

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



"Stories can conquer fear, you know. They can make the heart bigger." — Ben Okri

Hello friends,

July has finally arrived, and we are ready to make our way to Hannibal, MO, the home of Mark Twain and Gladys Coggswell, two great storytellers, for the 11th Annual Missouri Liars Contest on July 11th and 12th.

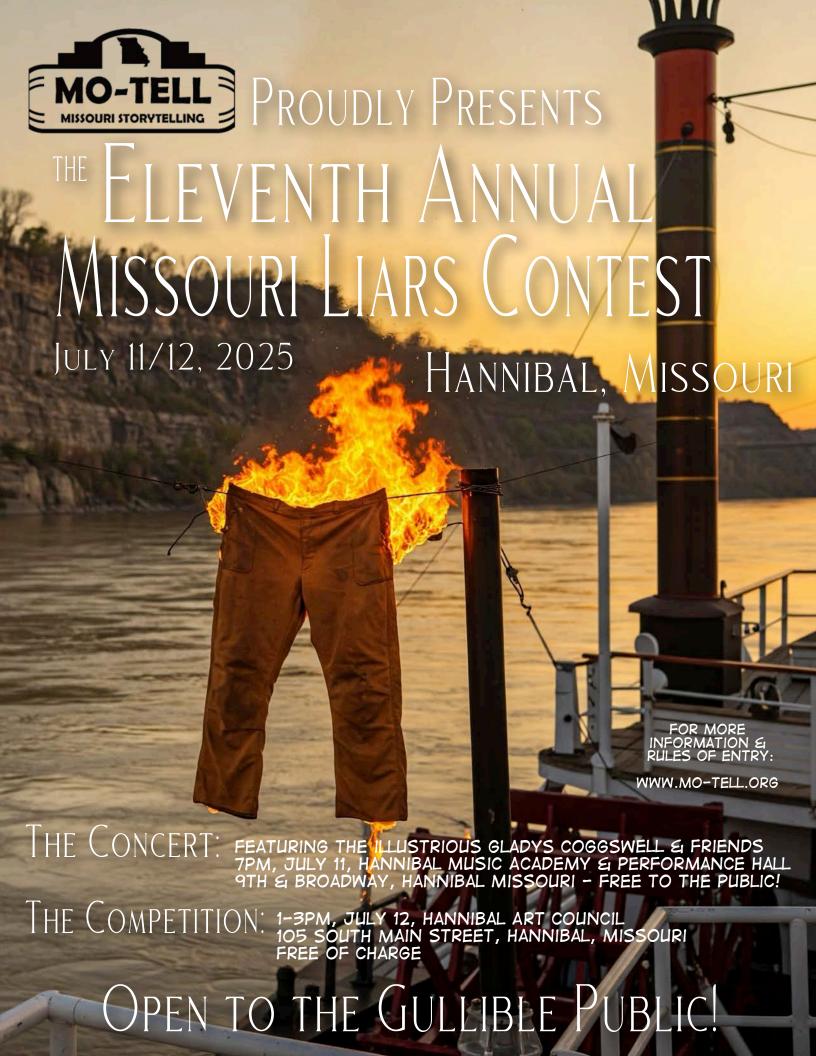
Friday, July 11th we will celebrate with stories and songs from Evie Rodenbaugh, Angela Williams, Karen Young, January Kiefer, Brian Fox Ellis, Jim Two Crows Wallen and our wonderful Gladys Coggswell. This is a must-see event. Angela and Gladys both call Hannibal their home and are well loved there so we are expecting a crowd. The event is FREE. Come join us for this concert of the greats in storytelling.

Saturday, July 12th, you do not want to miss the workshop by January Kiefer, From the Page to the Stage. This is also free, but we need to know you are coming. We will share lunch and stories following the workshop.

The Spoken Liars Contest will begin at 1 pm. We have a tremendous lineup that you will not want to miss. Come listen to their "lies. Don't forget the silent auction and the quilt raffle.

