eighteen cassettes and cd's by **Bill Harley** at the King County libraries! I recommend viewing his story "Joey, Chloe and the swamp monsters" from his video **WHO**

MADE THIS MESS (A & M Video 1992) for a look at an expert working with an audience.

He brings them up, calms them down, and holds them in the palm of his hand throughout a long story. And for those working with small children, don't miss Bill's picture book **SITTING DOWN TO EAT** (August House, 1996).

Dr. Wajuppa Tossa has published an amazing English-language retelling of a folk epic from NE Thailand, **PHYAA KHANKHAAK, THE TOAD KING** (Bucknell University Press, 1996). She skillfully brings the poetry of this lengthy myth to life. For those interested in a scholarly look at a little known Thai folk form, this book is a treasure. The King County Library System has a copy.

Billy Seago's sign-language storytellings are available at both King County and Seattle libraries. Delightful to share with children, and they learn a few signs just by watching! Check out **THE GREEDY CAT**, **THE MAGIC POT**, and **THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT** (Sign-a-Vision, 1987).

The tapes of **Gerald Fierst** and **Anndreana Belcher** are said to be on order for King County.

At the Festival Chauni Hassilet of All for Kids bookstore will be selling the wares of all of our tellers!

REVIEWS

The Parent's Guide to Storytelling: How to Make Up New Stories and Retell Old Favorites

by Margaret Read MacDonald

August House

Reviewed by Naomi Baltuck

Magic happens when a parent pulls a story out of thin air and gives it to a child. But many parents think the only way to share a story is to read it from a book, while others feel they haven't time to learn to tell stories. The Parent's Guide to Storytelling is a quick fix to this dilemma.

The book is masterful in its simplicity, beginning with brief but useful sections about where, when, why, and how to tell a story. Then the author takes us right to the heart of the matter, the stories themselves. Dr. MacDonald includes everything from fingerplays for babies to ghost stories for older children. The tales, infused with warmth and humor, giggles and chills, are easy to learn, and sure to please. A desperate parent can master one in minutes. Dr. MacDonald also gives instruction on how to collaborate with children to create original and imaginative stories.

I was impressed with her chapters on personal and family stories. As adults, we often forget how much kids enjoy hearing stories about themselves, or about when their moms and dads were children. Parents who tell these stories are passing on family history, folklore, and values, and sharing something with their children that no one else can.

As a professional storyteller, I have found this book a valuable resource, most recently when working with pre-school classes ranging in age from two to six years old. Dr. MacDonald's field experience and expertise is especially apparent in her retellings of stories for the very young, not only in the language she chooses, but also in the helpful hints that accompany them. Storytelling can be the active ingredient in the glue that binds people together, the key that opens doors to the heart and the mind, or just a rollicking good time.

For anyone who loves or works with children, whether a parent, grandparent, educator, or professional, this book is a very good place to start. It will delight, entertain, and come in real handy in a pinch.

Hanna and the Dragon and other tales from Japan- Musical Adventures with Elizabeth Falconer

Reviewed by Pat Peterson

Elizabeth Falconer has another winner with her second storytelling and koto album. Parents Choice gave her its 2001 Silver Award.

Her adaptations of Japanese folktales combined with the intriguing sound of this ancient stringed instrument are a perfect match. The addition of her two sons, Brian and Jesse, to help tell several of the tales adds a charming aspect to this well-produced album.

I found myself nodding my head and repeating the Japanese words and phrases. Always there is the koto, enhancing, and helping to tell the story.

There are some selections that storytellers may be familiar with but Elizabeth has given them new life with her retelling and koto accompaniment. Give this a listen and try to catch Elizabeth when she performs live in the Seattle area. Order from kotoworld.com.

Pouring the Sun: An Immigrants Journey by Jay O'Callahan

Reviewed by Pat Peterson

Jay was commissioned to perform a story about Bethlehem Steel and the people in the community of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He interviewed many people from steelworkers to a former president of Bethlehem Steel and thought the story was too big to do. Then he met Ludvika Moskal through the memories of her adult children. She came to America at the age of 18 and survived hardships that would have defeated many. It is through her eyes that the story is told.

I love the way Jay takes us to Ludvika's kitchen and introduces us to her family. He provides a sense of place that allows us to taste the soup in the pot and share in the struggles of union organizing. And always, there is the steel with a sound and fury all its own. In the end, it wasn't the vast, booming mills but a kitchen that gave the story life.

Some of us heard bits and pieces of this story as a work in progress. What a wonderful example for storytellers to understand how much goes into a finely crafted work. It is the shaping and refining, the telling and questioning that have given Pouring the Sun its heart. Order at 800-626-5356 or jay@ocallahan.com.

Beyond My Father's Shadow Stories by Fran Yardley

Reviewed by Pat Peterson

These are stories that speak to everyone but there is a special appeal to the relationship between fathers and daughters. Fran Yardley has taken the art of personal storytelling to new heights. Her previous works, "The Sears Roebuck Baby, and "May I Have This Dance" were unique and delightful. "Beyond My Father's Shadow" reveals maturity that is the result of hard work with coaching and time to season the stories.

