

OCTOBER 6 – 8, 2017

A weekend of inspired — and inspiring
— storytelling for everyone

Professional Storytellers
Student Storytellers from District 65, ETHS,
Baker Demonstration School, Northwestern University

Storytelling Events for Adults, Teens, and Children
Bilingual Spanish/English stories,
African Folktales, and Spooky Stories

LGBTQ Stories from Chicago's *OUTspoken!*

This Much Is True, a curated storytelling show
featuring true personal stories from some of
Chicago's most fascinating people

Opportunities to learn and
demonstrate your storytelling skills

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE

Downtown Evanston locations:

Main Library, 1703 Orrington Ave.

Storytelling Tent in Library Parking Lot

The Celtic Knot, 626 Church Street

The Woman's Club of Evanston, 1702 Chicago Ave.

Hyatt House Evanston, 1515 Chicago Ave.

Bookends and Beginnings, 1712 Sherman Ave.

Third Annual Evanston Public Library
STORYTELLING
FESTIVAL • 2017

epl.org/storyfestival • [#eplstoryfest](https://twitter.com/eplstoryfest)

GREETINGS

from Evanston's Mayor and the Library Director

Dear residents, visitors and storytelling enthusiasts,

Greetings, and welcome to the third annual Evanston Public Library Storytelling Festival. Whether you're an Evanston resident or are visiting our community for the first time, I'm glad you can join us as we celebrate the art and power of storytelling in our beautiful and vibrant downtown.

Stories have the unique ability to entertain and enlighten us, while also bringing us closer together. Today, that's more important than ever. This weekend, we'll hear from some of the nation's most celebrated and diverse storytellers and poets, along with talented residents and students from Northwestern University and Evanston schools. From personal true stories to imaginative folktales, audiences both young and old are sure to be captivated, engaged and inspired.

The festival is presented by the Evanston Public Library and is made possible through the tireless efforts of staff and volunteers. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

So, as the noted storyteller Shel Silverstein said:

If you are a dreamer, come in
If you are a dreamer, a wisher, a liar,
A hope-er, a pray-er, a magic bean buyer...
If you're a pretender, come sit by the fire
For we have some flax-golden tales to spin.
Come in!
Come in!

Enjoy the Storytelling Festival!

Sincerely,

STEPHEN H. HAGERTY
Mayor



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Evanston Public Library's Storytelling Festival! Now in its third year, this event brings together the entire Evanston community for a weekend of listening to internationally renowned storytellers as well as creating and telling our own stories.

Sharing stories like this brings us together as a community, celebrating what we have in common as well as our differences. Listening to stories takes us to places we've never been, inspires us with new ideas, moves our hearts, and acquaints us with people from beyond our own circles. We appreciate people in new and deeper ways once we've heard their stories.

Meet your friends and make new ones at our Storytelling Festival, a celebration of the creativity, openness, and vitality that is Evanston. We're happy you're joining us!

KAREN DANCZAK LYONS

Director, Evanston Public Library

Co-director, Evanston Public Library Storytelling Festival



Susan Stone, Founder/Co-director,

Evanston Public Library Storytelling Festival, has been a professional storyteller and teaching artist for over 30 years, traveling around the country and overseas, telling multicultural and Jewish folklore as well as her own personal stories. Her CDs have won Parents' Choice Gold and Storytelling World Awards. She is a former EPL Board member, has been an Evanston drama teacher, taught at the Piven Theatre Workshop, and served on the adjunct faculty of National Louis University. She also offers workshops and coaches storytellers. Susan wants to express gratitude to Karen Danczak Lyons, and the committee, for their diligence in honoring ALL our stories so we can come together in community.



