

Sherry Norfolk

8006 Presidio Court, University City, MO 63130

404-401-2737 ♦ shnorfolk@aol.com ♦ www.sherrynorfolk.com

AT-A-GLANCE

- Performing Artist, appearing in festivals, schools, libraries and museums across the US and SE Asia.
- Adjunct Professor, Lesley University (Integrated Teaching through the Arts program) 2009-date.
- Adjunct Professor, East Tennessee State University (Storytelling Masters Program) 2011.
- Adjunct Professor, Mercer University-Atlanta (1996-1998) and Florida Atlantic University (1987-1988).
- Professional development leader for The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Changing Education Through the Arts.
- Co-author of award-winning books: *The Storytelling Classroom: Applications Across the Curriculum* (Libraries Unlimited, 2006) *Social Studies in the Storytelling Classroom* (Parkhurst Brothers, 2012), and *Literacy Development in the Storytelling Classroom* (Libraries Unlimited, 2009), *The Virginia Giant: The True Story of Peter Francisco* (The History Press, 2014).
- Arts Integration Teaching Artist with Tennessee Arts Commission's *Value Plus Schools* and *Arts360°* programs (*2010 Teaching Artist of the Year*); rostered artist with Mississippi Arts Commission, Louisiana Council for the Arts, Interchange / COCA St. Louis, South Carolina Arts Commission, Virginia Commission on the Arts, Springboard for Learning (Young Audiences) St. Louis.
- National Storytelling Network 2011 Oracle Award recipient for Distinguished National Service; past Chairman of the NSN Board of Directors.
- *"You were a rip roaring success! The students valued the content of the course as well as your teaching style. Over and over students mentioned the relevance of your assignments to their teaching jobs and the 'integration between storytelling and actual curriculum we teach.' [They] clearly valued your teaching and the personal attention you gave to them. You inspired them with your energy and your knowledge. Lesley is fortunate that you've joined our teaching team, and so are the students you teach in the future, as well as the students THEY teach in their classrooms!"* -- Course Mentor, Integrated Arts in Learning program, Lesley University

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

ADULT INSTRUCTION

Combines a belief in the power of story with an inborn talent for teaching, an infectious enthusiasm, and a dynamic energy that empowers and revitalizes participants.

- Leader of professional development workshops for the CETA Professional Learning Series at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.
- Adjunct Professor, Lesley University (Integrated Arts in Learning program) 2009-date.
- Adjunct Professor, East Tennessee State University (Storytelling Masters Program) 2011.
- Adjunct Professor, Mercer University-Atlanta (1996-1998) and Florida Atlantic University (1987-1988).
- Professional Development leader for Hazelwood (MO) Public Schools, DeKalb County (GA) Public Schools; Gwinnett County (GA) Public Schools; University of Alaska-Anchorage; Grand Canyon National Park; North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT); Tennessee Arts Commission; Mississippi Arts Commission; and East Tennessee State University.
- Professional development leader for The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Office of VSA and Accessibility, the Mississippi Arts Commission, Tennessee Arts Commission, LYRASIS, Northeast Florida Library Network, Anchorage Municipal Libraries, Arizona State Library, Hawaii State Libraries, Kansas City (MO) Public Library,

Missouri State Library, Utah State Library, Louisiana State Library, Georgia Public Library Services, Metrowest Massachusetts Regional Library System, Miami-Dade Public Library System, St. Louis Public Library, St. Louis County Public Library and Knox County (TN) Public Libraries.

- *"Bravo! Sherry is a superb teller and teacher!"* --Teacher, NCCAT

KEYNOTE AND CONFERENCE SPEAKER

Sought-after conference presenter on the potential of arts integration to transform whole schools by reinvigorating teaching in core subjects and inspiring students to greater joy and achievement in learning.

