



**Sharing the Fire: The Northeast
Storytelling Conference**
is coming to Saratoga Springs, NY!
~ April 3-5, 2020 ~
at the historic Gideon Putnam Spa & Resort

Sharing the Fire has traveled to MA, RI, NH, ME and now, NY. This is a great opportunity for storytellers and story enthusiasts from all over to gather, share ideas, learn new skills, meet new people, visit old friends and, of course, listen to fabulous tales. Throughout the weekend there are a variety of public performances including Stories Galore and Fringes. (A fringe is a longer storytelling piece that is sometimes experimental or edgy in nature.)

Friday April 3 – Evening Performances

7:15 – 9 p.m. - *Transformations* - A Storytelling Performance by Conference Keynote Sherry Norfolk

Sherry will make you laugh, cry and shiver with a potpourri of magical, spiritual, humorous and scary folktales, including the Appalachian Hansel & Gretel and a personal story about the power of telling Hansel & Gretel in an Atlanta homeless shelter. Emcee: Joy Kelly Smith. (Keynote & workshop with Sherry on Saturday morning.)

8:45 - 10:15 p.m. - *FRINGE PERFORMANCE*

Dangerous When Wet: Booze, Sex, and My Mother with Jamie Brickhouse

Four-time Moth champ Jamie Brickhouse battles the bottle and his Texas tornado of a mother, Mama Jean, in his wickedly intoxicating alcoholic odyssey from small-town sissy to louche Manhattanite. Darkly comic, the *Washington Post* called this five-time award-winning show “stylish,” “polished” and dubbed Jamie “a natural raconteur.” Audience: Adult (adult subject matter and profanity.)

Saturday, April 4 – Daytime Performances

Stories Galore Performances

10:30 a.m. - Noon - Mohawk Storytelling Traditions with Kay Olan of the Mohawk Nation, Wolf Clan

Stories from the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) and a discussion and Q&A on telling these stories with respect.

1:30 - 3:00 p.m. - *And Then The Volcano Erupted: A Love Story* with Regina Ress

The true and truly imagined tale of a pair of over-many-life-times lovers who find each other again in a magical Andean town which boasts sensuous hot springs and the Virgin's Waterfall, a voluptuously erupting volcano. This kind of conjunction excites the senses and ignites desire. Audience: Adult (adult subject matter.)

3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - New York Teller Showcase with April Armstrong, Kate Dudding, Jim Hawkins, Karen Pillsworth, Regina Ress, Sandy Schuman, Eileen Stelljes and Fran Yardley.

This event will showcase nine of the best tellers from across the Empire State, from Long Island, the Big Apple, the Mid-Hudson, the Catskills, the Capital District and the Adirondacks.

Fringes All the Way Performances

10:30 a.m. - Noon - *Mother Jones - Her Life and Times* with Claire Nolan

From Irish immigrant to the Most Dangerous Woman in America - Mary Harris "Mother" Jones, labor organizer of the late 19th and early 20th century, was more than a magazine! Come see her story in first-person style.

1:30 - 3:00 p.m. - American Heroes through the Ages with Mike Lockett

A colorful look at American history through stories and song. In costume, Mike will share *Birth of America*, *War with the Pirates of Tripoli*, *The War Against Mexico*, *A Civil War General Who Hated Bloodshed*, *The First Female Confederate Officer* and *The Candy Bomber*.

3:30 - 5:00 p.m. - Sweetful and the Magic Circus: Cleveland 1963-1973 with Katie Green

What does it take to convert a conforming middle-class white girl to a fearless political activist? How does experience transform our values and put them in motion? This story brings to life the tumultuous 1960's and Katie's personal revolution and the compelling lessons that went along with it.

Saturday, April 4 – Evening Performances

7:15 - 9 p.m. - OLIO STORYTELLING CONCERT with Barbara Aliprantis, April Armstrong, Lona Bartlett, Jane Ogburn Dorfman, Rona Leventhal, Philip Andrew Bennet Low, Wendy Mages and Clare Vadeboncoeur

Eight of the finest tellers in the Northeast will regale us with personal stories and traditional tales. We'll hear a tale about two men from New York City who come to the Catskill Mountains in search of getting their first deer, a story about a neighbor who disarms an ax wielder with a glass of lemonade and many more intriguing and inspiring stories. Emcees: Michele Carlo and Judith Heineman.

9:15 – 10:45 p.m. – FRINGE PERFORMANCE

To Speak with Rachael Harrington

There is a systematic way in which women's stories are buried, made to wither for lack of sunlight. Does folklore say anything about this, and can old tales help women reframe their stories? *To Speak* uncovers traditional stories that speak to the #MeToo movement, exploring the power of telling your story and being truly heard. Audience: Adult (explores issues of sexual harassment.)

Sunday, April 5 – Daytime Performances

Stories Galore Performance

9:15 - 10:45 a.m. - Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton-Albany Girl, American Woman with Eileen Egan Mack
Elizabeth is portrayed from the perspective of an older Eliza who is by now a widow after husband Alexander Hamilton's infamous murder in 1804 by Aaron Burr.

Fringes All the Way Performance

9:15 - 10:45 a.m. - Poking the Rabbi: Traditional and Personal Jewish Stories with Beth Novik
Wonderful tales interwoven from Beth Novik's personal narrative and the Jewish folk tales that both delight and teach. This is the kind of Sunday School experience you wish you had had!

11 a.m. – Noon - Interfaith Stories by Children at the Well - The mission of Children at the Well is to help create understanding among people of different faiths and cultures. Members of this teen storytelling troupe will share interfaith stories in the final performance at Sharing the Fire 2020. Emcee: Jim Hawkins.

For more information on Sharing the Fire or to purchase tickets, please visit:

<https://www.nestorytelling.org/conference-details/>

**Check out our full weekend schedule of Intensives, Workshops and Swaps!
Scholarships available!**