2017 FEATURED

National Touring Storytellers:

Mama Edie McCloud Armstrong is a Bilingual storyteller, speech/language pathologist and percussionist with a warm, vibrant and interactive style that affirms for audiences of all ages that they are truly gifts to the world. For more than 20 years, Mama Edie has provided performances, workshops and keynotes that encourage self-knowledge and appreciation, social justice, personal empowerment and the joys of embracing diversity. Her original and traditional stories and songs may include English, Spanish, Cherokee, Yoruba, Sanskrit, Twi and more! She has performed in various festivals around the world and was recently showcased at the *2017 Annual Conference of the National Storytelling Network in Kansas City, KS*. She served for nine years as the National Membership Chair of the *National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc.*; was Founding Co-Chair of *Ase: the Chicago Association of Black Storytellers*; and served on the transitional Board of Directors for *Illinois Storytelling, Inc.* She has published original stories and research articles on language development and literacy through storytelling, music and movement. Whether fun and frolicky or somber and serene, Mama Edie's stories bring out the light that everyone has inside.



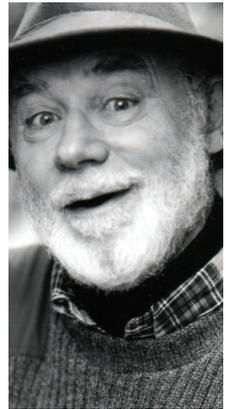
Jessica Carleton has been storytelling professionally for over 20 years, performing and teaching writing and storytelling at schools, libraries, and festivals around the country. She has performed several times at the National Storytelling Conference, and in the Exchange place at the National Storytelling Festival. Jess was honored to be a recipient of NSN's J.J. Reneaux mentorship grant in 2011, and was deeply grateful for the opportunity to be mentored by the brilliant Jay O'Callahan. As an actress and writer, Jessica has been honored to win four National Daytime Emmy Awards, including Outstanding Performer in a Children's Series (2014). She was an actor, the head writer, and puppet designer on over 400 episodes of the national children's TV show *Green Screen Adventures* (MeTV). She now lives in LA and writes for shows including *Puppy Dog Pals* on Disney Junior, *Sesame Street*, *Curious George*, and *Arthur*. Performance credits include *Chicago Fire* on NBC and *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* on stage at Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago. She is a graduate of Northwestern University in Theatre and Creative Writing for the Media. She is beyond thrilled to be back in Evanston with her storytelling family.



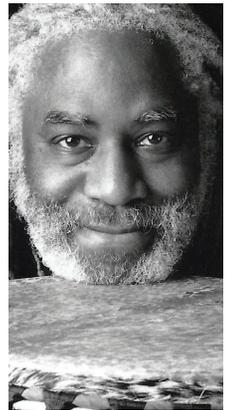
Dan Keding, an award-winning storyteller of international acclaim, is well known for his telling of traditional world folktales, personal narratives of his boyhood in Chicago, ghost stories and dark tales, original pieces, and the ballads of Britain, Ireland and North America. Dan's storytelling journey started as a child when his grandmother taught him the traditional folktales that she had learned growing up in Croatia. Dan has performed at festivals, schools, libraries, colleges, and concert halls across America, England, Ireland and Canada. He has been featured multiple times at the National Storytelling Festival, and was inducted into the Circle of Excellence by the National Storytelling Network. He has made over a dozen recordings and has authored six books. Dan tells the old stories from times long ago and people almost forgotten, and he tells the stories of his own journey and the people whom he will never forget.



Jay O'Callahan, author, storyteller and workshop leader, has performed his stories in New Zealand, Lincoln Center, The Abbey Theatre in Dublin, Africa, the National Fine Arts Complex in London, and throughout the United States. He was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for performance excellence. His work has been heard on National Public Radio. Jay has been commissioned to write stories by various groups including NASA to celebrate its 50th anniversary, the Quebec Labrador Foundation, Lehigh University, and The Boston Symphony Orchestra. Jay's newest story, *Falling for Emily Dickinson*, takes the listener into the poet's mysterious and passionate world. *Time Magazine* has called his work "genius."



