

Storytellers - 2015 Storytelling Festival

Aunt Li-Anne - Aunt Li-Anne is a storyteller, actor and healer. She has been performing in local theaters and teaching drama workshops for sixteen years. Her stories emphasize traditional lore and range from fairies and myths to thought provoking tales of conflict resolution. Li-Anne has a specialization in Creative Dramatics, and her programs include family and holiday stories. Aunt Li-Anne's Story Garden
li_annemufson@yahoo.com

Leo Baggerly - Leo is a retired physicist who worked at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. In his previous incarnations, Leo has been university professor of physics, industrial engineer for TRW, and sometime government bureaucrat at the National Science Foundation. He brings a confused and skeptical perspective to his stories.

Brad Chapin - Brad is a firefighter with the El Centro Fire Department. He has been an EMT ambulance operator in San Francisco and Imperial Valley, as well as a small-business owner. He is married and the father of four and grandfather of one.

Patti Christensen - Patti creates a magical program for all ages, enjoying the enthusiasm of rollicking fun stories and songs with plenty of participation. From fun to serious, inspirational to instructional, Patti brings her whole self to sharing stories. She works in many different venues and is a favorite as a keynote and at birthday and holiday parties. www.pattistory.com

Jim Dieckman - Jim has been involved with the Storytellers of San Diego since the early 1980's, and has told in schools, museums, nature centers and on the main stage at storytelling festivals. He enjoys the wonders of the natural world and tells folk tales and original stories about the sea, the sky, the Earth and the creatures that live there. Programs for children and adults.

Karen Dietz - Karen is a folklorist, trainer and storyteller (past director of the National Storytelling Network). For more than twenty years, she has helped individuals and organizations improve performance by propelling their leadership, culture, and communications to higher effectiveness. She is the co-author of *Business Storytelling for Dummies* and the top content curator for on-line business storytelling

Mindy Donner - Mindy Donner has been spinning yarns for all ages with her group, Spinning Wheel Players; blending music, sometimes puppets, and encouraging audience participation with rhythm instruments. Together with a musician, she often perform bilingually (English/Spanish). Mindy delights in telling folktales from around the world, as well as performing an original play, "West of Snow," a story of the Donner party.

Betty W. Grant - Betty incorporates music and stories in her weekly curriculum enrichment programs for preschool students at the University of San Diego Child Development Center. Her "Fun With Music" is a program of multicultural music and stories for children. She also conducts special storytelling programming for groups and provides workshops.

Charles Johnson- After twenty years as a software engineer, Charles Johnson decided there must be more to life, so he taught himself to play the ukulele and put out a shingle as a musical storyteller. Charles has delighted children and adults at libraries, schools, festivals and private homes. He's even been a ghost-tour guide. Zesty ukulele tunes, salty sea ballads and hilarious story songs are all delivered on ukulele, harmonica, concertina, recorder, kazoo - even a paper bag!
www.PaperBagCowboy.com

Kyle Knaphus - Kyle is a firefighter. He has worked for the El Centro Fire Department and the Orange County Fire Authority, in addition to being a realtor and handyman. He is married and has five daughters.

Fred Laskowski- Fred is a Marriage and Family Therapist currently working in the public schools, where his storytelling abilities enliven and enrich his interactions with the students. As a performer, he has been featured at numerous public and private events, including the Sam Hinton Folk Heritage Festival, and the University of San Diego Adult Storytelling Concert Series. He spends his spare time practicing and teaching yoga, hiking, and exploring the wilderness.

Matt Lewis - Matt Lewis is a writer and the editor of *The Radvocate*, a literary arts magazine, and a producer for the non-profit So Say We All. He graduated from Cal State San Marcos with a B.A. in Literature & Writing in 2009.