The weekend is a time for visiting with old friends and for discovering new ones in this great storytelling community we share.

Hannibal is full of tales. Come share yours. Joyce Slater President, MO-TELL





STORYTELLING DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE IN HANNIBAL, MO



TO OPEN THE 2025 MISSOURI LIARS CONTEST

A STORYTELLING CONCERT

TO HONOR & FEATURING HANNIBAL'S OWN
GLADYS COGGSWELL

JANUARY KIEFER
KAREN YOUNG
BRIAN FOX ELLIS
JIM "TWO CROWS" WALLE

MAKE YOUR FREE



CROWS" WALLEN RESERVATIONS

THE MUSIC OF EVIE RODENBAUGH

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2025

HANNIBAL MUSIC ACADEMY, 7-9PM 901 Broadway, Hannibal, Mo, 63401

THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS AT THE

RIEDEL

THIS EVENT IS FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

STORYTELLING DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE IN HANNIBAL, MO

BAL ARTS

105 S Main St Hannibal, MO 63401

10

STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

GREAT TRAINING FREE OF CHARGE

WITH FAMED TELLER, JANUARY KIEFER







AND THEN, THE MAIN EVENT, FREE OF CHARGE AND OPEN TO THE GULLIBLE PUBLIC

LIES! FABRICATIONS! YARNS! 3PM

TALL TALES TOLD! QUILT RAFFLE!

TORYTELLING DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE IN HANNIBAL, MO Boyhood Home Museum HER STORIES FOR CHILD FEATURING RENOWNED STORYTELLER FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC MARK TWAIN BOYHOOD HOME AND MUSEUM O N MAIN ST, HANNIBAL, MO 63401

St. Louis
STORY

Telling

Festival

November

10-16



MORE TIPS FOR TELLERS!

This is a modified version of an article by Lynn Rubright, author of Beyond the Beanstalk, Interdisciplinary Learning Through Storytelling. Lynn is the creator of *Project Tell*, a program involving storytelling and other arts in an elementary setting targeting 3 rd graders.

How to Tell a Story in an Hour

- 1. The first time, tell a short tale that you know and love.
- 2. Read the story thinking about the pictures you see and the pictures you want your audience to see.
- 3. Work with the words. Write or record the story using your own words. Listen for colors, the setting and the music of the tale.
- 4. "Tell" your story silently and watch your gestures. Be brave enough to use a pause, to create an effective moment.
- 5. Tell your story over and over until you are comfortable with it. Tell the story to yourself.
- 6. Leave your words and pictures alone and re-read the original story to pick up any details you may have overlooked.
- 7. PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE.
- 8. Trust the power of the tale and "TELL IT." As you concentrate on the story your nervousness will lessen, and the story itself will grow.

St. Louis ORYTELL!NG **Festival** Amateur Application



Interested in telling a funny anecdote, a life-changing moment, or a fictional adventure? This is your chance to shine. Whether you're a seasoned storyteller or someone telling a story for the first time, fill out an application for an opportunity to tell your story on stage during the St. Louis Storytelling Festival, Saturday, November 15, 12:30–1:30 p.m. at the Clark Family Branch.

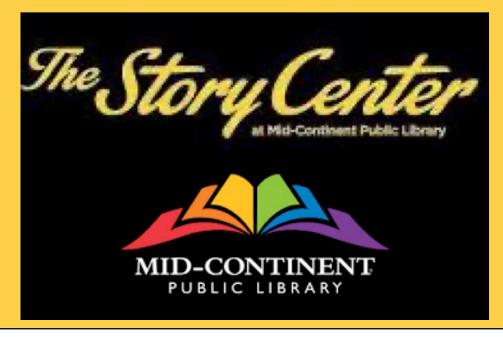
How to Enter

Complete the online application form at **www.slcl.org/amateur-story-hour** with your story between June 1 – July 31, 2025.



