



WORLD STORYTELLING DAY TELLERS

Ellen Gasser

Story Title: The Long, Long Mile Original adaptation

Ellen Gasser has always loved stories, both written and oral. Her career in natural and cultural history interpretation with Alberta Parks, Heritage Park Historical Village, and other museums, parks and visitor centers, combined with her experiences in nature, and her passion for researching history has led her to many stories. She has told stories to audiences of all ages around campfires, in museum exhibits, on guided walks and ghost tours, at Tellarounds, and through her writing. Ellen often combines music with storytelling, weaving tales of wildlife encounters and historical happenings with modern and traditional songs.

Rachel Glessing

Story Title: Meditations of a Lonely Woman Personal Story

Born and raised in British Columbia's Cariboo Chilcotin before spending her high school years in Vernon BC, Rachel moved to Calgary for university and graduated in 2023 with a BSc in Biology and a Bachelor of Music (trombone). Now residing in Edmonton, she continues to explore and develop her creative practice, of which oral storytelling has become an essential part. She is very excited to be this year's Youth Teller with Storytelling Alberta and is extremely grateful for the support and mentorship she has received from the society's incredible storytellers.

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Mary Hays

Story Title: Builder of Bridges - Josephine Soop (1913 - 2005)

Historical Story

Mary Hays, from Calgary, is a full-time storyteller who enjoys telling stories to all ages, stories that tickle the funny bone and touch the heart. She enlivens storytelling sessions and workshops with puppets, rhymes and a range of stories from folktales to stories of Alberta history. She specializes in telling stories for seniors, hosting tellarounds and leading collaborative story creation session as a TimeSlips facilitator.

Betty Hersberger

Story Title: Fire on the Mountain - Ethiopian Folktale

Betty tells folktales and folklore from around the world, stories that speak audiences from toddlers to seniors. Her repertoire includes tales of clever maids and wise crones; lazy boys and courageous lads. She has also researched and interpreted the writings by and about the Famous Five, performing solo and collaboratively in the personae of these historic Canadian women. Her performances include the fight for women's suffrage on the prairies, the victory of The Persons Case, and the challenges of being a successful woman in a man's world.

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Linda Shantz-Keresztes

Story Title: The Monkey King and Old Joe and the Carpenter - Folktales

Linda has been a long-time supporter of the art of storytelling. She has shared stories and tales to school age students in Calgary during her career as a teacher-librarian. Linda believes the telling and hearing of stories from diverse groups and cultures promotes a deeper understanding of others' lives and encourages richer relationships.

Linda's involvement with Storytelling Alberta's StoryShare Project in support of seniors during Covid-19 was a most enriching experience for her.

Folktales



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