What a range of emotions are shared. As Fran tells four stories, she takes us from young girl to mature woman—from saying "No" to letting go.

In the end, we will always be our father's daughter.

This is the perfect road companion. What a finely produced work with swing music that my own father would have loved.

Order from Fran at parkyard-fran@northnet.org. or 518-359-9324

FOLKLIFE, 2001

NW Folklife Festival 2001 was a great success, as were the storytelling events held there. Two general concerts, the Liar's Contest and the open mike meant that storytelling was represented every day of the festival and all had good attendance. A diverse mix of tales and tellers presented stories from the world over, reinforcing the multi-cultural theme of the annual festival. The first ever Folklife Festival Ghost Story Concert was such a smash hit that it will become an annual event with a larger venue. Pat Peterson, already hard at work for Festival 2002, states, "If you thought the trophies for the Liar's Contest were impressive this year, next year's will knock your socks off"!

Thank you and congratulations to all of the tellers who performed at Folklife - every one of you did a super job! Special thanks go to Liz Dreisbach, Program Director NW Folklife, for her support of festival storytelling; Clint Cannon, MC extraordinaire, for his contribution to the Friday and Sunday concerts - it's great to have you back Clint; Tom Galt for hosting both the Liar's Contest and the open mike; Sharon Creeden, Lenore Jackson,

Marilyn Milnor, Allen Hirsch and his wife for judging the liar's contest which was won by James Thiel of Seattle; and last, but certainly not least, the wonderful, appreciative audiences that attended the events. See you all next year!

Special Thanks.....

Cherie Trebon did a wonderful job working with Folklife this year to secure more opportunities for tellers. The new Ghost Story concert was a big hit. It all takes lots of time and all of us in the storytelling community benefit.

Naomi Baltuck hosted a magical welcome to summer on June 22. Never mind that the weather thought it was March. With the help of her family, her backyard was transformed into a fairyland. Stories and music filled the night air. What a special gift she shared with us all.

Ray Hicks Fund

Many of you know that Ray Hicks has advanced cancer and by western medicine standards, it is not looking good. I am writing to ask your help by holding him in the light or praying or whatever might be your tradition...that he and his family be free of pain.

For those that haven't had the pleasure of hearing Ray tell stories, he opens his heart and his mouth and out pours the drama and humor of life. He is a beacon of storytelling.

If you would like to, there is something else you can do. The Hicks have lived a simple mountain life, living mostly off the land. Their main source of cash income has been collecting ginseng and telling stories locally 6-8 times a year. Since his health problems, he hasn't been able to get out and that has been a hardship financially. A special fund has been started and if you would like to contribute please send donations with checks made out to:

The Ray and Rosa Hicks Fund,
c/o International Storytelling Center
Attn: Abbey Miller
116 W. Main
Jonesborough, TN 37659.

All money will go to help Ray and Rosa in any way possible.

.....Connie Regan-Blake Storyteller

Coming Together Gathering

July 26, 27, 28 & 29 Swinomish Community Center

Vi Hilbert invites you to a gathering: Storytelling, Song, Feasting, Healing, Fun and Sharing. Johnny Moses will share an epic story. All Tribes, Groups and People who have shared in Vi's life are invited. She asks you to bring your Best: Best Stories, Best Songs, Best Food, Best Speakers. Come, share the stories and teachings of this beautiful ancient tradition. Coming together to share our Best is the ancient tradition that strengthens and uplifts our families and communities. For more information call (206) 230-7953.

Looking for Your Help

The Guild Board is in need of a Treasurer. Cherie Trebon will be glad to pass on her financial skills and mentor whoever fills the new position. It is an important one. If you are even considering joining us, please give Cherie a call to find out what is involved. 206-525-0382

Realizing that we are in the year 2001, the Guild is considering developing a web page. If you would like to help format and update storytelling information, please call Marilyn Milnor 206-322-7330

Thank You !

Many thanks to the Seattle Storyteller's Guild for hosting our concert at All for Kids on April 25th. It was a sweet homecoming for me and a warm welcome for my husband, Richard Wright. We posted tour notes on our Web site as a way of acknowledging the wonderful folk who made it such a memorable three weeks. To check out the Seattle/Bothell leg, see <http://goldrushbc.com/tourtalesb.htm>.

Cathryn Wellner

Primary Sources

New member Kim Pearson is a writer, artist, teacher and beginning storyteller and the owner of Primary Sources, a storytelling resource which helps people tell their stories through memoir, fiction and masks. Kim also facilitates a Storytelling Circle at her home in Issaquah, first Wednesday of each month from 7PM to 9PM. Masks are available to enhance the storytelling process. Kim can be reached at 425-865-0409, EM storykim@home.com, or check out her website, <http://www.primary-sources.com>"

Raintales Story Circle Hosts Lughnasad Feast

Raintales will depart from its fourth Monday schedule in July for a special Lughnasad Feast on Sunday July 29. This meeting will be an early celebration of Lughnasad, which is traditionally the first day of August and marks the end of summer and the beginning of autumn. It is a time associated with the beginning of the grain harvest and first fruits and is named for the Celtic Sun-God Lugh. In addition to feasting, there will be a group telling of the story of Lugh from the coming of the Tuatha De Danaan to Ireland to the defeat of the Formorians. Other stories will also be welcome.