Official Rules and Guidelines

- Ages 16+
- Applications must be received between June 1 July 31, 2025
- If you are selected, St. Louis County Library will notify you by September 15, 2025.
- The selected tellers will have 5-8 minutes to tell their stories on stage during the Amateur Story Hour at the St. Louis Storytelling Festival on Saturday, November 15, 12:30-1:30 p.m. All stories must be family-friendly.



The MCPL Story Center Storytelling Certificate Program

For more information about the Storytelling Certificate Program at the Story Center, contact:

Story Center Program Manager Woodneath Library Center Mid-Continent Public Library 816.883.4780

mystorycenter.org

From Slave to Soldier: Stories from the Kansas City Chapter of Buffalo Soldiers

Wed, Jul 9 2025 6:30pm - 7:30pm The Auditorium at Woodneath Library Center Story Center Event Registration Required

The US Army Reorganization Act of 1866 started what has become known as the Buffalo Soldiers. **REGISTER NOW**

Performance Basics

Thu, Jul 10 2025 6:30pm - 8:00pm Story Center Programming Room Story Center Event Registration Required

Discover how to unleash your potential and connect with your audience in this interactive workshop from storyteller George Pettigrew.

REGISTER NOW

Story Swap (Hybrid)

Thu, Jul 17 2025 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Programming Room and Online Story Center Event MCPL Online

This open-mic storytelling event is open to anyone! Put your name in the hat for a chance to share a seven-minute story, or just come to enjoy the show.

REGISTER NOW

Storycrafting Fundamentals (Zoom)

Wed, Jul 30 2025 6:30pm - 8:00pm Central Story Center Event MCPL Online
Writer and storyteller Laura Packer will explore character development, story structure, point of view, understanding your audience, and other storycrafting techniques.

REGISTER NOW

RAPS 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE

Tentative 2025 RAPS Meetings:

Only 3 Featured Tellers and 4 miniworkshops

All meetings are on Zoom

January 2:

nter - Stories of Snow: Mini-Workshop being Teen Attention by Gary Kun

January 10-11-12:

Museum Chicken

bruary 6:

Trailside Center of Love

bruary 15:

Story

March 6:

Trailside Center es of Death: Featured Teller Ramona

March 15:

March 15:

Trailside Cento Wallen Story Slam

April 3:

eter - Stories of Hope -Mini-Workshop Pres. Follow Ups by Jim Wallen

<u> Paril</u> 19:

Story Co

May 1:

Stories about Endings and be

May 17:

June 5:

ide Center - Stories of Encouragement <u>Footured</u> Teller Bob Daniels

June 5: - Stories of Encouragement - Fea Teller Bob Daniels Trailside Center City MO Holmes, Kans

64131

Meeting Join Zoor :06web.zoom.us/j/

310168?

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Meeting ID: 875 0531 0168

Passcode: 301275

June 21: Open mic, Story Center, Mid-Continent Library, 8900 NE Flip Jck

Road

Kansas City, Mr 34157

Join Zoom Marting

eb.zoom.us/j/ https://us0

nhrM2NHSE1VaHZa 8750531 MMTZjNIVKQT09

Meeting ID: 875 0531 0168 Passcode: 301275

RAPS meetings First Thursday of every month from 7:00-9:00 PM (Central): in-person or on Zoom Trailside Center 9901 Holmes Kansas City, MO 64131 Third Saturday of every

month from 10:30 AM-12 PM (Central): in-person or on Zoom Woodneath Library Center 8900 NE Flintlock Road Kansas City, MO 64157

une 21:

July 3:

Trailside Center - Stories of Patriots/Civil Activists - Mini-Workshop: Fracturing Fairy Tales by Connie Jones

July 19:

Story Center

August 7:

Trailside Center - Annual RAPS Meeting and Election of Officers (Asst Director, Treasurer, and Membership) -Stories of Service

August 16:

Story Center

September 4:

Trailside Center - Stories of Enchantment - Featured Teller Cynthia Orr

September 20:

Story Center

October 2:

Trailside Center - Stories of Ghosts/Fear Mini-Workshop - Boo-Tickle to Spooky Tales by Joyce Slater

October 4/5:

Missouri Town - Festival Telling

October 18:

Story Center

November 6:

Trailside Center - Stories of Sharing

November 15:

Zoom Only Story Center not available

November 22:

Trailside Center - Tellabration Programs

December 4:

Trailside Center - Holiday Party Stories of Giving

December 20:

Story Center

BIG-RIPS-NEUSI-

RAPS is Hybrid

River and Prairie Storyweavers is going Hybrid! RAPS will meet in-person and on Zoom.

If you already are on the RAPS distribution list you have received invitations to the digital meetings and no further action is needed. If you are not on the distribution list but want to receive the invitations, please email RAPS.secretary@gmail.com with your contact information and you will be put on the list.

Regular Meetings:

First Thursday of every month from 7:00-9:00 PM (Central): Join us in-person or on Zoom

Trailside Center

9901 Holmes Kansas City, MO 64131

Third Saturday of every month from 10:30 AM-12 PM (Central): Join us in-person or on Zoom

Woodneath Library Center

8900 NE Flintlock Road Kansas City, MO 64157

Purchase RAPS Membership Here!









Jim "Two Crows" Wallen educated and fascinated the public at the First Missouri State Capitol Historic Site!



HERE ARE A COUPLE OF WAYS

In our June newsletter we discussed the devastating tornado that occurred in St. Louis, MO. Some of our friends lost homes and businesses and churches. Here are two opportunities to consider in helping our neighbors.

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN

THEY'VE HOSTED TWO TELLABRATIONS!

(AND KEN WOLFE IS AN ELDER THERE)



The congregation of St. Louis' historic Memorial Presbyterian Church grieves the devastation wrought by the May 16th EF-3 tornado. While our 1926 English gothic bell tower, sanctuary and arts venue, The Chapel, still anchor the western edge of Forest Park, and while our people still gather for weekly worship, millions of dollars and many months of work lie ahead to restore the structure to its historic glory. You can follow the progress being made below.

You can also financially partner with us to help ensure this historic building is restored and preserved for generations of St. Louisans to come.

For MUCH more information and ways to help:



CENTENNIAL CHRISTIAN

which is instrumental in feeding and housing the poor, who were hit hard by this tornado. Some of the MO-TELL members have asked how they may donate to help people in St. Louis who are in need due to the tornado. This will be an opportunity to help victims of the May 16 tornado.

The Fountain Park neighborhood (just east of Kingshighway and north of Delmar) was hit hard by the tornado, in which 5,000 homes, churches, and businesses were destroyed or significantly damaged. The Centennial Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), which has served the community for more than 100 years, was damaged beyond repair. One woman died in the church during the tornado; she had just finished feeding the poor. Two other women in the church were rescued by first responders.

The congregation plans to rebuild within two years and establish a health clinic, food bank, and housing in its mission of "Health, Hunger, and Home." Donations will help the neighborhood now and in its future rebuilding.

There are several ways to donate to this cause:

- --Send money in the form of a check made payable to Centennial Christian Church (Write "localtornado relief" in the memo section of the check). Mail to Perrin Stifel, 636 Elmwood Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63119.
- --Use Venmo to Liz Lyons (Perrin's daughter) @Liz-Lyons-13; the last 4 digits of her phone number are 3162 (please note the funds are for the tornado victims relief).
- --Donate directly to Centennial Christian Church's GoFundMe page at:

https://gofund.me/387b4ee8

We realize that you may have already contributed food, money, and/or your time to help the victims of this devastating tornado. And there are many other ways to give.

We thought this way might be easy for some folks.