- Keynoted and/or presented at the 2014 & 2017 VSA Intersections: Arts and Special Education Conference, presented by The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Office of VSA and Accessibility; the Singapore International Storytelling Festival and Asian International Story Congress; Manila International Storytelling Festival; Thailand Reading Exhibition; Florida Storytelling Camp; Timpanogos Winter Conference; American Library Association Conferences; American Horticultural Society Conference; Head Start Centers of Southeastern Georgia Training Conference; National Storytelling Conferences (Master Class leader, 2012); Macon Arts - a Community Alliance; TalkStory Storytelling Conference (Waikiki, HI), Florida Library Association Conferences.
- *"Thank you so much for being the highlight of my conference experience! Your enthusiasm and genuine love of your topic was wonderful - I learned a great deal and enjoyed meeting you."* -- Julie Hudson, Florida Library Association Conf. participant

TEACHING ARTIST / CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE

Leads highly successful storytelling/creative writing residencies in elementary, middle schools and high schools across America and SE Asia.

- Sherry has conducted hundreds of residencies for pre-K through 12th grade; all residencies are tailored to meet children at their level, working in cooperation with the grade-level teachers to develop projects that challenge and motivate the students while demonstrating viable arts-integrated classroom strategies addressing the Common Core State Standards and STEM for staff development.
- Works with special populations such as the Alaska Children's Center, a residential treatment center for children with severe emotional disabilities, as well as "alternative" schools for children with behavioral disorders, inclusive schools with large populations of children with severe learning disorders, and self-contained special needs facilities such as Special School District in St. Louis County, MO.
- *"Sherry is a dedicated professional who truly cares for the children and the teachers and is concerned that everyone is learning. She worked with grades one through six and each one was extremely pleased with her efforts. She is congenial, energetic, dedicated, and, most importantly, knowledgeable. Mrs. Norfolk has been one of the strongest and most outstanding artists that we have had to work with Bradley Academy."* – Cheryl Harris, ValuePlus Program Coordinator, Murfreesboro (TN) Public Schools.

PERFORMING ARTIST

Performs internationally; her strong, clear, direct stage presence immediately connects to audiences of all ages, and her use of tones, timbres, and rhythms in her telling breathes life into her rich repertoire of folktales from around the world.

- Winnipeg International Storytelling Festival (2017)
- Taiwan International Storytelling Carnival (2014, 2015)
- International Art of Storytelling Festival, Miami, FL (2013)
- International Storytelling Center, Jonesborough, TN (2003, 2009)
- Singapore International Storytelling Festival (2008, 2009, 2011)
- Manila International Storytelling Festival (2009)

- Many more festivals, schools, libraries, museums and universities nationwide.
- “... that VOICE! I don’t know where it comes from but perhaps there lives in her chords a pantheon of BOTH gods and goddesses! I hear a hidden musician in there as well for Sherry imbues musicality in a telling for folk tales. Her use of tones, timbres, and rhythms in her telling breathe life into her style yet never draw away from the service of the story.” – Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo, Eth-Noh-Tec

FAMILY LITERACY CONSULTANT

Helps teachers, librarians and parents discover how to take advantage of the important relationship between storytelling and literacy. Extensive experience in designing and implementing award-winning emergent and family literacy programs provides the foundation for inspiring, creative workshops and projects

- 1994 Urban Libraries Council Award of Excellence for “Project Horizons,” a family literacy program serving homeless children.
- 1994 ALA/Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust Award for Outstanding Service to Young Adults for “Building Blocks to Literacy.” (Family literacy)
- 1993 National Association of Counties Award for “Building Blocks.” (Family literacy)
- 1992 ALA/ALSC EconoClad Children’s Literature Program Award for Project Horizons
- 1991 National Association of Counties (NACO) Award for Project Horizons

TEACHING ARTIST & CONSULTANT, ARTS INTEGRATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

- Presenter: Workshop at the 2014 & 2017 Kennedy Center-VSA Intersections Conference, “Leveling the Playing Field: Storytelling in the Special Needs Classroom,” “They hate to write!”
- Presenter: 2015 Kennedy Center-VSA webinar, “Teach Them to Fly: How Storytelling Gives Primary-age Children with Special Needs Their Wings,”
- Author: *Storytelling Strategies for Reaching and Teaching Children with Special Needs*. Co-authored with Lyn Ford. (Libraries Unlimited, forthcoming 2017) ; Article for Kennedy Center-VSA Newsletter: “Seven Tips for Using Storytelling to Engage Students with Disabilities,”
- Trainer: Two professional development workshops for SPED teachers and teaching artists for the Mississippi Arts Commission: “Arts Integration in the Special Needs Classroom,”
- Teaching Artist: VSA-Kennedy Center contract with Springboard-St. Louis; Tennessee-VSA residency for high school students with special needs, and dozens of residencies and student workshops in inclusive elementary and middle school classrooms in Missouri, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Alaska, Connecticut and Mississippi.

