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Larry Thompson Professional Speaker and Storyteller

I am a native of North Carolina who moved to Texas in 1982 to begin serving in the US Army. I studied finance and communications at The University of Central Texas. I have been a storyteller and trainer for 30+ years, entertaining and teaching audiences in Texas and beyond.

I employ a telling style best described as "Full-Contact," involving the audience as much as possible insuring that everyone has a great experience. Some of my most requested stories contain specific points for the audience to join in on the fun.

PROFESSIONAL STORYTELLING HIGHLIGHTS:

Special Event. Participated in a tandem presentation with Texas Storyteller Donna Ingham in An Afternoon with O. Henry in South Texas. The Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio, Texas organized this event. Donna and I told favorite O. Henry stories selected from among his three-dozen tales set in Texas. The event celebrated America's master of the "twist-at-the-end," in conjunction with the "Photographs and Paragraphs: The Images of I.N. Hall and the Imagery of O. Henry" exhibit.

Outdoor programs. I presented six campfire programs for campers and staff members for Camp C.A.M.P. in Center Point, Texas. This camp provides outdoor summer-camp experiences for severely handicapped children ages 5-21. My programs were specifically designed to entertain campers ages 12-21 with varying degrees of physical or mental challenges. Each program was one hour long and was crafted to be quick moving with actions and character voices.

Festival Work. For the George West Storyfest, I have presented daylong programs for school children from Pre-Kindergarten to High School. These programs involved selecting and performing age-appropriate stories, encouraging group participation, and interacting with school personnel. Several stage appearances for the Texas Storytelling Festival, including a featured teller slot for the 2020 festival.

Teacher Workshops. I presented my Storytelling for Teachers seminar to under-graduate students in the University of Houston Business Department. This seminar was built to show benefits and options specifically for business teachers and was presented as a component of a "tools of the trade" class. Each participant received a booklet detailing the curriculum, discussion points, and resources for further study. I presented my Telling Stories from the Bible workshop to educators for the Hill Country Bible Church in Austin, Texas. This seminar is high-energy and encourages participation. Each student had the opportunity to practice storytelling techniques and present a story during the seminar.

PRESENTATION EXPERIENCE

Performances of Note:

- 2022 & 2019 – Winner – Kendall County Liar’s Contest – Boerne, TX
- 2021 – Camp Fimfo Fall Fest 6-week program – Canyon Lake, TX
- 2020 – Will Rogers Medallion Award – Ft Worth, TX
- 2017 – People’s Choice Award – 2nd Annual Crossroads Ranch Cowboy Poetry Competition
- 2017 – Veteran’s Voices – San Marcos, TX
- 2016-2018 – Roads Scholar Program – 8 Texas Folklore and Tall Tale programs for adults
- 2015 – Featured Teller – George West Storyfest – George West, TX
- 2012 – Dobie Dichos – Oakville, Tx
- 2012 – Winner – 24th Annual Houston Liar’s Contest
- 2006 – Bulverde Texas – Bulverde Jubilee performances
- 2006 – Alamo Area Library System – 20 library performances for children and adults
- 2002-2006 – San Antonio, Texas - Texas Folklife Festival
- 2001-2018 – George West Storyfest – School performances for storytelling festival
- 1999-2005 – New Braunfels, Texas – Friends For Rivers Event
- 2000-2005– Bandera, Texas – Tellabration!
- 2002 – San Antonio, Texas – Restaurant opening – 4 sessions
- 2000 – Charleston, South Carolina – Celebrate Reading 2000

Keynote Speaker:

- 2001 & 2003 - Dulles High School, Houston, Texas - Employer Appreciation Breakfast
- 2001– Knoxville, Tennessee - University of Scouting

Business Instruction and Training Workshops:

- 2006 – Texas Parks and Wildlife Department – “Tools for Better Speaking” workshops
- 2005 – AEE Annual Conference – “The Story Thread - Experiential Learning Stories”
- 2004 – CMG Conference, Las Vegas – “Decreasing TCO – and Surviving!”
- 2003 – Texas State Auditors Agency – meeting facilitation workshop
- 2001-2003 –Judson Learning Academy – Public Speaking student mentor
- 2002 – Buck’s Landing Inc. – “Storytelling in Business” workshop
- 2003 – Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Commission – meeting facilitation workshop
- 2002 – University of Houston – “Storytelling in the Classroom” workshop

AFFILIATIONS

- San Antonio Storytellers Association
- Tejas Storytelling Association
- National Storytelling Network
- American Society for Training and Development
- Boy Scouts of America

REFERENCES

- Ms. Sue Kuentz, San Antonio, Texas
 - Librarian, North East ISD
 - Email: sue.kuentz@gmail.com
- Ms. Mary Grace Ketner
 - Educator, retired
 - Email: marygraceketner@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: <http://www.texasstorytelling.com>

Facebook: LTStories

Instagram: texasstoryteller

PRINTED MATERIALS

Wild West: <http://amzn.to/2z9Y6pL>

Flint & Steel: <http://bit.ly/2h5Sarp>

Good Jeans & Good Rhymes: <http://bit.ly/2h9DhAx>

Cowboy Spirit: <https://bit.ly/3xcENIW>