STORY OF THE MONTH

Teeny-Tiny

Once upon a time there was a teeny-tiny woman lived in a teeny-tiny house in a teeny-tiny village. Now, one day this teeny-tiny woman put on her teeny-tiny bonnet, and went out of her teeny-tiny house to take a teeny-tiny walk. And when this teeny-tiny woman had gone a teeny-tiny gate, and went teeny-tiny gate; so the teeny-tiny woman opened the teeny-tiny gate, and went into a teeny-tiny churchyard. And when this teeny-tiny woman had got into the teeny-tiny churchyard, she saw a teeny-tiny bone on a teeny-tiny grave, and the teeny-tiny woman said to her teeny-tiny self, "This teeny-tiny bone will make teeny-tiny woman said to her teeny-tiny supper." So the teeny-tiny woman teeny-tiny soup for my teeny-tiny supper." So the teeny-tiny woman teeny-tiny bone into her teeny-tiny pocket, and went home to her teeny-tiny house.

Now when the teeny-tiny woman got home to her teeny-tiny house she was a teeny-tiny bit tired; so she went up her teeny-tiny stairs to her teeny-tiny bed, and put the teeny-tiny bone into a teeny-tiny cupboard. And when this teeny-tiny woman had been to sleep a teeny-tiny time, she was awakened by a teeny-tiny voice from the teeny-tiny cupboard, which said:

And this teeny-tiny woman was a teeny-tiny frightened, so she hid her teeny-tiny head under the teeny-tiny clothes and went to sleep again. And when she had been to sleep again a teeny-tiny time, the teeny-tiny voice again cried out from the teeny-tiny cupboard a teeny-tiny louder, "Give me my bone!"

This made the teeny-tiny woman a teeny-tiny more frightened, so she hid her teeny-tiny head a teeny-tiny further under the teeny-tiny clothes. And when the teeny-tiny woman had been to sleep again a teeny-tiny time, the teeny-tiny voice from the teeny-tiny cupboard said again a teeny-tiny louder,

And this teeny-tiny woman was a teeny-tiny bit more frightened, but she put her teeny-tiny head out of the teeny-tiny clothes, and said in her loudest teeny-tiny voice, "TAKE IT!"

THE STORY BEAST

For Story Artists, Listeners, and Dreamers

Sink your teeth and claws into our monthly publication now



A new free E-Publication the 15th of each month

While you explore, consider submitting stories, articles, poems, and art.



STORYBEAST.ORG/ARCHIVE



Perrin's No-Frills Humor Page, July 2025 "Thoughts on Stupidity"

People demand freedom of speech as a compensation for freedom of thought which they seldom use.

Wisdom is always chasing you but you've always been faster.

I'm pretty sure I need only one more bad decision and I'll own the whole set!

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has limits.

Sorry, I couldn't repair your brakes, so I made your horn louder.

I'm sorry I hurt your feelings when I called you stupid. I thought you already knew.

We are all born ignorant, but one must work hard to remain stupid.

The fact that jellyfish have survived for 650 million years despite not having brains gives hope to many people.

So, don't be stupid!

Be smart. Go to Hannibal, MO.

Bring something for the auction!

Buy raffle tickets!

Honor Gladys!

Support your local LIARS!

See you Friday and Saturday, July 11 and 12, 2025

where ALL events are free! www.mo-tell.org

NOTEL'S ARBUAL QUILT BAFFLE

AS A PART OF OUR FUNDRAISING, MO-TELL HAS A WONDERFUL QUILT TO RAFFLE.

THE 2025 MO-TELL RAFFLE QUILT MEASURES 59"X 74". IT IS A TRADITIONAL MULTI-COLORED OVERALL PATTERN WITH A NEUTRAL FIELD. THE BORDER IS A BEAUTIFUL MEDIUM BLUE AND BURGUNDY RED. THE BACKING IS A MILK-CHOCOLATE COLOR. THE PIECED QUILT WAS CREATED BY MO-TELLMEMBER, MARSHA STIFEL MELLENDORF, AND PROFESSIONALLY MACHINE STITCHED.