Marilyn McPhie - Marilyn became a storyteller by choice—when her son's preschool gave her a choice of cleaning bathrooms or telling stories. A professional teller since 1985, she has a fondness for old stories with new twists. A National Storytelling Network state liaison, she was featured at the Exchange Place at the National Storytelling Festival and regularly charms festival, school, corporate and conference audiences across the country and beyond with her engaging tales.
www.marilynmcphie.com

Ross Moore - San Diego County Library Acoustic Showcase coordinator Ross Moore steps in front of the mic to share stories taken from his father's World War II letters to his mother. This personal narrative provides a unique social history of a vital time, when going to war affected not only the soldiers but the whole country as well.

OJ Mozon, Jr. - A native of Washington, DC, OJ Mozon is a modern griot. As a chaplain for the Navy, his deployments and travels enabled him to share folktales, myths, legends, Bible stories and historical vignettes at festivals from North Carolina to the Pacific Northwest. Associated with the Black Storytellers of San Diego and the National Association of Black Storytellers, he currently serves as Developer of Oral Learning with Dynamic Church Planting International.

James Nelson-Lucas - James is a storyteller, actor, public speaker, workshop leader, improvisational performer, magician, chef, musician, dancer, clown, writer, producer, and director. He has performed everywhere from churches to corporate settings, from private parties to street theater to the legitimate stage. He tells tales from historic to humorous, folk to fantastic, educational to entertaining.
www.jamesstorymagic.com

Vicky Reed - A former librarian and Media Services Specialist for the San Diego County Office of Education, Vicky has many years experience not only in telling, but teaching storytelling on a college level and organizing an acclaimed adult storytelling concert series. Among her accomplishments is a Service Award received from the National Storytelling Network recognizing her contributions to storytelling in the region.

Robert Riding - Bob Riding served in the United States Marine Corps from 196 to 1971, including a year of combat action in Vietnam as an artillery forward observer, platoon commander and battery executive officer. He was released from active duty in the USMC, graduated from dental school and spent twenty-six years as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon, retiring in 2003 as a Captain. He is married and has five daughters and nineteen grandchildren.

Katy Rydell - Katy taught storytelling at California State University, Los Angeles and has been a frequent lecturer at many other colleges and universities. She has led in-service workshops for teachers and librarians around the country. www.katrydell.com

Sarah Saulter - The magic in Sarah's storytelling is in the absolute feeling that you're there; you've gone to some other time or place and you're swept away by the adventure. She brings the most fanciful characters vividly to life, and while you're listening to her, you believe in the most unlikely magic. Sarah has been a featured storyteller at the Exchange Place at the National Storytelling Festival and several other festivals, most recently the Mariposa Storytelling Festival.

David Schmidt - David is a writer, folklorist and storyteller who has collected legends and oral traditions in twenty-five different countries. He is fascinated by oral folk traditions, and has studied the unique cosmology embodied in ancient myths and legends while visiting remote indigenous villages in rural southern Mexico. He has been a relief volunteer in Haiti, camp counselor in Russia, community organizer in Mexico and substitute teacher in the United States. He speaks several languages, and has frequently told stories bilingually or trilingually in international settings.

Liz Warren - A fourth-generation Arizonan, Liz is known for tales that reflect the heroic journey of life - whether they are stories of growing up, folktales, or myths from ancient traditions. She is a storyteller, teacher, and award-winning writer as well as founder and director of the South Mountain Community College Storytelling Institute in Phoenix, Arizona.

Linda Whiteside - With a master's degree in storytelling, Linda tells stories in the Healing Arts Department at Rady Children's Hospital and teaches teachers at UCSD. Her bilingual style, fluidly weaving English and Spanish, delights audiences of all ages. She has told tales in schools, libraries, universities, organizations, and at the San Diego Zoo.

Sule Greg Wilson - Sule Greg Wilson has been sharing stories and music for over forty years. Born in Washington, DC, he has performed at Houston's Magical Folktales of Africa, the Clotworthy Arts Centre in Antrim, Northern Ireland, The Oakland, CA Conservatory of Music, the Newport Folk Festival, San Diego's Festival of Sail and much more. He has taught storytelling in Maryland and Arizona, authored four books and produced five CDs. A teacher for many years, he is also married and has two daughters.