La'Ron Williams, a nationally acclaimed and multiple award-winning storyteller shares both original and traditional tales that appeal to a wide range of ages and social backgrounds. His energetic, music-spiced presentations are always fun, highly participatory, educational, and entertaining. Every program is specifically designed to promote diversity, foster community building, encourage peaceful conflict resolution, and teach a host of "pro-social" skills, including empathy, self-expression and attentive listening. Williams has received high praise for his skill at presenting diversity workshops for adults, helping participants understand the nature of "invisible" bias and moving beyond the emotional stumbling blocks that prevent us from taking collective responsibility for creating a just and equitable society.

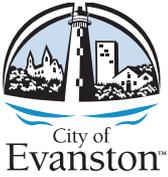


2017 SCHEDULE

of all events

	Storytelling Tent Main Library, Outdoor Parking Lot Stories for All Ages	Community Room Main Library Adult/Teen Storytelling	Hyatt House Hotel 1515 Chicago Ave.	Friedberg Room Main Library	Bookends & Beginnings 1712 Sherman Ave.
FRIDAY October 6	7-8:30 pm Welcome to the Festival All Featured Storytellers Susan Stone, MC				
SATURDAY October 7	11-11:25 am La’Ron Williams 11:30 am-12:15 pm Jessica Carleton and Dan Keding 12:30-1:15 pm African Folktales: La’Ron Williams and Mama Edie Armstrong 1:30-2:15 pm Jay O’Callahan and Jessica Carleton 2:30-3:15 pm La’Ron Williams and Dan Keding 3:30-4:15 pm Jay O’Callahan Mama Edie Armstrong tells “Cuentos” Bilingual Storytelling in Spanish and English 7-8:30 pm Spooky Tales: Dan Keding, Mama Edie Armstrong, Stephanie Douglass, and guests	10:30-11:20 am “From the Old Country to the New Country: Stories from Croatia to Chicago’s South Side” Dan Keding 11:30am-12:30 pm OUTspoken! LGBTQ storytellers David Fink, MC 12:45-1:45 pm “Waterlogged: Growing Up with OCD and Other Anxious Adventures” Jessica Carleton 2-2:45 pm Evanston Township High School Spoken Word Coached by Chuck Carra 3-4:00 pm “Migrations: The Drums Are Calling Us Home” Mama Edie Armstrong 4:15-5:30 pm This Much Is True True Personal Stories Rives Collins, MC	SATURDAY October 7	10:45-11:15 am EPL staff preschool stories 12-12:30 pm EPL staff preschool stories 1:30-2:00 pm EPL staff preschool stories 9-10:30 pm FRINGE Festival: Jessica Carleton, Dan Keding, Mama Edie Armstrong and Stephanie Rogers, MC	11:30 am-12:15 pm Northwestern University Storytellers 12:30-1:15 pm Northwestern University Storytellers 1:20- 2:00 pm King Arts School Storytellers Coached by Jamie Querciagrossa
SUNDAY October 8	11:45am-12:30 pm “Muddy River Playhouse” Jay O’Callahan (Teens/Adults only) 2:45-4:00 pm Symphony of Stories: In Honor of Syd Lieberman All Featured Storytellers Susan Stone, MC	9:30-11:30 am WORKSHOP: <i>Storytelling Loose and Lively</i> Led by La’Ron Williams 1-2:30 pm Panel Discussion Professor Rives Collins, moderator All Featured Storytellers	SUNDAY October 8	10:30-11:10 am Baker Demonstration School Storytellers Coached by Lizanne Wilson 11:15 am-12:00 pm Mama Edie Armstrong and Jessica Carleton	The Woman’s Club of Evanston 1702 Chicago Ave. The Celtic Knot 626 Church St.
					5:30 pm, sign up 6:00 pm stories Do Not Submit: Open Mic Storytelling for All

The Third Annual Evanston Public Library Storytelling Festival is made possible in large part through volunteer support, strategic partnerships and in-kind donations from the following organizations:



DONATE TODAY!

Evanston Public Library provides unique programming such as the Storytelling Festival for the entire community. Unlike similar festivals, this event is free of charge. In order to continue to provide these types of opportunities, we need your support. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to provide for community-wide programs and events like this one. **Make your gift online today at epl.org/donate or call (847) 448-8657.**

evanston public library