TICKETS FOR THE RAFFLE ARE AS FOLLOWS: ONE TICKET FOR \$5, THREE TICKETS FOR \$10, FIVE TICKETS FOR \$15 AND TEN TICKETS FOR \$20. EMAIL LINDA KUNTZ AT LINDAKKUNTZØYAHOO.COM IF YOU WOULD LIKE RAFFLE TICKETS TO BE MAILED TO YOU. SHE WILL SEND THE TICKETS TO YOU AND A STAMPED RETURN ENVELOPE FOR THE PAYMENT.

TICKETS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED AT THE LIARS CONTEST.

PLEASE HELP IN THIS ENDEAVOR TO FULFILL THE MO-TELL MISSION AS WE PARTNER WITH THE MISSOURI STATE PARKS AND HISTORIC SITES. TICKETS ARE FOR SALE NOW THROUGH JULY 12, 2025. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN. THE DRAWING FOR THE QUILT WILL BE AT THE MISSOURI LIARS CONTEST ON JULY 12, 2025, IN HANNIBAL. MISSOURI, THE WINNER WILL BE NOTIFIED THROUGH EMAIL.



Make Your Plans! Pack Your Bags! Bring Your Friends! Bring Your Stories! Meet Your Destiny!

Georgia 2025

NATIONAL STORYTELLING CONFERENCE



JULY 17-20, 2025
KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
KENNESAW, GEORGIA

IT ONLY WORKS WHEN WE ALL PULL TOGETHER!



LET'S KEEP THIS THING ROLLING! JOIN MO-TELL TODAY AND ENJOY!

DETAILS BELOW. CHECK 'EM OUT!

THE MO-TELL BILL OF FARE

OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER DUPLICATED

MEMBERSHIP DUES

FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 1-JANUARY 31

MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL DUES	COMES WITH
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$25	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
SINGLE MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$40	MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 1 YEAR	\$35	FAMILY-WIDE MO-TELL PRESTIGE
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP 2 YEARS	\$50	TWICE AS MUCH OF THE SAME!!
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP -60	\$250	LOGO BAG PLUS MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)
LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP 60+	\$200	LOGO BAG PLUS MEMBER'S CHOICE OF ONE: (CAP) (T-SHIRT) (LOGO MUG)

SEND CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Missouri Storytelling, Inc. 9621 Olive Blvd. #28994 St. Louis, MO 63132-9998





THE BENEFITS YOU RECEIVE FOR YOUR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP:

- 1. MISSOURI STATE PARKS STORYTELLING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE
- 2. MISSOURI LIAR'S CONTEST
- 3. WEB SITE PRESENCE FOR STORYTELLERS
- 4. MONTHLY STORYTELLING PROGRAMS
- 5. LOADS OF MERCH (HATS, CAPS, CUPS, MUGS, BAGS, AND WHATNOT!)
- 6. NATIONAL STORYTELLING NETWORK AFFILIATION
- 7. A WORLD CLASS NEWSLETTER (HUZZAH!)
- 8. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AND A VOICE THEREIN!)
- 9. CONNECTION TO THE OTHER STORYTELLING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE REGION



WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Missouri Storytelling, Inc (MO-TELL) is an organization of storytellers and other interested persons dedicated to spreading the joy and art of storytelling throughout Missouri.

MISSION STATEMENT

We envision that every Missourian will hear and share stories and keep the oral tradition alive.

VISION STATEMENT

President: Joyce Slater, joyceslater20@gmail.com

Vice-President: Sue Hinkel, suehinkel1@gmail.com

Jackie Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net (Membership) Treasurer:

Secretary: Linda Kuntz, iharilag@gmail.com

At Large:

Gary Kuntz, galirahi@aol.com Nancee Walker Micham, walkermicham@gmail.com Glen "Papa" Wright, jpapawright@sbcglobal.net

Emeritus: Perrin Stifel, pstifelstl@earthlink.net

www.mo-tell.org

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Our mailing address: 7338 Belleview Ave, Kansas City, MO 64114



THE MO-TELL BOARD