AUTHOR

Co-authors award-winning professional books and folktale-based picturebooks.

- *Storytelling Strategies for Reaching and Teaching Children with Special Needs*. Co-authored with Lyn Ford. (Libraries Unlimited, forthcoming 2017)
- *Engaging Community through Storytelling: Library and Community Programming*. Co-authored with Jane Stenson. (Libraries Unlimited, forthcoming 2017).
- *Boo-Tickle Tales: Not-so-Scary Stories for Young Children*. Co-authored with Lyn Ford. (Parkhurst Brothers, 2016).
- *Science with Storytelling: Strategies for the K-5 Classroom*. Co-authored with Jane Stenson and Lyn Ford. (McFarland Publishing, 2016).
- *The Virginia Giant: The True Story of Peter Francisco*. Co-authored with Bobby Norfolk. (The History Press, 2014).
- *Social Studies in the Storytelling Classroom: The Voices of Humanity*. Co-authored with Jane Stenson. (Parkhurst Brothers Publishing, 2012)
- *Literacy Development in the Storytelling Classroom*. Co-edited with Jane Stenson and Diane Williams. (Libraries Unlimited, 2009)
- *Billy Brown and the Belly Button Beastie*. Co-authored with Bobby Norfolk. (August

- House Little Folk, 2008)
- *The Storytelling Classroom: Applications Across the Curriculum*. Co-authored with Jane Stenson and Diane Williams. (Libraries Unlimited, 2006)
- *Anansi* series, co-authored with Bobby Norfolk. (August House StoryCove):
 - *Anansi and the Pot of Beans*, 2006
 - *Anansi and the Tug of War*, 2007
 - *Anansi Goes to Lunch*, 2007
 - *Anansi and Turtle Go to Dinner*, 2008
 - *Anansi and the Kingdom of the Sky*, 2008
- *The Moral of the Story: Folktales for Character Development*, 2nd edition. Co-authored with Bobby Norfolk, August House Publishers, 2006.

WORK HISTORY

2011-date	Adjunct Professor	East Tennessee State University
2009-date	Adjunct Professor	Lesley University
2009-2010	Chairman of the Board/ President of the corporation	National Storytelling Network
1996-date	Professional storyteller, instructor, author and teaching artist	Nationally and internationally Mercer University-Atlanta DeKalb County (GA) Public Library Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton Miami-Dade Public Library (MDPL) North Dade Regional Library, MDPL
1996-1998	Adjunct Professor	
1988-1996	Youth Services Coordinator	
1987-1988	Adjunct Professor	
1986-1988	Coord. Children's Outreach	
1979-1986	Children's Librarian (I & II)	

EDUCATION

Participated in the four-day National Seminar for Teaching Artists, developed and hosted by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	August, 2012
Certificate of Public Management	University of Georgia, 1991
Masters in Library Science	Indiana University, 1978
Bachelor of Science (Elementary Education)	Indiana University, 1974

REFERENCES

Brandi Self, Arts360 Coordinator, Knox County (TN) Schools
Mooreland Heights Elementary
5315 Magazine Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37920
Phone (day) 865.579.2105 (evening) 865.300.6194
Email: brandi.self@knoxschools.org

Diane Williams, Grants Director, Mississippi Arts Commission
Mississippi Arts Commission
501 North West Street, Suite 1101A, Woolfolk Building
Jackson, MS 39201
Phone (day) 601.359.6529 (evening) 601.927.4159
Email: dwilliams@arts.state.ms.us

Cathy Hartman, Springboard to Learning (Young Audiences) St. Louis
Springboard to Learning/Young Audiences St. Louis
1310 Pain St., Suite 102
St. Louis, MO 63103
Phone (day) 314.289.412 (evening) n/a
Email: apalazzolo@springboardstlouis.org