

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MEDIA ADVISORY**

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***“Voices at the Water’s Edge” a storytelling festival.***

The Storytellers of San Diego and the Coronado Public Library will present the fourteenth annual San Diego Storytelling Festival on Saturday, March 16, '24 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the historic library site, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado, California, 92118.

The theme of the festival matches that of worldwide celebrations for World Storytelling Day—“Building Bridges.” The festival’s theme is both metaphorical and literal, and informs story sessions and workshops.

To traverse the Coronado Bridge is just two miles. And the bridge spans diverse communities and cultural landmarks north to south, from the industrial areas, Chicano Park, family dwellings to the military, the land of Oz and the Hotel Del and its’ mica-sand beaches.

Always popular, “how- to” and learning workshops will be offered. At 10:00, the festival open with a workshop on enhancing storytelling by Emily Stamets, which invites lively participation. Later, there is a workshop on crafting personal stories with award-winning Los Angeles storyteller, Miyo Yamauchi, and an intriguing interactive session with dilemma tales—thought provoking tales from diverse lands to inspire problem-solving, contemplation, and lively conversation—led by Berkeley, Ca. storyteller, Sara Armstrong.

Programming for kids begins at 12:00 with “Building Bridges—for Kids,” featuring, puppets, stories and song with Patti Christensen and friends. At 2pm the focus continues on kids with “Stories from Around the World.” Later at 3pm, students from Silver Strand Elementary in Coronado, who have been working on storytelling skills in school residencies, will tell their tales from the main stage. Adult storytellers who have attended the Storytelling Institute at the library will have an opportunity to share their skills and stories right after.

The kick-off for the festival will be at 11:00 with welcomes, proclamations and a storytelling show for all with the theme of “Building Bridges.” Every hour there will be a different show in the Winn Room. The 1:00 hour features music by a high school ensemble, and then an “Open Mic”, encouraging audience tellers.

The complementary nature of storytelling and visual arts is featured in “Art & Stories”—this year’s show is “Spinning Tales”—with storytellers telling stories inspired by fiber arts, sharing the stage with Emily Stamets and her spinning wheel.

As part of the acclaimed, “Real People; Real Stories” series, military veterans will share their experiences. At 12:00 pm, Maria E. Garcia hosts a panel, “We Made San Diego” with interviewees from her book featuring contributions of Mexican Americans to San Diego. Outside the library at 1:00, the Turning Wheel Park bus exhibit features Chicano Park murals, and community history, followed by a talk on the history of low-riders by Dr. Alberto Pulido with a low-rider and its’ owner.

The festival wraps with a 4:00 story concert, “Voices,” featuring some of San Diego’s favorite storytellers and invited guests.