



Storyfind

Storyfind is a free monthly storytelling workshop series presented by the faculty of the SMCC Storytelling Institute. The workshops are on Saturday afternoons from 1:00 – 3:00 in PAC-739 at South Mountain Community College.

August 26, 2017: Awaken Your Inner Traditional Storyteller with Liz Warren

What is storytelling? Why has it become so popular? What is the role of the storyteller in a community? How can you awaken your inner “traditional storyteller” to tell your own stories, and those of your family and community? Join Liz to explore these questions as you find and craft a story that documents an important change in your life. Liz Warren, a fourth-generation Arizonan, directs the South Mountain Community College Storytelling Institute in Phoenix, Arizona. The Institute received the Maricopa Community Colleges 2016 Diversity Award, and the 2014 New Times Best of Phoenix award for “Best Place to Learn to Tell Tales.” Her textbook, *The Oral Tradition Today: An Introduction to the Art of Storytelling* is used at colleges around the nation.

September 23, 2017: Storytelling and Leadership with Travis May

To be a leader is to be a storyteller. In whatever context you are a leader, you will be asked to tell stories – stories to inspire, to console, to build community, to highlight achievements, to set goals and to reframe setbacks. Join Travis to learn the five essential stories all leaders must tell, and to craft one of your own.

Travis May has served in many roles throughout his 20-plus year tenure at South Mountain Community College. He has been a Helpdesk Manger, Project Manager, Audio Visual Coordinator and currently an adjunct storytelling instructor. Travis really enjoys being a storytelling instructor and feels storytelling is more than just telling stories, it is a way of life. Travis enjoys incorporating storytelling to engage learners in cultural and community awareness.

October 21, 2017: Finding, Crafting and Telling Fact-Based Stories with Marilyn Torres

Don't miss this innovative workshop on finding and crafting Fact-based stories! Marilyn has honed her technique over many years of teaching students in *The Art of Storytelling* how to select subjects, research strategically, and choose the most compelling, visual details as they construct their stories using traditional story structure.

Marilyn Torres was born in NY City and raised in both Puerto Rico and New York. She was the first in her family to attend college and is a multilingual traditional storyteller. Professor Torres has been an ordained storyteller of West African Yoruba Oral Tradition for over 35 years. She received two chieftaincies in the village of Imota in West Africa, Nigeria in 1984 as a descendent of the "children of slavery from the island of Puerto Rico." She is a residential faculty member of The Storytelling Institute at South Mountain Community College. Her focus is to incorporate storytelling into all forms of academic achievement and leadership for college bound youth.

December 2, 2017: The Christmas Story – A Time, A Place Long, Long Ago with Sylvia Torrey

How did this happen? How could it be? The teenager had no idea. She only knew what she had been told. Yet deep down in her heart she composed and she sang the *Magnificat*. Join Sylvia in a workshop dedicated to exploring and understanding the ultimate Bible story.

Sylvia Torrey is a Wisdom-Biblical Storyteller. She began telling biblical stories to the youth groups who were under her tutelage, and from there to the adults. Having heard stories routinely from her father, she was no stranger to the art or storytelling. After an undergraduate education in nursing, and a graduate degree in divinity, Sylvia was introduced to the Storytelling Institute of South Mountain Community College. Her cumulative talents, forged through experience as a registered nurse and as an ordained minister, have found expression here. Sylvia has performed at various venues in Arizona and Ohio. She has also taught Storytelling courses at the Institute and other MCCC locations. Not neglecting the family tradition of storytelling, she frequently tells to her two daughters, and three granddaughters.

January 20, 2018: Lens Stories - Focus on the World of Your Story with Harriet Cole

All stories need to connect with place and time. In this workshop, you will learn to choose and use Lens Stories, the narratives that will focus your crafting as you build the world of your story.

Harriet Cole developed the Lens Story concept as she crafted and told material from the Norse Sagas, for solo and ensemble performances as part of Myth Informed at SMCC as well as at the Phoenix Fringe Festival. She has told in places as varied as the Musical Instrument Museum, the South Mountain Environmental Education Center, the Arizona Republic Storytellers Project and the Gila Bend Shrimp Festival. Her primary story world is that of the Sagas and the Nordic folktales, to which she brings both academic understanding and a twisted sense of humor. She has also performed and presented a workshop at the National Storytelling Network Conference. Locally, she has presented workshops at both the Mesa Community College's Educators Academy and at the Maricopa District Adjunct Faculty LEAD Conferences. Learn more about Harriet's storytelling activities (including her work as an Adjunct Instructor at the South Mountain Community College Storytelling Institute) on her website: www.harrietcolestoryteller.com

February 24, 2018: Intergenerational Storytelling with Kyle Mitchell

For most of human history, all storytelling was intergenerational. Each generation entrusted the wisdom, humor, and cultural knowledge contained in stories to their children and grandchildren. Join Kyle to explore how stories are shared in a range of contexts by those who have experience to those who need to learn from it.

Kyle is Diné, a combat veteran, and a storyteller. He leads the American Indian Intercultural Center at South Mountain Community College and teaches the Art of Storytelling. His goal is to help share oral traditions and personal stories in hopes of breaking down stereotypes towards Native people. He is committed to storytelling and oral traditions as a way of reinforcing a sense of self identity for those who might not have access to the teachings and stories of an indigenous culture.

March 24, 2018: Casting Vision – Creating Space and Place in Story with Súle Greg Wilson

Part of the magic of Story is making the audience “see” the world your characters inhabit. One of our most subtle—and effective (‘cause it’s subliminal!)—storytelling tools is to delineate that world—and what we find in it—through arm and hand gestures, shifting of our body, and the directionality of our head, expressions, and eyes. In this workshop we’ll explore the use—and misuse—of the power of gesture; of place in space; of how much is enough?

Súle Greg Wilson, MA, ACA, was steeped in telling from the beginning: at the kitchen table back home in Washington, DC, and at his elders' feet, wherever they are found. Aware that the stories we tell ourselves inform and propel our lives, Súle is dedicated to sharing the power of lessons learned, and wisdom gleaned, through our universal experience. His path as musician, storyteller, historian, and shaman has taken him from Belfast to Bahia, Accra to Oahu. He treasures time with family and friends, and loves twisting tales with the SMCC-based storytelling crew, the Myth Mob.

April 21, 2018: Telling Your Story – For Mother Earth with Doug Bland

We are storytelling animals. Story is how we make sense of the world. Research and practice shows that the power of story can move and influence people to act for social change more effectively than abstract information, scientific data or policy arguments. In this workshop, we’ll learn to deploy our strongest assets---our stories, our humanity and our values---as we advocate for our Mother, the Earth. We’ll explore ways story can be used to foster a healthier, more just, and sustainable world.

Doug Bland recently retired from Community Christian Church in Tempe where he served for twenty-three years. He is Executive Director of Arizona Interfaith Power & Light---a religious response to climate change. Doug teaches storytelling at the South Mountain Community College Storytelling Institute where he has taught “The Art of Storytelling,” “Storytelling and Advocacy,” “Telling Sacred Stories,” and “Storytelling and Healing.”

For more information about this series, or about the SMCC Storytelling Institute, please contact Liz Warren:

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SMCC is located at 7050 S. 24th Street, Phoenix, AZ

Maps available here: <http://www.southmountaincc.edu/resource-maps/>