All former, current, and potential members of Raintales are invited. For time and place call Lenore Jackson at (206) 284-2976.

We will be back on our regular schedule in August and September.

Gene Friese Scholarship Awarded

Mary Brugh is the recipient of this year's Gene Friese Scholarship Award. She will participate in Laura Simms' Storytelling Residency this summer and will apply the award toward her expenses. Gene would be pleased to know that so many in the Seattle area are telling stories and keeping the tradition alive.

Calendar

July 8 Stories on a Second Sunday Third Place Books 6 p.m. Eva Abram and Linda McBroom tell stories for children of all ages...NOTE the time change.

July 13 Teller's Night Out 7 p.m. All for Kids
Have you ever wondered how a Biblical story is brought forth for telling -- sometimes with very little information? Our featured guest storyteller this month, Ann Fitzgerald who specializes in telling women's stories from the Bible, will share with us her methods. Ann, the resident storyteller for St. James Cathedral, is a delightful teller with a dramatic flair.

July 17-29 Come Together Gathering—see related article page 6.

July 29 Lughnasad Feast – see article page 6.

Aug. 10 Guild Picnic Come at 6, we'll eat at 6:30. Hot dogs and drinks provided-bring 'picnic food'. At Cherie Trebon's. Call for directions 206-525-0382

Aug. 12 Stories on a Second Sunday, Third Place Books, 6 pm Margaret Swanson-Vance "Animal Tales"

Aug. 17 & 18 StoryFest International—see article page 1.

Sept. 9 Stories on a Second Sunday, Third Place Books, 6 pm Lenore Jackson "Tantalizing Tales"

Sept. 14 Teller's Night Out, All for Kids, 7 pm
"Dressing Like a Storyteller" How to dress for a performance is a personal decision. Some storytellers consciously choose not to dress in any distinctive way. But other tellers add a little pizzazz to their telling with historical costumes, ethnic clothes, vests, hats, bow ties, or earrings. If you are looking for an occasion to dress up, get out your lime green socks, butterfly dress, or patchwork jacket and join us for this colorful meeting. Sign up to tell a story by calling Lenore Jackson at (206) 284-2976.

Sept. 21-21 Festival Stories by the Sea
Newport, Oregon Contact Rebecca Cohen
(541)265-3109,
<http://www.olaweb.org/csd/stories.html>.

Key Addresses and Numbers for the Calendar Third Place Books

Lake Forest Park Towne Centre
206-366-3333

All For Kids

2900 N.E. Blakeley
Seattle, WA
206-526-2768

STORY CIRCLES

Raintales Story Swap

Share favorite stories, try out new ones and get to know other tellers of all levels in a supportive, informal meeting:

Fourth **Monday** of the month, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
2125 First Avenue West

July –Special event on 29th. Regular schedule
August and September
Call Lenore Jackson at 206-284-2976

Mukilteo Story Circle

Story Circle in Mukilteo meets at Starbucks, 13916 Mukilteo Speedway (in the Food Emporium at the junction of Hwy 99 and the Mukilteo Speedway) 2nd Mondays at 7 p.m.
Call 425-353-7410 (Eileen).

Tale Traders

This story circle meets on the 3rd Thursday in Issaquah from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If you love storytelling and are looking for an informal place to share stories and network, please come and join us.
Call Kathy Murphy 425-391-4312 for directions.

Frog Rock Story Circle

Experienced and novice storytellers from Kitsap county and beyond are equally welcomed. The Circle meets on the first Tuesday of the month from 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. at 9702 Sands Ave. N.E. on Bainbridge Island.
Call 206-842-5293 (Alyson) or 206-842-4562 (Ed).

New Storytelling Circle in Issaquah.

First Wednesday of each month 7 p.m. – 9p.m.
(Exception -In July the meeting is on the 11th.)
Contact Kim Pearson 425-865-0409

Seattle Storyteller's Guild 2001 - 2002 Board

President - John Clauson 360-275-5386
Vice President - Cherie Trebon 206-525-0382
Secretary - Marilyn Milnor 206-322-7330
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Liz May 206-782-1057

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In the Wind is the newsletter of the Seattle Storyteller's Guild, a Non-profit organization, and is published quarterly. Membership in the Guild includes a year's subscription. Please check the expiration date on your label.

Call the Guild at 206-621-8646 for updated information on Guild events.

Newsletter articles and comments should be directed to:
patpeterson@Home.com

Fall issue deadline is September 15, 2001

Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

Zipcode: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Today's Date: _____

NEW _____ Individual, \$20. _____

RENEWAL _____ Family, \$30. _____

Institutional, \$35. _____

In the Wind

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Seattle, WA 98145-0532

First Class Mail